

Heart of Darkness Objective Test

Directions: Choose the best answer for each of the following questions and explain your decisions.

- 1) Kurtz's painting of "a woman, draped and blindfolded, carrying a lighted torch," which Marlow sees in the Brickmaker's hut, is a representation of
- Marlow's aunt.
 - Kurtz's Intended.
 - The Jungle Mistress.
 - all of the above.
 - none of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 2) The Brickmaker's job is
- creating civilization in the jungle.
 - making bricks.
 - spying for the Manager at Central Station.
 - all of the above.
 - none of the above.

Explain your choice here:

- 3) Whose desire is to "tear treasure out of the bowels of the land"?
- Eldorado Exploring Expedition
 - the Company
 - Kurtz
 - Marlow
 - all of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 4) Who "electrified large meetings" and "would have been a splendid leader of an extreme party"?
- the journalist
 - Marlow
 - Kurtz
 - the Manager
 - none of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 5) How are the Accountant's "starched collars and got-up shirt-fronts . . . achievements of character"?
- a) They represent his ability to tame the natives.
 - b) They reveal his power and control over his environment.
 - c) They show his ability to maintain civilization in the jungle.
 - d) They reveal his exactness.
 - e) none of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 6) Who believes that Marlow's duty is to "[wean] those ignorant millions from their horrid ways"?
- a) Kurtz
 - b) Kurtz's Intended
 - c) the Knitting Women
 - d) Marlow's aunt
 - e) the Accountant

Explain your choice here:

- 7) Who is the narrator of *Heart of Darkness*?
- a) Kurtz
 - b) a passenger on the *Nellie*
 - c) Marlow
 - d) all of the above
 - e) none of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 8) Why does the Jungle Mistress "not so much as flinch and [stretch] tragically her bare arms after us over the sombre and glittering river"?
- a) She has been brainwashed by Kurtz.
 - b) She mourns Kurtz's leaving.
 - c) She knows Kurtz will soon die.
 - d) She is the representation of true nobility.
 - e) all of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 9) Marlow tells the Intended that Kurtz's final words were
- a) "I loved her."
 - b) "your name."
 - c) "the heart of darkness."
 - d) "The horror! The horror!"
 - e) none of the above.

Explain your choice here:

- 10) Kurtz goes to the Congo because
- a) the Intended's family does not accept him.
 - b) he wants to make his fortune.
 - c) he plans to write a report.
 - d) none of the above.
 - e) all of the above.

Explain your choice here:

- 11) What term describes "a highly personal manner of writing in which the author presents materials as they appear to an individual temperament at a precise moment and from a particular vantage point"?
- a) intuition
 - b) imagery
 - c) impressionism
 - d) interpretive literature
 - e) irony

Explain your choice here:

- 12) What term describes the representation through language of a sense experience?
- a) intuition
 - b) imagery
 - c) impressionism
 - d) interpretive literature
 - e) irony

Explain your choice here:

- 13) The artistic use of the opposition of light and dark is called
- a) connotation.
 - b) caesura.
 - c) catharsis.
 - d) cacophony.
 - e) chiaroscuro.

Explain your choice here:

- 14) Though he knows his scientific experiments are inconsequential since "the changes take place inside," the Company Doctor asks to measure Marlow's
- a) feet.
 - b) arm.
 - c) hands.
 - d) head.
 - e) chest.

Explain your choice here:

- 15) Marlow's desire to travel derives from his childhood obsession with
- a) archaeology.
 - b) music.
 - c) folklore.
 - d) maps.
 - e) religion.

Explain your choice here:

- 16) Relating Marlow's physical journey to his psychological journey, critics have equated the Inner Station to
- a) the unconscious.
 - b) the Id.
 - c) the Ego.
 - d) the Superego.
 - e) the subconscious.

Explain your choice here:

- 17) Who tries to "make up for lots of silence" with Marlow because "you don't talk to [Kurtz]-you listen to him"?
- a) the Russian
 - b) the Brickmaker
 - c) the Accountant
 - d) the Manager
 - e) Fresleven

Explain your choice here:

- 18) Only three characters in the novella have names because
- a) most people are defined by their roles in the company or in society.
 - b) most people are devoid of individuality.
 - c) most people are devoid of humanity.
 - d) all of the the above.
 - e) none of the above.

Explain your choice here:

- 19) The journey in *Heart of Darkness* is
- a) a physical journey upriver to the Inner Station.
 - b) a social movement from civilized Europe back to the beginning of creation when nature ruled.
 - c) a psychological transformation to discover repressed desires.
 - d) all of the above.
 - e) none of the above.

Explain your choice here:

- 20) Who does Marlow say was considered the "gentlest, quietest creature that ever walked on two legs"?
- a) the Russian
 - b) the Accountant
 - c) the Manager
 - d) Kurtz
 - e) Fresleven

Explain your choice here:

- 21) When the Eldorado Exploring Expedition disappears, Marlow says that he "know[s] nothing as to the fate of the less valuable animals." Who or what are these "less valuable animals"?
- a) the donkeys
 - b) the women
 - c) the slaves
 - d) the members of the expedition
 - e) none of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 22) What did Kurtz scrawl at the end of the report to the International Society for the Suppression of Savage Customs?
- a) "My ivory"
 - b) "I have forgotten myself."
 - c) "The horror! The horror!"
 - d) "My Intended"
 - e) "Exterminate all the brutes!"

Explain your choice here:

- 23) Who must Marlow help to "stay in that beautiful world of their own, lest ours gets worse"?
- a) Kurtz's Intended
 - b) Marlow's Aunt
 - c) women
 - d) none of the above
 - e) all of the above

Explain your choice here:

- 24) What does Marlow do when he sees the pilgrims on the deck of the steamer ready to shoot at the natives?
- a) He fires a warning shot at the pilgrims.
 - b) He blows the whistle to frighten the natives.
 - c) He does nothing.
 - d) He screams to alert the natives.
 - e) none of the above

25) Explain your choice here:

Which writer criticizes Conrad for depicting Africa as "the antithesis of Europe and therefore of civilization"?

- a) Toni Morrison
- b) Chinua Achebe
- c) H. L. Mencken
- d) Wole Soyinka
- e) Virginia Woolf

Explain your choice here: