

***Invisible Man* Quotations Quiz**

For each of the following quotations, identify the speaker(s) in each (2 points), the situation surrounding the quotation (2 points), and explain the significance of the quotation to the meaning of the work (6 points).

1. "I never told you, but our life is a war, and I have been a traitor all my born days, a spy in the enemy's country ever since I give up my gun back in the Reconstruction. Live with your head in the lion's mouth. I want you to overcome 'em with yeses, undermine 'em with grins, agree 'em to death and destruction, let 'em swoller you till they vomit or bust wide open."
2. "Social. ..equality-"
3. "Then in my mind's eye I see the bronze statue of the college Founder... and I am standing, puzzled, unable to decide whether the veil is really being lifted, or lowered more firmly in place; whether I am witnessing a revelation or a more efficient blinding."
4. "Sir, why did you become interested in the school?"
"I think," . . . it was because I felt even as a young man that your people were somehow closely connected with my destiny. Do you understand?"
5. "You see, suh, it was cold and us didn't have much fire.... It was so cold all of us had to sleep together; me, the ole lady, and the gal. That's how it started, suh....Then I musta dropped into the dream. I have to tell you `bout that dream."
6. "Negroes don't control this school or much of anything else-haven't you learned even that? No sir, they don't control this school, nor white folk either. True, they support it, but I control it. It's big and black and I say `Yes suh' as loudly as any burrhead when it's convenient, but I'm still the king down here. I don't care how much it appears otherwise. Power doesn't have to show off."
7. "Ambition is a wonderful force," he said, "but sometimes it can be blinding... On the other hand, it can make you successful-like my father ... There is no point in blinding yourself to the truth: Don't blind yourself... "
8. "Get yo' hot, baked Car'lina yam"
9. "So it isn't a matter of whether you wish to be the new Booker T. Washington, my friend. Booker T. Washington was resurrected today at a certain eviction in Harlem. He came out from the anonymity of the crowd and spoke to the people."
10. "I ahm no black educated fool who finks everything between black mahn and white man can be settles with some blahsted lies in some bloody books written by the white man in the first place. It's three hundred years of black blood to build this white mahn's civilization and wahn't be wiped out in a minute... And remember that I ahm not like you. Ras recognizes the true issues and he is not afraid to be black. Nor is he a traitor for white men. Remember that: I am no black traitor to the black people for the white people."
11. "I'd like to pass it on to you, son. There," he said, handing it to me. "Funny thing to give somebody, but I think it's got a heap of signifying wrapped up in it and it might help you remember what we're really fighting against. I don't think of it in terms of but two words, *yes and no*; but it signifies a heap more."
12. For a second our eyes met and he gave me a contemptuous smile, then he spieled again. I felt betrayed. I look at the doll and felt my throat constrict - It was as though he had chosen-how had he put it in the night he fought with Ras?- to fall outside of *history*.