**English 11/12 Honors: Tolkien Name:**

**Mr. Fisher**

**J.R.R. Tolkien and the Modern Myth: A Final Exam Review Sheet**

**By: 2017-2018’s Block 3 English 11/12 Honors: Tolkien Class (with a little help from Mr. Fisher)**

Directions on the test:

* Please choose ONE of the following [THREE] questions and answer it in a multi-paragraph essay.
* Your essay must use details from the books and be presented in a clear, structured format.
* You must write your essay in an accompanying “Blue Book”
* You do not need to use quotations from the books, but you must use specific details. Accuracy matters. Also, the number of details you use to support your arguments will greatly affect your grade.
* You must complete this exam in the time allotted. Only those who have documentation that allows for extended time may receive longer.

Grade: You will be graded based on the following rubric:

Failing Poor Flawed Good Nearly Perfect

Comprehension 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

of question and

use of books.

Essay Structure 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Quality of Argument/ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Explanation/Analysis

Effective use of detail 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Grade: /50 🡪 /100

Question #1 Subject: Heroes/Joseph Campbell

--Joseph Campbell: He’s a dude!

--Who is the “real” hero of *LOTR*?

--Criteria of what makes a hero:

--Transformation

--Leave one condition, and become more mature.

--Physical or spiritual deed

--They go on a journey (often)

--They are tempted, and then achieve fulfillment

--They have a moral objective

--Three Heroes’ Journeys: Thrown in to being a hero/ Accidentally/ Choose to go.

--Beowulf doesn’t fit Campbell’s definition (no transformation)

--Odysseus: Went on a journey…an odyssey, if you will…Gets less egotistical

--Possible heroes in Trilogy: Sam, Frodo, Gandalf, Aragorn, Gollum, Merry/Pippin (?)

--Smaug is a hero…according to some, but not the person who is grading your final exam.

--Complex killing of Smaug: Bilbo/Thrush/Bard

Question #2 Subject: Opinions about War

--WWII is what inspired LOTR, even if Tolkien denies it.

--Physically, it’s more WWI (battles).

--Tolkien fought in WWI

--War is bad (says Christian).

--Tolkien was a big “nationalist.”   
--Lots of connections.

--Industrialized war is awful.

--Romantic about war (old war—horses and swords and stuff, not bombs and guns)

--Beowulf romanticizes war.

--Odyssey: war lead to misfortune.

--Gimli and Legolas have killing contest.

--Theoden dies via Mr. Ed (Horse)

--Sam sees dead soldier (person!)

--Sam says he hates seeing humans fighting humans.

--Comradery (Sam and Frodo, and rest of Fellowship)

--Oaths and pledges to love leaders.

Question #3: Subject: The Journey (*Beowulf* not included)

--WH Auden’s 6 elements of a Quest:

--Precious object/person/treasure to find

--A long journey to find it for its whereabouts are not known

--A hero—the only person who is qualified to find the precious object

--Test or series of tests where the “fakers” and weeded out and the hero remains

--The guardian of the object who must be overcome by the hero

--Magical helper: assists hero, can be human or animal

--Jack Kerouac (On the Road???)

--The Odyssey follows almost perfectly

--Hobbit follows it pretty closely (Hero does fully kill Smaug, they know where they are going, but don’t know how to get in the door).

--LOTR: Does not follow it much, if at all.

--Multiple heroes

--Destroy object, not discover it.

--Gandalf as magical helper, might be hero, and dies early on (to come back later)

--No way into Mordor, but know where they are going.

--“weeding out” complicated

--Many guardians, and the big one is never seen.

Last Minute Reminders:

* Good luck!
* Bring a pen or pencil.
* Keep your eyes on the clock.
* READ THE QUESTIONS CAREFULLY!!!
* Don’t forget to go!