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

**Mr. Fisher**

***The Hobbit* Study Guide #4: Chapters 9-12**

*Please answer the following questions in* ***complete sentences****.**If I feel the answers make no sense, I reserve the right to deny credit. Otherwise, a “check” equals a 10/10, a “check plus” equals a 12/10, and a “check minus” equals a 6/10. Skipped questions will lead to an automatic “check minus,” so I strongly encourage you to try to answer them all!*

1. Why did Thorin and the dwarves not tell the elfking why they were in the wood? Should they have just told them? Why or why not?

2. How is Bilbo treated by the imprisoned dwarves? Thorin? How has the “tone” of their relationship changed over the last few chapters? What caused this change?

3. How does Bilbo speak to Thorin after the dwarves are let out of their barrels? How is this different from the Bilbo we used to know?

4. Where is the secret door to the mountain? Who discovered it? How do Bilbo and the dwarves manage to open it?

5. On p. 213, Tolkien wrote, “dwarves are not heroes, but calculating fold with a great idea of the value of money; some are tricky and treacherous and pretty bad lots; some are not, but are decent enough people like Thorin and Company, if you don’t expect too much.” What specific examples from the book can you think of that support this view?

6. What techniques did Bilbo employ when speaking to Smaug? How did these techniques help to keep him alive?

7. Describe Smaug. Does he act like you had expected? Why or why not?

8. What is the “weak point” in the dwarves’ plan? Why did Bilbo not realize it until he saw the dragon?