Romanticism Review Sheet

English III (H)

1. What are the dates of the Romantic Period?
2. What values do Romantics hold?
3. What two forms of literature developed in the U.S. during the Romantic era?
4. Who was America’s first heroic figure?
5. Who were the Fireside Poets and why were they so called?
6. What was the major literary conflict of the Romantic Period?
7. What are the major premises of Transcendentalism? (Look in book and on handout.)
8. Who were the two major Transcendentalists?
9. How were Hawthorne, Poe, and Melville different from Transcendentalists?
10. Who was the first American writer of imaginative literature (fiction) to gain international fame?
11. Who is Diedrich Knickerbocker?
12. What is the theme of “The Devil and Tom Walker”?
13. Identify archetypes in “The Devil and Tom Walker” (in plot, as characters, in symbols).
14. What is the meaning of the title “Thanatopsis”?
15. What fear does Bryant address in “Thanatopsis”?
16. How does Bryant say we should approach death?
17. What is his reasoning for this opinion?
18. What effect do the caesuras have in “The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls”?
19. Identify personification in “The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls.”
20. Explain the figurative meaning of “The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls.”
21. What was Longfellow’s inspiration in writing “The Cross of Snow”?
22. What form does Longfellow use?
23. Explain symbolism in “The Cross of Snow.”
24. What is an *idyll*?
25. Why is “Snow Bound: A Winter Idyll” an appropriate title for Whittier’s poem?
26. Identify allusions in “Snow Bound.”
27. Identify personification in “Snow Bound.”
28. What is a chambered nautilus?
29. In Holmes’ poem “The Chambered Nautilus,” what does the nautilus represent?
30. Identify apostrophe in “The Chambered Nautilus.”
31. Identify allusion in “The Chambered Nautilus.”
32. Explain how “The Chambered Nautilus” is an extended metaphor.
33. What was Longfellow’s inspiration in writing “Old Ironsides”?
34. What is the connotation of the word “eagle” in line 16, and what effect does it have on the meaning of the poem?
35. What was Emerson’s first career and why did he leave this profession?
36. What is the term that Emerson gave to the larger entity to which all individual souls belong?
37. Why was Emerson not invited to speak at his alma mater, Harvard, for thirty years?
38. Define *paradox* and identify examples in Emerson’s *Nature*?
39. What does Emerson mean when he says, “. . . few adult persons can see nature”?
40. Explain Emerson’s “transparent eyeball”?
41. What is the theme of Emerson’s essay *Self-Reliance*?
42. Complete the following quotes from Emerson:
    1. “Trust \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
    2. “Whoso would be a man would be a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
    3. “A foolish consistency is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of little minds.”
    4. “To be great is to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
43. Explain why some people would say that Henry David Thoreau was a failure.
44. Why did Thoreau move to Walden Pond for two years?
45. Why did Thoreau spend a night in jail?
46. Identify and explain paradoxes in *Resistance to Civil Government*.
47. Identify allusions in *Resistance to Civil Government.*
48. How has Thoreau’s view of his neighbors changed after his night in jail?
49. What does Thoreau do upon being released from jail? What does this show?
50. What did Poe say was the “heaviest of [his] trials”? Explain why he might have said this.
51. What types of characters are typical in Poe stories?
52. What was Poe’s purpose in creating these characters?
53. What is the single effect Poe creates in his short story “Fall of the House of Usher”?
54. Identify parallels between the description of the house and the description of Roderick?
55. What does Poe accomplish by linking the characters to the decaying house?
56. What does the “barely perceptible fissure” symbolize?
57. What does Usher say is his biggest fear? How does this foreshadow the ending?
58. How does the poem with the story, “The Haunted Palace,” relate to the story itself?
59. What does the storm at the end of the story symbolize?
60. Explain the story of Poe’s “The Raven.”
61. How is “The Minister’s Black Veil” a parable?
62. Of what is Mr. Hooper’s black veil symbolic?
63. How is the story ambiguous?
64. How does Mr. Hooper’s wearing the veil affect his relationships? His sermons?
65. What is the significance of Mr. Hooper not removing the veil even on his deathbed?

Also, study New American Poetry, Walt Whitman, and Emily Dickinson handouts.