

## DE American Lit - Realism Test Review

1. What major historical event contributed to the rise of realism?
2. What are the primary characteristics of realism? Regionalism? Naturalism? Be able to explain and apply to texts.
3. What are characteristics of Whitman and Dickinson (personality and writing) and how are they similar and different?
4. Review Whitman's poems from textbook. Be able to define and identify theme/central ideas, tone(s), figurative language, catalogs, cadence, free verse.
5. Review Dickinson's poems from textbook. Be able to identify theme/central idea, tone(s), figurative language (symbolism, metaphor, paradox, imagery, etc.), structure.
6. What are the four phases of a slave narrative? What are common motifs of slave narratives? Be able to apply these to *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* and *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*. (For example, what phase does the "Battle with Mr. Covey" best exemplify? How is the quest for literacy present in the slave narratives we read?)
7. What are the main themes of the slave narratives we read? How are the two slave narratives similar or different, especially based on gender?
8. In each slave narrative, identify impact of figurative language, diction, characterization.
9. What are Bret Harte's major contributions to American literature? What type of literature did he write?
10. Identify main characters and events of "The Luck of Roaring Camp." Identify elements and targets of satire.
11. Know some key facts about Mark Twain's life.
12. What type of literature was Twain most known for? What were common targets of Twain's satire? How is this demonstrated in "The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County"? What techniques does Twain use to enhance the humor of the story?
13. For what is Kate Chopin most recognized? Identify the major themes, plot, characterization, figurative language/diction, in "Story of an Hour" and "A Pair of Silk Stockings." Apply critical reading strategies to stories (formalist, mythological, feminist, psychological, Marxist, etc.) How do Chopin's stories demonstrate naturalism?
14. How does "To Build a Fire" demonstrate naturalism? What are key events, characterization, foreshadowing, irony, diction?
15. Why did Crane have trouble finding a publisher for his first novel? How does "Mystery of Heroism" demonstrate naturalism? Identify story's themes, characterization, diction, imagery, irony.
16. Identify the major works ("masterpiece") of each writer: Walt Whitman, Mark Twain, Kate Chopin, Jack London, Stephen Crane.
17. For each writer, consider his/her main objectives and analyze how he/she achieved these goals using specific evidence.
18. Using specific examples, explain how the literature written between the Civil War and World War I reflect changes in American society.