

Name: _____

Honors English 12

Date: _____

Period 8

Le Morte d'Arthur

Word / Part of Speech	Definition	Trick to Remember
Acquiesce (verb)		
Assail (verb)		
Depredation (noun)		
Dissuade (verb)		
Dwindle (verb)		
Ensnare (verb)		
Entreaty (noun)		
Forbearance (noun)		
Guile (noun)		
Incumbent (adjective)		
Ravage (verb)		
Redress (noun)		
Reeling (adjective)		
Succor (noun)		
Usurp (verb)		

Le Morte d'Arthur
Guided Reading Questions

Part I: Pages 226 – 230

"The Siege of Benwick"

- 1 The words spoken by each of Launcelot's counselors serve to characterize them.
Sir Bors comes across as _____
Sir Lionel seems _____
King Bagdemagus advises _____
- 2 One way a writer develops a character is by presenting his or her speech, thoughts, feelings, and actions. What does Sir Launcelot's speech reveal about his personality?
- 3 What does the dialogue between Arthur and Gawain reveal about the personalities of the two men?
Arthur –

Gawain –
- 4 Throughout most of the Arthurian cycle, Gawain and Launcelot have been staunch allies. Describe the relationship of the two knights using page 228.
- 5 How might the revelation of Gawain's secret (page 229) influence the reader's attitude toward the knight?
- 6 Page 230- What techniques did the writer use to reveal Launcelot's and Gawain's personalities during their combat?
- 7 Why does Sir Gawain advise Arthur to pursue war against Sir Launcelot?
- 8 Why is Arthur reluctant to follow Gawain's advice?
- 9 What happens when Gawain and Launcelot face each other on the battlefield?

Part II: Pages 231-236

"The Day of Destiny"

1. What do Modred's actions reveal about his personality? What do Gwynevere's actions reveal about her?
2. On page 231, Modred appeals for the barony's support, and the narrator directly comments on the action. What effect do these comments have on the reader?
3. Page 232 – Contrast the wounded Gawain's speech to King Arthur with his earlier remarks about Launcelot. What causes Gawain's change in attitude?
4. How might Gawain be perceived if he had cursed Launcelot with his dying breath?
5. Why is it important to Gawain that he attribute his death to Launcelot's blow?
6. On page 233, how does Arthur's vision of Gawain help dispel the mood created by his strange dream?
7. After reading page 233, predict what will happen at the signing of the treaty, and explain why. Use evidence and experience to support your answer.
8. Why does Arthur insist on killing Modred?
9. What details does the writer use to create a dark, frightening mood in the scene following Arthur's battle with Modred?
10. Describe the mood created by the scene at the lake. What details help set this mood?
11. What does Sir Bedivere's last line of dialogue mean? What does it tell us about his character?
12. Describe the site of King Arthur's burial. What is the place like? What effect is created by the place?