

Study of Literary Texts Exam Correction

Level: 1st year

Academic year: 2017/2018

Activity 1: two characteristics of Romanticism:

1. Glorifying the individual and the beauty of nature
2. Writing about emotions, feelings, imagination, etc

Activity 2: definition of terms:

Prosody: is the study of the structure of poetry and the conventions or techniques involved in writing it, including rhyme, meter, and the patterns of verse forms.

Drama: is the type of literature usually written to be performed.

Activity 3: the type of the poem: A limerick

Activity 4: Yes. Willy Loman though a pathetic hero can be viewed as a tragic hero because he sacrifices his life to secure his sense of personal dignity; the hero has a tragic flaw; the hero has a struggle against the society; ...etc

Activity 5: the characteristics of modern tragedy:

They are many, for example: the protagonist is a layman; the use of modern aspects of life; the story is about ordinary people (their problems, life, ambitions, aspirations, ...etc); committing suicide; two acts plays, ...etc

Activity 6: a brief summary of *Death of a Salesman* and a short comparison between Biff and Happy:

At age sixty-three, Willy has been a traveling salesman all his life. Despite his hard work and grueling schedule, the Lomans have always lived on the edge of poverty and Willy has always been an underling in his company. Yet Willy constantly tells himself and his family that the "big break" he deserves is just around the corner. Linda, Willy's dutiful wife, lives under the thin veneer of denial that her husband has so long tried to keep from collapsing. Willy finds that because of changing economic conditions the company has no further need for his services. Willy is devastated and is unable to understand how his employer could just cast him aside after

so many years of faithful service. Despite his protests otherwise, Willy knows he is a failure. He wants desperately to be "well liked," and without the status of being a manager who makes more money, the dream is impossible. He dies as he has lived, a failure in the eyes of society.

Biff and Happy have reversed their roles in life once they leave high school. Biff had always been the popular "star" in high school while Happy lived in his shadow. However, because Biff does not actually graduate (mathematics was his downfall), he then is unable to get a good job. He begins to lose jobs because of his kleptomania and thus seems to be a failure. He is one side of Willy's personality, but he cannot quite abandon Willy's dreams and head west to do what he would like to do: work with his hands. Happy, on the other hand, has had more success after high school, but this success has come at the cost of having no moral compass at all. He thinks he is more important than he truly is, but has no ethics and notes that even though he has the "trappings of success," he is, in fact, lonely