**ENGLISH ELEVEN EXAM // MATHEWS**

**STUDY GUIDE**

This exam consists of approximately 150 objective questions, both matching and (mostly) multiple choice. There will also be a written portion of short answer questions. Please bring your own notebook paper and pencil or pen.

To prepare for this exam, please consult the following resources:

* Your books: *Of Mice and Men* and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* -- the better your annotations, the more useful they’ll be!
* Classroom handouts and notes. Look for these handouts: American Modernism(s), poem and short story handouts, quote lead-in handout, run-on sentence handouts.
* Vocabulary workbook
* My website: I’ll post several of the handouts there if you’re missing your copy

**PART ONE: LITERATURE**

For each novel or short story, you will be tested on plot, characterization, and theme. Be prepared for quote identification from both novels, as well as critical thinking questions. In addition to multiple choice and quote ID’s, I’ll provide you with passages from the text, which you’ll use to answer deeper questions about theme, characterization, the author’s tools and purpose, etc. Finally, expect to answer questions about the broad themes of these two literary movements: American modernism and the Harlem Renaissance.

**MAJOR TEXTS:** *Of Mice and Men*; *Their Eyes Were Watching God*; *Fences*

**AMERICAN MODERNISM:** Know the characteristics of the period, and the following texts:  
 SHORT STORIES:

* James Thurber: “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty”
* Ernest Hemingway: “Hills Like White Elephants”
* Katherine Anne Porter: “The Jilting of Granny Weatherall”

POEMS:

* e.e. cummings: “She being Brand,” “i thank you god for most this amazing,” “l(a)”
* William Carlos Williams: *Spring and All* (excerpt), “The Red Wheelbarrow,” “This is just to say”
* T.S. Eliot: “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”

**THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE:** Know the characteristics of the period, and the following texts:

POEMS:

* Langston Hughes: review all handouts, especially these poems: “Let America Be America Again,” “Mother to Son,” “Hey-Hey Blues,” “Life is Fine,” “Words Like Freedom,” “How About It, Dixie”
* Countee Cullen: “Incident”
* James Weldon Johnson: “O Black and Unknown Bards”
* Georgia Douglas Johnson: “Your World”
* Sterling Brown: “When Ma Rainey Comes to Town”

SHORT STORY:

* Zora Neale Hurston: “Story in Harlem Slang”

**NINETEENTH-CENTURY VOICES:** Expect a few questions about these two earlier works, too:

* Charlotte Perkins Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper”
* Frederick Douglass, “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July”

**PART TWO: GRAMMAR / WRITING**

You’ll be tested on the following:

* Run-on sentences: identify and correct them
* Quote lead-ins: recognize effective and ineffective lead-ins to quotes

**PART THREE: VOCABULARY**

You’ll be tested on Units 1-6 in the vocabulary workbook. Format is multiple choice: I will give you a definition, and you will select the right word from the options.