<u>`The Beauty Myth</u> Naomi Wolf: Sheet 1 <u>Introduction</u> and <u>Hunger</u>

Vocabulary

Anorexia: Eating disorder in which women starve themselves thinking that they weigh too much despite being underweight. It can be fatal, and even if it isn't, it often causes other serious health problems.

Bulimia: Eating disorder in which women frequently induce vomiting after eating to avoid weight gain. It has many negative psychological and health effects including tooth erosion that leads to way more intensive dental work than anyone would want to face because it erodes tooth enamel

Platonic Ideal: Plato believed that everything had a perfect form that existed in what he called "the world of Being," which can be interpreted as the mind. One sensible way of understanding his theory is that things can only be perfect as idea but not in real life.

Anthropology: The study of humans, particularly human culture.

Polygamy: Marriage with more than one partner.

Monogamy: Sticking to one partner.

Daguerrotypes, tintypes, rotogravures: Early (19th century) photos.

Nora: The main (feminist) character in Ibsen's play The Doll's House.

Sorbonne: Top French university.

Inns Of Court: Ancient law firms/schools of London.

The Hague: The site of the World Court

The Bourse: The French stock exchange.

Die Zeit: German newspaper

Virginia Woolf: British modernist and feminist author.

Emetic: something that induces vomiting

hypothermia: exposure, freezing

edema: abnormal collection of liquid in connective tissue

electrolyte: non-metallic electrical conductor helpful to nervous system

hiatal: broken, split

osteoporosis: brittle bones due to lack of calcium common in older women

fetish: an object that is worshipped, desperately desired

fulcrum: balancing point, center

Bergen-Belsen: Nazi concentration camp in Germany

Banal: commonplace, trite, not special

Talisman: Good luck charm, charm to ward off evil

Betty Friedan: Author of The Feminine Mystique and a founder of the National

Organization For Women (NOW).

The Beauty Myth Naomi Wolf: Sheet 1 Introduction and Hunger Answer the following questions completely with page numbers: 1. What does Naomi Wolf say women accomplished in the early '70s? 2. How does Wolf say images of female beauty affect women? 3. How has the beauty myth has been used since the Women's Movement began? 4. What is the story of the beauty myth, and how true is it? 5. How widespread was anorexia in the US in the late '80s? 6. What are the medical effects of anorexia, bulimia and both together?	Name	Trials VI	Due May 13
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7.	How do American women feel about their bodies? When did this start?
8.	What does Wolf say women's weight obsession is about, and what is its effect?
9. V	What traditions lie behind women's dieting?
10.	What psychological effects do dieting and semi-starvation have?
11.	Who/what does Wolf blame for eating disorders? Why?
12.	Why does Wolf ultimately feel modern girls starve themselves?