

***The Awakening* Exam Prep**

Kozminski AP 12

Exam Date: Wednesday, April 27th

Format:

- 45 points
 - Short answer questions
 - Analytical paragraph responses
 - Character identification
 - Passage context

You should study:

- Key characteristics of Romanticism
- Key characteristics of Naturalism
- Refresh yourself on the five requirements of tragedy (think about how you might apply those to *The Awakening* and Edna, specifically)

Be able to:

- Identify characters based on their descriptions (look back at the descriptions of the characters throughout the text).
- Place key passages in context
 - Identify speaker
 - Setting
 - What is going on in the novel
- Link *The Awakening* to key issues within debates about feminism/masculinity (be able to discuss secondary characters and how they reflect issues within this debate)
- Write about recurring motifs
 - Helpful: compile a list of the important motifs throughout the text *and* how they convey important symbolic meaning

Most important: The writing on this test requires that you use specific details to support your ideas. You should spend time reviewing your notes and the key passages/characters involved. Don't be general or vague! It would be super-sweet if you could quote the book (would require memorization).

Final Seminar Prep

for Tuesday, April 26

This final seminar (and the questions below) should help us prepare for the exam on Wednesday.

Choose three of the following questions and prepare notes with page references, questions, insights and connections. I will check this in before the seminar.

1. Look back at Edna's interactions with Alcee Arobin. What is the nature of their relationship? At what point, do you think, do they cross the line into infidelity? What does his role in the novel suggest about Edna's "awakening?"
2. What is the nature of Edna's awakening? What has she woken from? What is her new understanding? What evidence can you find to support your ideas?
3. Consider Leonce's reactions to Edna—is he a villain or a victim? What about Robert? Who is to blame for the tragedy of this novel?
4. Do you believe Edna's death is a suicide? What does her death tell us about the options for women at this time?
5. In what ways does this novel conform to the requirements of Greek tragedy?
6. What are the major motifs of this novel? What is their symbolic value? What deeper meaning can they help us understand?