Prologue

Setting: 3000 BC in Mesopotamia

1. The prologue is mostly about ____________________________________________

2. Who is Shamash? _____________________ Chief deity of Uruk? ___________________

3. For what qualities & achievements is Gilgamesh praised? _____________________________

4. What quality makes Gilgamesh unique? ___________________________________________

The Battle with Humbaba

5. Why are the men of Uruk upset with Gilgamesh? _________________________________

6. Whom do the gods create to settle Gilgamesh down? _______________________________

7. Describe Enkidu's life in his first stages of existence. a) ____________________________

b) ____________________________________________________________________________

8. Who has a wrestling match? a) ____________________ & b) ________________________

9. What happens after the match? __________________________________________________

10. How does Enkidu describe Humbaba? a) ___________________________ b) _________________

    c) _______________________ d) _____________________ e) __________________________

11. Gilgamesh asks Enkidu to help fight Humbaba by citing part of the code of the warrior-king:
    "He who leaves the fight ____________________ is ________________________________.

12. Gilgamesh is able to defeat Humbaba b/c: ____________________________________________________________________________

13. What does Humbaba beg of Gilgamesh? ____________________________________________

14. What two promises does Humbaba make? a) _____________________________________

    b) __________________________________________________________

15. _________________ says they should not accept Humbaba's offer. Why? ________________

    ___________________________________________________________________________

16. What is an archetype? __________________________________________________________

17. What makes the battle with Humbaba "archetypal"? ________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

19. After the battle with Humbaba, what does Gilgamesh learn about the gods? ________
   __________________________________________________________________

   Enkidu’s Dream of the Underworld

20. What’s the mood of this section? _____________________________________________

21. Who asks Anu to make the Bull of Heaven destroy Gilgamesh? ____________________


23. One of the two who killed the Bull must now _________________________________

24. Enkidu’s dream gives a description of the Babylonian __________________________

25. What is Enkidu afraid of? Why? ______________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

   The Story of the Flood

26. Who dies, and what does Gilgamesh do after this death? _________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

27. Whom does Gilgamesh seek as he wanders? Why? ______________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

28. What is unique about Utnapishtim? ____________________________________________

29. What makes the god Enlil so angry with the people? _____________________________

30. What do the gods decide to do about people? ________________________________

31. The god ________ disagrees with the rest. What does he do, & how? ______________
   __________________________________________________________________________

32. What kind of personality does the god Ea have? ________________________________

33. What two things does Ea tell Utnapishtim to do? a) ____________________________
    b) ______________________________

34. It takes Utnapishtim _________ days to build the boat.

35. The gods react to the storm by __________________________________________________________________
36. How long does the storm last? ____________________________________________

37. Utnapishtim uses two methods to tell that the water has gone down:
   a) _____________________________________ b) ______________________________________

38. The god ______________ is furious that Utnapishtim has saved some people.

39. The other gods object to Enlil’s punishment b/c ________________________________

40. What does Enlil finally do with Utnapishtim? ________________________________

41. What lesson does the flood story teach Gilgamesh? ______________________________

42. What chance does Utnapishtim give Gilgamesh for immortality? ________________

43. What two things does Utnapishtim tell his wife to do to prove Gilgamesh has failed?
   a) _______________________________ & b) _________________________________

44. What is special about the clothes Gilgamesh receives at the washing place? ______

45. What secret mystery of the gods does Utnapishtim reveal to Gilgamesh? ____________

46. The journey to find the special plant represents the hero’s quest for ________________

47. Gilgamesh gets to the bottom of the water bed by ________________________________

48. Gilgamesh loses the plant of youth by __________________________________________

49. The serpent is a classic symbol of ____________________________.

50. What is the tone at the end of the story? (i.e. how does Gilgamesh feel?)
    _________________________________

51. What does Gilgamesh do to record his story after he returns to Uruk? _______________

52. What does Gilgamesh learn from his “failed” quest? ______________________________

________________________________________________________________________
1. "I made a sacrifice and poured out a libation on the mountain top." Details that help us appreciate
the cultural context of this work? ____________________________________________________________

2. Details in the work that most help us understand Sumerian religious beliefs? __________________________

3. "If your heart is fearful throw away fear." Speaker? Listener? Purpose? ______________________________

4. “First entrap the bird, and where shall the chicks run then?” Speaker? Listener? Purpose? __________________

5. The seven loaves of bread seem to represent: _________________________________________________________

6. Why are hero’s quest stories considered archetypal? __________________________________________________

7. What is the lesson of Gilgamesh’s quest and outcome? _________________________________________________

**Genesis Flood Story Challenge Questions**

8. How is Noah rewarded for his goodness & loyalty? ______________________________________________________


10. Significance of the covenant theme in the flood story? _________________________________________________

11. Archetypal setting central to this flood story? _______________________________________________________

12. Purpose of stories about destruction of the earth? _____________________________________________________

**David & Goliath Challenge Questions**

13. "Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness?"
Speaker? Listener? Attitude? ________________________________________________________________

14. “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; thy servant will go.” Speaker? Attitude? _______________________

15. "Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field." Speaker?
Listener? Tone? _____________________________________________________________________________

16. “Abner, whose son is this youth?” “As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell.” Speakers? Meaning of dialogue?
________________________________________________________________________________________

17. “Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” Speaker?
Rationale? ________________________________________________________________________________