

Review—Test 2

TEST FORMAT

Part I: Multiple Choice (15 questions—4 pts. each)

Part II: Short Answer (4 questions—10 pts. each)

TERMS/CONCEPTS/QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD REVIEW:

- Culture (from *Theory Toolbox*)
 - What are two ways of defining “culture”?
 - Where do we set cultural boundaries? What are some problems with defining culture in terms of race/ethnicity? In terms of nationality?
 - What are the traditional distinctions between “high” and “popular” culture? What are some problems with differentiating cultural production in this way?
 - What kind of texts might cultural theorists examine, and what kind of questions might they ask about these texts?

- *The Merchants of Cool* video
 - Cool hunting
 - The “mook” and the “midriff”
 - “under-the radar” marketing

- Feminism, Gender, and Queer Theory (from Klages essays and *Theory Toolbox*)
 - “The Woman Question”—when and what?
 - Gender Essentialism vs. Social Construction
 - So-called “universal” experience: how has this traditionally been thought of?
 - Queer theory: What is it and why this particular name for it?
 - Sexual binaries
 - Performative discourse
 - What kinds of questions might feminist or queer theory ask about texts?

- Race and Postcolonialism (from *Theory Toolbox* and Klages essay)
 - What does it mean that race “is anything but natural and eternal” (*Toolbox*, 191)
 - What are some of the ways that contemporary science has debunked biological notions of race?
 - polygenism
 - Clinal variation
 - What is postcolonial theory?
 - How is literature involved in colonization?

- Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
- The signifying monkey
- Edward Said
- Orientalism
- The subaltern
- The Empire Writes Back
- Homi K. Bhabha
- Hybrid and overdetermined identities
- What kind of questions might critics who study race and postcolonialism ask about literature?

- Postmodernism
 - Decanonization
 - Reality as linguistically constructed
 - Metafiction
 - Indeterminacy
 - Pastiche
 - Simulation
 - Irony