

## ENGLISH 9 &amp; ENGLISH 9 HONORS

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Due Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**“The Scarlet Ibis”***By James Hurst*

**Overview:** Please answer **all** of the following questions using the PDF form. When you're finished, you may either print out your final draft or email it to me as an attachment. You **must** cite evidence from the story to explain and defend your answers. You may work ***alone***, but you are encouraged to work with ***a partner*** on this assignment. For the creative response question, you may work in a group so long as everyone contributes to the final product and everyone's name is submitted.

- Vocabulary:** Choose any **five** words from the list below. The first column is simply where you list each of the five words you choose to address. The second column is where you will write a definition for the word – a definition from a dictionary source that you clearly understand. Be sure to cite your source. The third column will be where you write your own definition of the word and explain where and how the author, James Hurst, used it in “The Scarlet Ibis” – how Hurst used the word in context. See the example for clarification.

**Select Five:** The words you may choose from are: ***rank, billowed, vortex, infallibility, reiterated, armada, invalid, caul, spruce, prim, brogans, untenanted, precariously, evanesced.***

Word	Dictionary Definition	Personal Perspective
<i>heresy</i>	opinion profoundly at odds with what is generally accepted (Oxford Dictionary)	Hurst uses “heresy” in the last paragraph of the story when he says the narrator was “sheltering my fallen scarlet ibis from the heresy of rain.” The term “heresy” is used metaphorically in that the narrator doesn't want the rain to wash away the image he has of his brother.

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2. **Setting:** Based on our class discussion of **setting**, list the key information about “The Scarlet Ibis” below:

Date/Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Geographical Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Space/Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Atmosphere/Mood: \_\_\_\_\_

Historical Context: \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Context: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Point of View:** From what **point of view** is the story written? How do you know?

**First Person**     **Third Person**

How does this **point of view** affect the story? \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Characterization:** Based on our class discussion of **characterization**, answer the questions below.

Who is the **protagonist**? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Who/what is/are the **antagonist(s)**? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Cite an example of **direct characterization** of Doodle: \_\_\_\_\_

Cite an example of **indirect characterization** of Doodle: \_\_\_\_\_

Cite an example of **direct characterization** of the narrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Cite an example of **indirect characterization** of the narrator: \_\_\_\_\_

5. **Mood:** What is the **mood** of the first two ¶s of the story? Cite at least two examples from the first two ¶s that support your analysis. \_\_\_\_\_

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6. **Tone:** What is the **tone** of this story? Cite evidence from the story that supports your analysis. \_\_\_\_

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7. **Simile and Metaphor:** James Hurst uses an abundance of **simile** and **metaphor** in this story. Please identify four examples of either **simile** or **metaphor**. Be sure to cite the entire phrase in which the example appears, and indicate whether it is a **simile** or **metaphor** by checking the “S” or the “M”.

1.  S  M \_\_\_\_\_

2.  S  M \_\_\_\_\_

3.  S  M \_\_\_\_\_

4.  S  M \_\_\_\_\_

8. **Symbolism:** A **symbol**, as you know, is a thing or idea that stands for something else. Authors use symbols to enhance the theme or to give readers a greater understanding of a key idea in the story. The main symbol in this story is the scarlet ibis itself. To get us ready for this **symbol**, Hurst “paints” the story red. Skim through the story and find **three** things, images, ideas, etc. that are **symbols** having something to do with “red” and record them below. Follow the example.

Symbol	Citation (Page/Column/¶)	Explanation
<i>bleeding tree</i>	Page 1; Column 1; ¶ 1	The imagery of a bleeding tree exudes the color red, which is a bit of foreshadowing symbolizing both the ibis and Doodle.

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**Honors/Extra Credit:** *E9 Honors must answer this question. E9 Regular may for extra credit.*

**Theme:** A **theme**, as you know, is an idea or a truth that the author reveals to the reader through the story. This idea or truth helps us to understand ourselves better as human beings. To come up with a description of the **theme** of this story, think about an important idea or truth we can learn from the narrator’s willingness to share this tragic story with us. State your **theme** idea as a complete sentence that reveals a truth about human behavior or the human condition based on the events in “The Scarlet Ibis.” [Here’s an example, which of course means you can’t use it as yours. Sorry. Example: *Too much pride can make us treat those we love in cruel ways.*] Okay, so what’s your **theme**?

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**Honors/Extra Credit:** *E9 Honors must answer this question. E9 Regular may for extra credit.*

**Creative Response:** Working in a group of no more than three people, create a visual representation (poster, picture, mobile, short video, etc.) of how **perseverance** relates to “The Scarlet Ibis.” The more **symbolic** your creation is, the better. You may tie in other stories, films and characters that we have studied during this unit.

**PROPOSAL:** Briefly describe what you (or your group) plans to do for your creative response.

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Approved by Mr. DeMiero

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Date