

Potential Exam Questions for ENGL 200 Sherlock Midterm

NOTE: Dr. K will undoubtedly edit, rephrase, or adjust these, so don't expect to see them word-for-word on the test. Some will be adjusted for short-answer questions; others might be expanded, combined, or otherwise reworked for longer essay questions.

- Discuss the theme of class within the Holmes Canon (the written Doyle stories).
- In what ways does Holmes' treatment of the crime victims he deals with change between the Canon and the modern adaptations we've looked at?
- Compare and contrast Doyle's Moriarty with Rattigan in *The Great Mouse Detective*. Give at least three ways in which they are similar or different.
- What role(s) do Outsiders play in the Canon stories, and how does Doyle use them as part of his narrative strategies?
- Name, describe, and give evidence of a trope Doyle establishes in the Sherlock Holmes Canon. How has this trope been interpreted in later versions of the story?
- Discuss three different ways class distinction comes into play in the Sherlock Holmes stories (using the original Canon or different later interpretations).
- How does Doyle's use of description in the Canon contribute to his creation of suspense in the stories?
- In what ways does The Watson in a particular version influence the reader's perception of Holmes, induction, and the mysteries as a whole?
- What narrative strategies does Doyle use to mislead the reader (and Holmes)? (E.G. red herrings)
- Compare and contrast the "Holmes and Watson" first meeting versions we have seen in the Canon and in the TV shows. What different aspects of characterization are emphasized by each?
- Identify and analyze the use of one particularly narrative strategy within *A Study in Scarlet*. How does this particular strategy interact with the plot?
- In what ways is Doyle's presentation of The Great Detective trope different from Poe's presentation in the two stories we read?
- Compare and contrast Doyle's "Watson" to another Watson we've seen.
- How has the trope of the "Sherlock Scan" been portrayed outside the original Canon? Are they all different, or are there notable similarities?