

Zorba the Greek Lesson Plans

Zorba the Greek by Nikos Kazantzakis

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Introduction

Teaching Zorba the Greek

The *Zorba the Greek* lesson plan contains a variety of teaching materials that cater to all learning styles. Inside you'll find 30 Daily Lessons, 20 Fun Activities, 180 Multiple Choice Questions, 60 Short Essay Questions, 20 Essay Questions, Quizzes/Homework Assignments, Tests, and more. The lessons and activities will help students gain an intimate understanding of the text, while the tests and quizzes will help you evaluate how well the students have grasped the material.

Target Grade: 7th-12th (Middle School and High School)

Length of Lesson Plan: Approximately 156 pages. Page count is estimated at 300 words per page. Length will vary depending on format viewed.

Browse The Zorba the Greek Lesson Plan:

- Introduction
- Lesson Calendar
- Chapter Abstracts
- Character Descriptions
- Object Descriptions
- Daily Lessons
- Fun Activities
- Essay Topics
- Short Essay Questions
- Multiple Choice
- Short Answer Questions
- Worksheets and Evaluation Forms
- Quizzes
- Tests
- Quiz/Test Generator

Full Lesson Plan Overview

Completely Customizable!

The *Zorba the Greek* lesson plan is downloadable in PDF and Word. The Word file is viewable with any PC or Mac and can be further adjusted if you want to mix questions around and/or add your own headers for things like "Name," "Period," and "Date." The Word file offers unlimited customizing options so that you can teach in the most efficient manner possible. Once you download the file, it is yours to keep and print for your classroom.

Lesson Plan Calendars

The Lesson Plan Calendars provide daily suggestions about what to teach. They include detailed descriptions of when to assign reading, homework, in-class work, fun activities, quizzes, tests and more. Use the entire *Zorba the Greek* calendar, or supplement it with your own curriculum ideas. Calendars cover one, two, four, and eight week units. Determine how long your *Zorba the Greek* unit will be, then use one of the calendars provided to plan out your entire lesson.

Chapter Abstracts

Chapter abstracts are short descriptions of events that occur in each chapter of *Zorba the Greek*. They highlight major plot events and detail the important relationships and characteristics of important characters. The Chapter Abstracts can be used to review what the students have read, or to prepare the students for what they will read. Hand the abstracts out in class as a study guide, or use them as a "key" for a class discussion. They are relatively brief, but can serve to be an excellent refresher of *Zorba the Greek* for either a student or teacher.

Character and Object Descriptions

Character and Object Descriptions provide descriptions of the significant characters as well as objects and places in *Zorba the Greek*. These can be printed out and used as an individual study guide for students, a "key" for leading a class discussion, a summary review prior to exams, or a refresher for an educator. The character and object descriptions are also used in some of the quizzes and tests in this lesson plan. The longest descriptions run about 200 words. They become shorter as the importance of the character or object declines.



Daily Lessons

This section of the lesson plan contains 30 Daily Lessons. Daily Lessons each have a specific objective and offer at least three (often more) ways to teach that objective. Lessons include classroom discussions, group and partner activities, in-class handouts, individual writing assignments, at least one homework assignment, class participation exercises and other ways to teach students about *Zorba the Greek* in a classroom setting. You can combine daily lessons or use the ideas within them to create your own unique curriculum. They vary greatly from day to day and offer an array of creative ideas that provide many options for an educator.

Fun Classroom Activities

Fun Classroom Activities differ from Daily Lessons because they make "fun" a priority. The 20 enjoyable, interactive classroom activities that are included will help students understand *Zorba the Greek* in fun and entertaining ways. Fun Classroom Activities include group projects, games, critical thinking activities, brainstorming sessions, writing poems, drawing or sketching, and countless other creative exercises. Many of the activities encourage students to interact with each other, be creative and think "outside of the box," and ultimately grasp key concepts from the text by "doing" rather than simply studying. Fun activities are a great way to keep students interested and engaged while still providing a deeper understanding of *Zorba the Greek* and its themes.

Essay Questions/Writing Assignments

These 20 Essay Questions/Writing Assignments can be used as essay questions on a test, or as stand-alone essay topics for a take-home or in-class writing assignment on *Zorba the Greek*. Students should have a full understanding of the unit material in order to answer these questions. They often include multiple parts of the work and ask for a thorough analysis of the overall text. They nearly always require a substantial response. Essay responses are typically expected to be one (or more) page(s) and consist of multiple paragraphs, although it is possible to write answers more briefly. These essays are designed to challenge a student's understanding of the broad points in a work, interactions among the characters, and main points and themes of the text. But, they also cover many of the other issues specific to the work and to the world today.

Short Essay Questions

The 60 Short Essay Questions listed in this section require a one to two sentence answer. They ask students to demonstrate a deeper understanding of *Zorba the Greek* by describing what they've read, rather than just recalling it. The short essay questions evaluate not only whether students have read the material, but also how well they understand and can apply it. They require more thought than multiple choice questions, but are shorter than the essay questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

The 180 Multiple Choice Questions in this lesson plan will test a student's recall and understanding of *Zorba the Greek*. Use these questions for quizzes, homework assignments or tests. The questions are broken out into sections, so they focus on specific chapters within *Zorba the Greek*. This allows you to test and review the book as you proceed through the unit. Typically, there are 5-15 questions per chapter, act or section.

Evaluation Forms

Use the Oral Reading Evaluation Form when students are reading aloud in class. Pass the forms out before you assign reading, so students will know what to expect. You can use the forms to provide general feedback on audibility, pronunciation, articulation, expression and rate of speech. You can use this form to grade students, or simply comment on their progress.

Use the Writing Evaluation Form when you're grading student essays. This will help you establish uniform criteria for grading essays even though students may be writing about different aspects of the material. By following this form you will be able to evaluate the thesis, organization, supporting arguments, paragraph transitions, grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. of each student's essay.

Quizzes/Homework Assignments

The Quizzes/Homework Assignments are worksheets that can be used in a variety of ways. They pull questions from the multiple choice and short essay sections, the character and object descriptions, and the chapter abstracts to create worksheets that can be used for pop quizzes, in-class assignments and homework. Periodic homework assignments and quizzes are a great way to encourage students to stay on top of their assigned reading. They can also help you determine which concepts and ideas your class grasps and which they need more guidance on. By pulling from the different sections of the lesson plan, quizzes and homework assignments offer a comprehensive review of *Zorba the Greek* in manageable increments that are less substantial than a full blown test.

Tests

Use the Test Summary page to determine which pre-made test is most relevant to your students' learning styles. This lesson plan provides both full unit tests and mid-unit tests. You can choose from several tests that include differing combinations of multiple choice questions, short answer questions, short essay questions, full essay questions, character and object matching, etc. Some of the tests are designed to be more difficult than others. Some have essay questions, while others are limited to short-response questions, like multiple choice, matching and short answer questions. If you don't find the combination of questions that best suits your class, you can also create your own test on *Zorba the Greek*.

Lesson Calendar

Definitions

- **Review Chapter Abstracts:** Chapter abstracts are synopses of each chapter that you can use to review the reading assignments with your students.
- **Daily Lessons:** There are 30 daily lessons detailed in this lesson plan. Select a new daily lesson for each day.
- **Fun Activities:** There are 20 fun activities in this lesson plan. They serve as a way for students to interact with the material in an enjoyable, educational way.
- **Read Aloud in Class:** Ask students to take turns reading aloud from where they left off in their most recent reading assignment. Use the Oral Reading Evaluation Form in this lesson plan to evaluate their reading skills.
- **In-Class Handout:** An in-class handout can be one of the quizzes/homework assignments, vocabulary games, worksheets, or an essay/writing assignment. It's something the students can complete and turn in during class, or begin in-class and take home to finish as a homework assignment.

One Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 7

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Quiz	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 7 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-8 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 1-10 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 13 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 9-15 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 20 and choose a homework assignment	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 20 Quiz 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 16-23 1 In-Class Handout 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 11-20 Homework Assignment:	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 26 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 24-30 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test

Chapter 13	from one of the Daily Lessons	Read through Chapter 26 and assign an essay, due the week following the test		
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Two Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 3

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 3 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-4 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 6	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 6 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 5-8 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 1-5 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 9	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 9 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 9-12 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 12	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 12 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 13-15 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 6-10 Review for the quiz Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 15 and study for the quiz	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 15 Quiz Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 18 and assign an essay, due the week following the final test
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Review Unit	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Final Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 18 1 Lesson from	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 21 1 Lesson from	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 24 1 Lesson from	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 26 1 Lesson from	Test

<p>Daily Lessons 16-19</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 11-15</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 21 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons</p>	<p>Daily Lessons 20-23</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>Students Read Aloud in Class</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 24 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons</p>	<p>Daily Lessons 24-27</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 16-20</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 26</p>	<p>Daily Lessons 28-30</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>Review for the test</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Study for the test</p>	
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Four Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 2

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 2</p> <p>Students Read Aloud in Class</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 3</p>	<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 3</p> <p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-2</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 5 and choose a homework assignment</p>	<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 5</p> <p>Review Homework</p> <p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 3-4</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 1-3</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through</p>	<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 6</p> <p>Review Homework</p> <p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 5-6</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 4-5</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p>	<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 8</p> <p>Quiz</p> <p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 7-8</p> <p>Students Read Aloud in Class</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 9 and choose a</p>

	from one of the Daily Lessons	Chapter 6 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 8	homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Review Unit	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Mid Unit Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 9 Review Homework Daily Lesson 9 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 6-7 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 11 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 11 Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 10-11 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 12 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 12 Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 12-13 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 8-9 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 13 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 13 Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 14-15 1 In-Class Handout Review for the test Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 15 and study for the test	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 15 Test Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 16 and assign an essay, due the week following the final test
Day 11 - Review Unit	Day 12 - Review Unit	Day 13 - Review Unit	Day 14 - Review Unit	Day 15 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 16 Review the test	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 18 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 19 Review Homework	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 21 Review Homework	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 22 Quiz

<p>Daily Lesson 16</p> <p>Students Read Aloud in Class</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 18</p>	<p>17-18</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 10-12</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 19 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons</p>	<p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 19-20</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 21 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons</p>	<p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 21-22</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 13-14</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 22 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons</p>	<p>Daily Lesson 23</p> <p>Students Read Aloud in Class</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 15-16</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 24 and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons</p>
Day 16 - Review Unit	Day 17 - Review Unit	Day 18 - Review Unit	Day 19 - Review Unit	Day 20 - Final Test
<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 24</p> <p>Review Homework</p> <p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 24-25</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 17-18</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 25 and choose a homework assignment from one of the</p>	<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 25</p> <p>Review Homework</p> <p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 26-27</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>Students Read Aloud in Class</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 26 and choose a homework</p>	<p>Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 26</p> <p>Review Homework</p> <p>1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 28-29</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 19-20</p>	<p>Daily Lesson 30</p> <p>1 In-Class Handout</p> <p>Homework Assignment: Study for the test</p>	<p>Test</p>

Daily Lessons	assignment from one of the Daily Lessons			
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Eight Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 1

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 1 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 2	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 2 Daily Lesson 1 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 3 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 3 Review Homework Daily Lesson 2 Fun Activity 1 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 3 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 4	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 4 Quiz Fun Activity 2 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 5
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Quiz	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Review Unit
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 5 Daily Lesson 4 Fun Activity 3 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 6 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 6 Review Homework Daily Lesson 5 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class	Quiz Review Homework Daily Lesson 6 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 7 and complete the	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 7 Review Homework Daily Lesson 7 Fun Activity 4 1 In-Class Handout	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 8 Fun Activity 5 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 9

	Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Daily Lesson	Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 8	
Day 11 - Review Unit	Day 12 - Quiz	Day 13 - Review Unit	Day 14 - Review Unit	Day 15 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 9 Daily Lesson 8 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Study for the quiz	Quiz Daily Lesson 9 Fun Activity 6 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 10 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 10 Review Homework Daily Lesson 10 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 11 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 11 Review Homework Daily Lesson 11 Fun Activity 7 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 12 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 12 Quiz Students Read Aloud in Class Fun Activity 8 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson
Day 16 - Review Unit	Day 17 - Review Unit	Day 18 - Review Unit	Day 19 - Review Unit	Day 20 - Mid Unit Test
Daily Lesson 12 Fun Activity 9 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 13 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 13 Review Homework Daily Lesson 13 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 14 Review Homework Daily Lesson 14 1 In-Class Handout Fun Activity 10 Homework	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 15 Review Homework 1 In-Class Handout Review for the test Homework Assignment:	Test Homework Assignment: Assign an essay, due on day 38



	Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 14	Assignment: Read through Chapter 15 and complete the Daily Lesson	Study for the test	
Day 21 - Review Unit	Day 22 - Review Unit	Day 23 - Review Unit	Day 24 - Review Unit	Day 25 - Quiz
Daily Lesson 15 Review the test	Daily Lesson 16 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 16 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 16 Review Homework Daily Lesson 17 Fun Activity 11 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 17 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 17 Review Homework Fun Activity 12 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 18	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 18 Quiz Daily Lesson 18 Fun Activity 13 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson
Day 26 - Review Unit	Day 27 - Review Unit	Day 28 - Review Unit	Day 29 - Review Unit	Day 30 - Mid Unit Test
Review Homework Daily Lesson 19 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 19 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 19 Review Homework Daily Lesson 20 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 20 Review Homework Daily Lesson 21 Fun Activity 14 Homework Assignment: Read through	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 21 Review Homework Daily Lesson 22 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment:	Quiz Fun Activity 15 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 22

	Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 20 and complete the Daily Lesson	Chapter 21 and complete the Daily Lesson	Study for the quiz	
Day 31 - Review Unit	Day 32 - Review Unit	Day 33 - Review Unit	Day 34 - Review Unit	Day 35 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 22 Daily Lesson 23 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 23	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 23 Daily Lesson 24 Fun Activity 16 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 24 and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 24 Review Homework Daily Lesson 25 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 26 Fun Activity 17 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 25	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 25 Quiz Students Read Aloud in Class Daily Lesson 27 Fun Activity 18 Homework Assignment: Read through Chapter 26 and complete the Daily Lesson
Day 36 - Review Unit	Day 37 - Review Unit	Day 38 - Review Unit	Day 39 - Review Unit	Day 40 - Final Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Chapter 26 Review Homework Daily Lesson 28 Fun Activity 19 Homework	1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Finish the essay	Collect essay assignments Daily Lesson 29 Fun Activity 20 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 30 1 In-Class Handout Review for the test	Test



Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson				
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Chapter Abstracts

Chapter 1

- The narrator, who is introduced as a scholar, sits in a bar full of sailors and reminisces on his relationship with his good friend who is a soldier.
- The narrator feels sad that he and his soldier friend could not be more vulnerable in expressing their love and recalls the pact they made to warn one another telepathically of foreboding danger.
- The narrator meets a new friend, Alexis Zorba and journeys to Crete to undertake a more adventurous life.
- The narrator hires Zorba to act as the foreman of the narrator's lignite mine.

Chapter 2

- While on the boat to Crete, Zorba explains that he cut half of one finger off because it got in the way of his pottery.
- The narrator recognizes Zorba's intense physical passion but also warns that it could lead Zorba to cut off his sexual organs.
- Zorba talks about the many wars and revolutions that Crete has endured and wonders how these brought peace and liberty to the present.
- Many villagers greet the two men on Crete.
- Madame Hortense, a widow, agrees to let the men stay with her, and Zorba begins to romance her.

Chapter 3

- The narrator goes for a walk in the Cretan countryside where he meets two women who are momentarily afraid of him; then he contemplates the sea and reads from Dante.
- Zorba prepares a lunch table for three people so that Madame Hortense may be included.
- Mavrandoni, the village elder, offers the two men a place to stay, but they choose to stay with Madame Hortense.
- Madame Hortense discusses her four great loves: admirals from England, France, Italy, and Russia.



- Madame Hortense's pet parrot repeats the name of her Italian and greatest lover, Canavaro; and Zorba offers to act as the man's replacement.

Chapter 4

- Zorba initiates his physical romance with Madame Hortense.
- The narrator recalls a scene at a museum with his soldier friend in which the friend credits any great accomplishments he might make to Rembrandt's Warrior painting.
- Zorba is displeased that he and the narrator laughed at Madame Hortense and tells the narrator that he should have told Hortense how beautiful she is.
- The mining operations begin and Zorba takes charge.
- The narrator attempts to get to know the miners and talks to them about Socialist ideas.
- Zorba is angered that the narrator treats the miners as equals and restricts the narrator from coming to the mine.
- The narrator sets goals to rid himself of the Buddha and philosophical pondering, as well as to ground himself in the physical world.

Chapter 5

- Anagnosti plans a feast to celebrate the castration of the pigs.
- Anagnosti tells the story of his birth, requires complete reverence to God, and relates the castration to the human condition.
- Zorba is uncomfortable with the ceremony.
- Zorba tells the narrator that he shouldn't tell the villagers that their religion is inaccurate unless he has a better explanation to offer them because religion is the center of who they are.
- The narrator is restless with the knowledge that he can't improve the villagers thinking, so he starts writing the Buddha Manuscript.

Chapter 6

- The narrator begins to learn about eating from Zorba.



- Zorba details the three kinds of men in regards to eating: 1) those that turn food into fat and manure 2) those that turn food into work and good humor 3) those that turn food into God.
- Zorba categorizes himself in the second class and suggest the narrator makes attempts at the third.
- Zorba teaches the narrator dance as a language that words cannot convey; the narrator understands but cannot perform the "language" himself.
- Zorba proposes his railway cable plan for the mine.
- The narrator continues writing the Buddha Manuscript.

Chapter 7

- Zorba details his view of marriage, says he's been married "honestly" or legally once, "half-honestly" or informally twice, and "dishonestly" (all of his sexual adventures) a thousand times.
- Zorba shares the stories of his two "half-honest" marriages with women named Sophinka and Noussa.
- Zorba says he lived with Sophinka for 3 months in a cottage with her grandmother.
- Zorba says when he met Noussa, he went to a feast at her home where an orgy ensued.
- Zorba says he lived with Noussa for six months until she eloped with a soldier.

Chapter 8

- The narrator writes a letter to his soldier friend, explaining how the friend inspired him to seek an active life, describing his new friend Zorba, detailing the narrator's philosophizing, and expressing his love for his friend.
- Zorba and the narrator walk to town in the rain.
- Zorba suggests that the narrator burn his library because the books do not give much regard to nature; the narrator agrees but says he is unable to do so.
- Inside a cafe to escape the rain, Zorba and the narrator spot a beautiful woman, who Manolakus curses and despises and the other men joke about.
- Mimiko enters the cafe and reports that the widow has lost her sheep and offers a reward to whomever can help find it.



- Zorba, the narrator, and Mimiko walk toward the widow's garden, but the narrator is unable to speak to her which disappoints Zorba.

Chapter 9

- Zorba strikes a big load of lignite at the mine.
- Zorba asks the narrator to explain God; the narrator cannot answer, so Zorba creates an image of a God exactly like himself but more wild and crazy who forgives easily and immediately.
- Zorba will not forgive the narrator for failing to sleep with the widow.
- The mine collapses, but Zorba warns the men and all escape unharmed.
- Zorba scolds the men for leaving their picks in the collapsing mine, but the narrator calms the atmosphere and calls a lunch break.

Chapter 10

- Having a near-death experience increases the narrator's desire for the widow, but he only compares the feelings to Buddha's temptation by the Evil One and works instead on his manuscript.
- Zorba encourages him to visit the widow rather than attend church, but the two men end up going to church and enjoying the celebration.
- Zorba and the narrator have dinner with Madame Hortense; then the narrator leaves the lovers alone and feels very happy.
- With the New Year, Zorba grows happier and the narrator restless with his growing desire for the widow.
- After attending church to make amends, the narrator takes a walk down to the beach where he recalls accidentally killing a butterfly and reflects on the importance of following nature's time line.

Chapter 11

- A new year begins.
- The narrator grows more attracted to the widow but is unable to speak to her.
- Zorba and the narrator go to Madame Hortense's house for lunch, and Zorba teases the narrator for not approaching the widow.



- Zorba presents Madame Hortense with a portrait of her as a siren leading the battleships of her four great loves, the admirals.
- Madame Hortense drunkenly recounts her wordly love affairs which annoys Zorba.
- Zorba leaves angrily but concludes that God is to fault for Madame Hortense's promiscuous life.

Chapter 12

- The narrator realizes that his once-prized collection of poetry lacks a connection to the physical human and thus lacks value.
- The narrator decides that writing his Buddha Manuscript is an attempt to exorcise the prophet, who is the Void and end of civilization, from his own soul.
- The narrator spends the day fighting the prophet in his writing while Zorba calculates the perfect slope for the timber rail.
- Zorba decides to take a 3-day trip to the nearest town to purchase supplies, which Madame Hortense disapproves of.
- The narrator receives a letter from a fellow teacher, Karayannis, who lives in Africa and reports disdain for his old country, a slightly milder disdain for his new one, and sends an invitation to the narrator to visit.
- The narrator considers traveling to Africa to visit his friend but decides against it.
- The old soldier friend reports that he is steadfastly fighting to for his nation.

Chapter 13

- Zorba has been absent for six days when the narrator receives a letter from him.
- Zorba's letter describes a devil living inside of him and also details that he's staying with a young woman and has not purchased any supplies.
- The narrator is ambivalent and writes back instructing Zorba's return.

Chapter 14

- Dame Hortense inquires about Zorba's absence; the narrator falsifies Zorba's letter and says that Zorba has proposed marriage to her.
- The village is disrupted when Pavli commits suicide because the widow does not return his love.



- An old woman calls for the widow to be killed, and the narrator defends her.
- Anagnosti claims Pavli is blessed to be spared a life involving women.
- Mimiko thanks the narrator on the widow's behalf with a basket of oranges.

Chapter 15

- The narrator goes for a walk and encounters the ruins of a Minoan city.
- The narrator meets a shepherd who asks for a cigarette as a toll.
- The narrator wanders aimlessly by the sea and meets an old man who asks if he is headed to the convent; the narrator says yes.
- The man tells the narrator the story of the convent's martyred Virgin statue which bleeds yearly from a chiseled wound.

Chapter 16

- Zorba returns from Candia and is angered that his boss lied to Hortense but is also ready to propose.
- Zorba has spent all of the narrator's money and dyed his hair black while away.
- Zorba says they should get back to work quickly.
- The narrator talks about the power of concentration, and Zorba teases that his boss wants to build a monastery, which in turn makes the narrator sad in its accuracy.
- Zorba and the narrator enjoy a friendly dinner; Hortense arrives, and the narrator leaves them alone.

Chapter 17

- Zorba and the narrator climb up to the monastery in order to rent land for the cable railway.
- Zaharia, a monk, meets them and warns them not to go because the monks are corrupt.
- Zaharia has a devil inside of him named Joseph, and Zorba feeds Joseph's evil desires.
- Zaharia tells the story of Our Lady of Revenge, whose legendary statue is said to have killed an invading Algerian army.



- While waiting to do business with the abbot, Zorba notices that all of the monks have unsatisfied desires and shares that he deals with such longings by stuffing himself with the desired thing until he no longer wants it.
- When he notices a homosexual relationship between the monk, Demetrios, and his pupil, Gavrieli, Zorba wants to leave the monastery as soon as possible so that his opinions on humanity aren't tainted.
- Zorba indicates that he has a scheme to get the land at a very cheap price.

Chapter 18

- The abbot attempts to charge a higher than agreed upon price for the land, but Zorba won't relent in attempt to redeem himself for spending his boss's money in Candia.
- Zorba and the narrator hear a gunshot in the middle of the night which creates a commotion in the monastery.
- A bishop knocks on their door, seeking shelter in their room, which the two men grant.
- The bishop thanks them by sharing his three great theories on religion, which the narrator says have saved many souls.
- Zorba mocks the bishop with counter-theories and is excited that the gunshot drama might improve his bargaining power.
- Zorba learns that the gunshot was Demetrios murdering Gavrieli, an incident which prompts Zaharia to commit to burning the monastery to the ground.
- Zorba is granted the good deal he desires in the bargaining and tries to pay the narrator back.
- The narrator refuses, so Zorba gives the money to Zaharia and educates him on arson techniques for accomplishing his holy purpose.

Chapter 19

- Madame Hortense pressures Zorba for marriage, but Zorba makes excuses and delays.
- Zorba procrastinates on opening a gift from Hortense; it ends up being a pair of wedding rings.
- Madame Hortense is made very happy when Zorba agrees to a star-lit engagement ceremony.
- Zorba refuses intimacy with Hortense and attributes his actions to Lent.



- In conversing with the narrator, Zorba compares himself to Zeus in his willingness to sacrifice for women.

Chapter 20

- The narrator inquires of Zorba whether he's ever been to war, and after some delay, Zorba talks about his battle experience and murders he's committed.
- Zorba says his experience has led him to consider a man's nationality less, but whether he is "good" or "bad" more, and the narrator is jealous of Zorba's wide range of experience.
- The narrator and Zorba have a ceremony to christen work on the railway, and villagers gather to watch.
- Zorba begins work on the railway.

Chapter 21

- On Easter Zorb and the narrator prepare a feast to honor Madame Hortense but learn that she is quite ill.
- Zorba checks on his fiancé, returns to enjoy the feast, and then goes to the village to enjoy the holiday festivities.
- Later, the narrator walks toward town, meets the widow, and is finally intimate with her.
- Zorba expresses pride in his boss's success with the widow, and the narrator realizes that he's finished writing his manuscript and can forget about the prophet.
- Zorba works on the railway, and the narrator attempts to comfort the ailing Hortense; he calls for a doctor when he realizes that she is severely ill.

Chapter 22

- The narrator joins the Easter festivities after caring for Madame Hortense.
- When the widow enters the church, Manolakas leads a mob to atone for Pavli's death, which the villagers blame the widow for.
- The villagers surround the widow as she leaves the church; they throw stones, and bare knives, and Mavrandoni tells Manolakas to kill her.
- The narrator attempts to come to the widow's aide but trips and fails. Zorba arrives at the scene, fights Manolakas and prevents the murder momentarily, but Mavrandoni cuts off the widow's head.



- Zorba tells the narrator of the death of Zorba's three year-old son, Dimitri, and is terribly upset about the widow's murder, while the narrator philosophizes abstractly.
- Manolakas meets Zorba while walking and challenges him to a knife fight, but Zorba says he'll fight without weapons. The narrator breaks up the fight.

Chapter 23

- Zorba and the narrator take care of Madame Hortense while she dies. Dirge singers wait to loot her belongings.
- Madame Hortense dies. Several villagers attempt unsuccessfully to cheer Zorba up.
- Anagnosti heads the inventory and distribution of her belongings and chases off the loitering thieves.
- Zorba adopts Hortense's parrot, and he and the narrator watch her body being taken away.

Chapter 24

- Zorba is upset when the narrator cannot answer his queries about why death happens. He wonders why the narrator reads books if they don't offer the answers to such questions.
- Zorba claims to have been Hortense's greatest love because he put all else aside for her.
- Zaharia appears and announces that he's burned down the monastery under orders from Archangel Michael.
- Zaharia dies.

Chapter 25

- The cable railway is completed.
- The monks report that Zaharia has been slain by the Holy Virgin of Revenge for arson.
- The first trees tested on the railway are destroyed before they reach the bottom. The passage of the fourth tree causes the entire contraption to collapse and sends the villagers scattering. Zorba and the narrator celebrate anyway.
- Zorba teaches his boss the language of dance.



- The narrator receives a letter from his soldier friend reporting a victory, but the narrator senses danger. He sends a message telepathically as promised in the friends' pact.

Chapter 26

- Zorba and the narrator go their separate ways with the narrator promising to stuff himself with books until he no longer needs them and a pact to one day build a monastery of free men with Zorba.
- The narrator learns that Stavridaki, his soldier friend, is dead.
- The narrator gets notes from Zorba over the years, the last being an invitation to visit Germany and see a beautiful green stone.
- Zorba dies and the narrator inherits the Santuri.



Character Descriptions

The Narrator

This character is a student who is teased by friends for being a bookworm. This character writes a book-length collection of thoughts.

The Friend (Stavridaki)

A brave soldier who lives not only for himself, but also for mankind and his Nation. This character is the narrator's closest friend with whom he writes letters. He dies after achieving great military accomplishments.

Zorba

This very physical character is hired to be the foreman of the mine; he loves women and claims to be an atheist.

Madame Hortense

This character claims to have had lovers who captained the four great European powers, and has a parrot who repeats the name of one constantly.

Anagnosti

This old sage treats his wife poorly and first appears in the book at a celebration at which he castrates sheep.

Mavrandoni

This character cuts another character's head off to avenge his son's death.

Manolakas

This character is responsible for village executions. He loses a fight with another character which prevents him from executing one person.

The Widow

This character is an object of desire for many in the village and is also blamed for one admirer's suicide. The villagers mob and eventually murder this character.

Mimiko

The villagers mostly dislike this strange, clown-like character who spouts random wisdom.

Zaharia the Monk

This character burns the monastery down.



Object Descriptions

Crete

This is the name of the Greek island where the mine is located and where the majority of the story unfolds.

Zorba's santuri

The mine foreman carries this instrument with him everywhere and plays it when celebrating.

The hut on the beach

This location was given to Zorba and the narrator by Madame Hortense.

Madame Hortense's Parrot

This object shouts out the name of its owner's dead lover.

The Lignite Mine

The narrator rents this place of work which Zorba oversees.

The Church

A murder occurs outside this location which is visited on holidays and festivals.

Candia

This is the name of the nearest town where supplies are purchased for the mine.

The Widow's Garden

In this location, one character grows oranges and fruits and makes scents out of them.

The Monastery

This a beautiful shrine is inhabited with corruptness and ends up being burnt down..

Statue of the Holy Virgin of Revenge

This object once came to life when the monastery was threatened by Turks.

Timber railway

Much attention goes into building this perfectly, but it ultimately fails and crumbles.

Daily Lessons

Lesson 1 (from Chapter 1)

Objective

Chapter 1

There are three categories of men proposed by the characterizations set up in Chapter One. These categories are men who live for either God (the narrator), Mankind (his soldier friend), and man as an individual (Zorba). These categories of mankind demonstrate the complex workings and interactions inherent in any social body or bodies. Conflict is thus unavoidable due to the dramatic variance in motivation of these three general categories. The objective of this lesson is to consider human connection as composed of often disagreeable yet interconnected webs of motivational drives.

Lesson

1) Divide the class up into groups of 4 or 5 and ask the groups to answer the following questions regarding the narrator, Zorba, and the soldier friend.

- What does each of the three men's greatest passions seem to be?
- List a few characteristics of each man described in the book.
- In what ways to Zorba and the soldier connect with the narrator as a friend? How are these different? How are they the same?

Using these questions as a discussion basis, ask the class as a whole to categorize the men according to the categories in the lesson objective.

2) Divide the class up into groups of 4 or 5 and have them brainstorm as many different public figures as possible, and then speculate what category, based on public image and occupation, the individuals might fall. After several minutes, propose a list of social or political questions the individuals on the lists might be faced with and why or how their motivations might lead them to be in conflict regarding the issues. For example, into what categories might Barack Obama and Britney Spears fall? Why might their categorical motivations lead them to conflict over an issue such as the penalty for drunk driving?

3) Have each student write a few paragraphs detailing which category or categories of characterization they would place themselves and why, with a defense that explains why they would not be in the excluded categories. Have them include information such as how their current interests and activities lend toward their decision, as well as their future aspirations. Then have volunteers read their pieces to the class.



For homework:

- Conflict is a common part of daily life. Pick an article from the news that details a contemporary conflict.
- Make a list of involved figures/individuals and try to determine which of the three categories of characterization they might best fit.
- Based on your category selection, think about how their varying motivations might have incited the conflict in the story.
- Conversely, make a note if individuals in the story or another story actually helped each other, or complemented one another by having characteristics of opposing categories.

For homework:

- Select a portion of dialogue (a few paragraphs to a page) between Zorba and the narrator that occurs as they are getting to know one another.
- Make a list of the differences between the ways the two men express themselves. For each difference noted, decide how the expressions also support the category of man the character has been placed into.
- Finally, for each difference in expression, write whether you think the difference will ultimately make the two men closer as friends or come between them.

Lesson 2 (from Chapter 1)

Objective

Chapter 1

"Freedom" is established in Chapter One by Zorba as an essential part of the human condition that is directly related to how physical and manly a man is. Zorba also hints throughout the book that women are not included in this philosophy because he believes that they must be taken care of by men. Additionally, there are hints in Chapter 1 that God and the Devil are both contained within the individual, not separate, the management of which might also play into the level of a person's manliness.

The objective of this lesson is to explore the idea and embodiment of "freedom," how it is defined and described in the book, and how students actually experience it in the world.



Lesson

1) Engage the class in a discussion of Zorba's definition of freedom, that being a "freedom" defined by manliness. Then divide the class into groups of 3 or 4. Ask the groups to list as many factors characteristic of personal freedom as they can possibly think of. Then ask the class to compare their lists to Zorba's description and decide which of their factors could be characterized by "manliness" and which are not gendered.

2) For class discussion: As the class how they think modern society genders freedom. Do women and men experience different forms of freedom based on social expectations? Is one gender's "freedom" more "free" than the other? Have the class list the narrator's described traits so far in the story. He is not "free" based on Zorba's description of freedom. Is he free based on the contemporary cultural view(s) as previously defined by the class? If either character were to be married by the end of the story, which would likely have the wife with more "freedom"?

For homework:

- Find evidences of Zorba's purported "freedom" throughout Chapter One. These might include his stories about past actions, his meeting and interaction with the narrator, and his actions in comparison to his description of manliness.
- Write a paragraph for each example describing how the example aligns with Zorba's theory about "freedom."
- Write a second paragraph describing how the example could keep him from being completely free or could impinge on another person's personal freedom with whom he interacts.

Lesson 3 (from Chapter 2)

Objective

In Chapter 2, Zorba cuts off his finger to improve his skills in pottery making. The Chapter addresses the theme that pleasure experienced through bodily knowledge is the primary purpose of life, as well as that any impediment to such pleasure must be removed.

The objective of this lesson is to explore the idea that the body is the site of action on and in the world, mainly through pleasure and also that the inhabitant of the body possesses free rule over the body.



Lesson

1) Ask the class to list as many parts of the body and their corresponding access to pleasure and pain as they can think of. Have the class vote on which part of the body equips the total human with the most overall access to pleasure and pain. Take the top two body parts from the voting result; then divide the class into two groups and have them debate which of the top two body parts affords the individual more opportunity to act his will out in the world. Split the debate time in half. Ask each team to debate half of their time from the point of view of Zorba, and the other half from the point of view of the narrator while in opposition to the other character.

2) For class discussion:

- How does the ability to remove one's own body part equate to the exercise of will and action in the story?
- Would Zorba be equally as willing to allow a girlfriend or wife to willfully remove one of her own body parts?
- How does such an argument compare to the contemporary pro-life/pro-choice debate? On which side would Zorba likely fall on such a debate? On which side would the narrator likely argue?

For homework:

- Write a one page essay about one thing you are extremely passionate about, a hobby, sport, game, activity, etc.
- In the essay describe as clearly as possible the elements that are best or most exciting about the thing. Indicate whether your main motivation is physical, emotional, intellectual, other, or some combination.
- Then also include what important thing you would be willing to get rid of in your life to maintain your ability to participate in or to preserve your passion.
- If you would be willing to remove a body part, indicate this, but it might be some other extraction like a friendship or your home that you would be more willing to sacrifice.

Lesson 4 (from Chapter 2)

Objective

Chapter 2

Zorba tells the narrator in Chapter 2 that a man cannot be truly learned unless he has gone through a period of savagery and committed every sin that he can possibly



consider committing. He goes on to tell the narrator that he is not as learned as he could be because he is lacking in the area of savagery.

The objective of this lesson is to consider the act of learning from a physical perspective, specifically that of violence or other acts that might be considered improper or wrong.

Lesson

1) Ask the class in advance to bring in newspaper or magazine clippings with articles reporting on acts of violence or other obvious social improprieties. Discuss as a group how the people involved may have learned from their wrongs or wrongs committed on them in ways they otherwise would not have.

2) For class discussion: Zorba hasn't yet revealed any of the savage behaviors of his own past. His theorizing leads a reader to believe that he may have committed such acts. Discuss what potential sins Zorba might be hinting at having committed. Zorba does reference his wartime experiences on Crete when he talks about savagery. What kinds of actions must happen during training and battle that would offer learning experiences to those involved that everyday life might not necessarily offer?

For homework:

- Write a one-page paper on Zorba's description of learning about the world through violence.
- First detail his ideas about savagery and committing sin.
- Then write about whether you agree or disagree with Zorba's theory of learning.
- Finish the essay with a personal or unrelated instance of violence in which the individuals involved (you or others) learned things about the world that they could not have learned otherwise.

Lesson 5 (from Chapter 3)

Objective

Chapter 3

In Chapter 3, the reader finds evidence that wartime has indeed left a mark of learned behavior on the inhabitants of Crete. Several women are afraid when they encounter the narrator, a foreigner on their island. Also, Dame Hortense is a symbol of the product of a life lived amidst war and warriors, having had affairs with four great generals.



The objective of this lesson is to explore the way that war changes the way of life and perspective of the inhabitants of a geographical region, as well as its visitors, for years and, often times, generations to follow.

Lesson

- 1) Have the students make a list of every encounter the narrator has had with villagers on Crete. As a group, compile the lists and discuss which interactions were influenced or informed by the wars that occurred on Crete.
- 2) Divide the students into groups and have each group imagine a Madame Hortense character that never experienced war on her home of Crete. Have the groups describe the alternate life she may have led without having ever encountered the four great loves of her life or the violence she witnessed. As a class, compare the varying reports of an alternative Madame Hortense and discuss how the violence of war made her who she is.
- 3) Assign a few volunteers the task of bringing in a world news article detailing events of a current war somewhere in the world. Ask the group to discuss how these events might forever change lives in that location.

For homework:

- Briefly research one war that occurred at some point in history or that is occurring now which involves your country.
- Describe how your country is or was being permanently impacted or how your country might be permanently impacting another involved country.

Lesson 6 (from Chapter 3)

Objective

Chapter 3

Zorba is further portrayed in Chapter 3 as an individual who lives like every day will be his last, fully embodying the notion that one should chase down one's desires and physically enjoy life at all costs.

The objective of this lesson is to explore the ways that Zorba and the narrator create parallel stories in the novel via their different perspectives on life.

Lesson

- 1) For class discussion: How does the man in the story who lives as if he will never die differ from Zorba? How is the man alike or different from the narrator? In your opinion, is



one living life more fully than the others? How does Zorba's perspective on life grant him more freedom than the narrator? How does the narrator's perspective grant him more freedom than Zorba? Do Zorba and the narrator share any goals in the mining project?

2) Divide the class into groups of 3 or 4. Ask each group to pick a story from the newspaper in which a disagreement is involved in some way. Then ask the groups to write a few sentences describing which individual(s) in the article Zorba would agree with and which the narrator would agree with. Then ask them come up with a potential and irreconcilable disagreement between the two characters that could potential shut down the mining operation. Have each group share with the class.

For homework:

Write a 3-paragraph newspaper article describing the opening of the lignite mine from an objective point of view.

Lesson 7 (from Chapter 4)

Objective

Chapter 4

Parables are an important tool that Zorba uses in his efforts to teach the narrator how to be a man of the flesh. The narrator also uses parables to express his philosophical ponderings. The objective of this lesson is to explore the parable as a tool for learning as well as a literary device in Chapter Four.

Lesson

1) Divide the class into three groups and assign each one of the parables from Chapter 4 (ie. Zorba's grandmother's yearning to be serenaded, a young woman closed in by the hand of God). Ask the class to briefly outline what moral or religious lesson the assigned parable is attempting to teach. Ask the group to determine if the parable is successful, and, if not, how the story might have been changed in order to successfully deliver its moral lesson. Ask also how the story could be changed to make it devoid of a moral lesson, and, in turn, a more complex and realistic narrative. Then have one spokesperson from each group give a brief summary of their group's discussion to the entire class.

2) For class discussion:

- What is a parable? How is a parable different from a fable?
- How is a parable different from a short story? A folktale?
- How have parables been used throughout history to prescribe ways of thinking?



- How does the parable as a literary device compare to a piece such as the Buddha Manuscript in its ability to relay a moral message?

For homework:

- Using two or more characters from Zorba the Greek, write a short parable, at least three paragraphs in length.
- Maintain the novel's characterization but not necessarily its plot, themes, or setting.

Lesson 8 (from Chapter 4)

Objective

Chapter 4

Zorba displays a very distinct attitude toward women and the manner in which men should treat women. The objective of this lesson is to explore the theme of freedom, which Zorba professes to seek at all costs, in contrast to Zorba's attitude toward women and to compare these to the narrator's perspective.

Lesson

1) In-class writing and discussion activity: Write one paragraph detailing Zorba's attitude regarding a man's responsibility to seek freedom. Write a second paragraph detailing Zorba's attitude about how men should care for women and the female's concurrent inability to fully care for themselves. Write a third paragraph detailing the narrator's exhibited attitude toward relationships with women. Write a fourth paragraph detailing the narrator's introspective attitude about knowledge and freedom.

2) As a class, discuss the contradictions between the two men's ideas of freedom and their attitudes toward the opposite sex. Address how the attitudes in the novel reflect cultural and historic gender relations. Address the conflict between personal freedom and allowing freedom in interpersonal relationships.

3) In-class writing exercise: Ask the class to list the most important factors in achieving a life of "freedom." Then ask them to write a few short paragraphs detailing how they would ideally like to treat an individual of romantic interest. As a class, discuss whether the list and the paragraph are contradictory or are mutually conducive.

For homework:

In the novel the woman and the copper hand are a symbol of the boundaries of freedom. Write a short story (one page) which uses a physical image that you think best symbolizes "freedom."

Lesson 9 (from Chapter 5)

Objective

Chapter 5

Chapter 5 is marked with a religious dilemma in which Zorba, an atheist, defends religion for the villagers as central to their life. Meanwhile, the narrator attempts to expunge esoteric spirituality from his thoughts.

The objective of this lesson is to compare and contrast the interlocking narrative trajectories of the two characters.

Lesson

1) For in-class discussion: How does Zorba defend the villager's religion to the narrator? Why, being an atheist, does Zorba defend religion? How does Zorba's defense of religion correspond to his belief that men should live a life of full physicality? Are religion and a life of complete physical pleasure mutually exclusive?

2) In-class discussion: Briefly review the myth of Alexander the Great and the Gordian Knot. Review the section in the novel that uses the Gordian Knot as a parable. If the Gordian Knot is a metaphor in a parable, then what other "bold strikes" might the myth be referring to? Is physical acuity, as Zorba suggests, the only possible solution to the equation? How might the narrator deal with the Gordian Knot? Which character would have the more successful "strike"?

For homework:

- Write a few paragraphs detailing how, at this point in the story, you see the two main characters influencing one another.
- Does one seem to have a greater influence over the other? Has either character notably changed since the beginning of the book?

Lesson 10 (from Chapter 6)

Objective

Chapter 6

In Chapter 6, Zorba introduces the art of dancing as a language which conveys thoughts and feelings that words are not capable of. The narrator understands but is incapable of using the language for his own expression. The objective of this lesson is to consider the use of languages alternative to the oral standard language as they are presented and used in the book.



Lesson

1) For class discussion: Summarize Zorba's thoughts on dancing as a language. Under what circumstances has Zorba used dance to express the inexpressible? For what might the narrator find dance a useful tool for expressing? How is dance less effective than verbal speech? How is it more effective?

2) Ask the class to take a few minutes and list as many alternative languages used in the book as possible. These could include the monk's chanting/prayer, physical intimacy, singing, violence, etc. Then ask each student to list as many languages as they can think of that they've used in the past week. Finally, have students write a few sentences for each language detailing in which ways each language was more successful and less successful than other available options.

For homework:

- Write a one-page essay comparing Zorba's work in the lignite mine to the narrator's writing of the Buddha Manuscript.
- Focus on how the two acts are expressions of a similar nature?

Lesson 11 (from Chapter 7)

Objective

Chapter 7

Zorba has an unusual philosophy regarding women. He both loves them intensely and seems to live in part for the bliss of a sexual encounter. He adores women and prompts the narrator to celebrate their beauty while simultaneously acting incredibly misogynistic and claiming that rules do not apply to women because they lack normal moral strength. The objective of this lesson is to explore Zorba's characterization, especially regarding his approach to romantic life. How does his attitude toward women support his attitudes about physicality and freedom?

Lesson

1) For class discussion: Describe Zorba's definitions and categorizations of marriage. What does this indicate about Zorba's attitude toward society's customs? How does his definition of his marriages contradict his attitude about women's lack of moral strength and ability to abide by customs?

2) In-class activity: Ask students to decide which of his loves seems like Zorba's greatest, and have them write a brief summary of that relationship. Then ask them to write a few more paragraphs supporting their opinion of whether the selected



relationship made Zorba more or less free, both in the student's opinion and in Zorba's opinion.

For homework:

- Women are a central part of Zorba's existence. He does, however, claim that women are flawed creatures. He also claims that men are flawed creatures and that both sexes are ultimately doomed to fall to their flaws.
- Pick one of Zorba's love scenarios and rewrite it in a contemporary scenario with modern characters. Then answer the following questions:
 - a. How might the selected relationship turn out differently?
 - b. Do you think men and women today are characteristically flawed in the same ways they are portrayed to be in Zorba the Greek?
 - c. Are the roles different now than they were then?
 - d. When it comes to dating and relationships do you think men or women are freer in contemporary society?

Lesson 12 (from Chapter 8)

Objective

Chapter 8

Zorba continually tries to get the narrator to act as he would. Again and again, the narrator fails which, ironically, supports Zorba's theory that an individual must stay true to his own nature.

The objective of this lesson is to explore the ways that staying true to one's nature impact consequences for the characters in the story.

Lesson

1) Divide the class into groups of 3 or 4 and assign them each a character from the book. Ask them to make a list of characteristics describing the character. Then have them pick a scenario from the story and decide how the character traits listed led to the consequences in the book. Finally, ask them how the consequences might have been different had the characters tried to act like someone they weren't.

2) For class discussion:

- How has the narrator tried to be more like his friend, the soldier who is away fighting?



- How has he tried to be more like Zorba?
- How, up to this point in the story, do you think he's become more like himself?
- If the narrator remains true to his own instincts, how might this impact his relationship with the widow?

For homework:

- Consider Zorba's work in the mine and the implications of following one's instincts while working under dangerous conditions.
- Write a one-page scenario in which Zorba does not act true to himself and his instincts while working in the mine.

Lesson 13 (from Chapter 9)

Objective

Chapter 9

Chapter 9 deals largely with the question of who and what God is. While Zorba claims to be an atheist, he also has extensive theories about what God is like in relation to man.

The objective of this lesson is to look at the ways that the idea of a higher power plays itself out in the novel.

Lesson

1) For class discussion: Summarize the explanation of God that Zorba makes to the narrator. How does his explanation contradict his claim of being an atheist? How might it supplement his existence as an atheist? The narrator claims to have no idea what God is like. How might his life as a man of books have influenced his attitude toward God? Likewise, how might Zorba's life in the physical world have informed his theory that God is much like himself?

2) Zorba looks to the existence of a God when confronted with women issues, but he does so in a very non-traditional way. He says God cannot forgive a man who leaves a woman lonely. On the other hand, he has no use for God or men of God in issues of the physical world. He blames his encounter with the priest for the mining accident.

Divide the class into small groups. Ask them to make a list of potential life problems/incidences. Then ask them to decide which of these Zorba would welcome God's presence in or with and which he would dismiss. Finally, ask them to summarize why they think Zorba's character selectively accepts the presence of a higher power. Is he an atheist or does he have a religion? Have a representative from each group present and defend the group's answers.



For homework:

- Create a God character that fits Zorba's description and imagine a conversation between Zorba and this God.
- Write one page of dialogue between the two. Write a second page of dialogue between Zorba's God and the narrator.

Lesson 14 (from Chapter 10)

Objective

Chapter 10

The narrator constantly battles with attempting to live a life governed by the flesh versus the one that he is more naturally prone to, that which drowns him in esoteric thought. In Chapter Ten, the narrator is confronted with a lesson about following one's natural rhythms.

The narrator and Zorba have opposing world views but through their relationship, their "natural" ways of being are challenged by the other. The author uses the metaphor of the butterfly to demonstrate the potential danger in this. The objective of this lesson is to explore how metaphor is a successful literary device the author uses to express and develop this primary theme.

Lesson

1) Read the section of Chapter 10 that details the narrator's experience with coaxing the butterfly too early from the cocoon, which ultimately results in the butterfly's death. Discuss metaphor as a literary device, how it aligns the character with the butterfly in regards to the narrator's fears about rushing things with the widow. Have each student write one paragraph analyzing how the butterfly story successfully mirrors the narrator's situation. Then have the students write a second paragraph in which they create a different metaphor which also expresses the narrator's situation. Have each student read their created metaphor aloud.

2) In-class activity: Zorba tries to convince the narrator that the act of celebrating is more important than the object of celebration. Write a few short paragraphs answering the following questions:

- Do you agree with Zorba?
- Why do you think Zorba believes this?
- Do you think the narrator understands Zorba's perspective?
- Do you think he believes him?



- Is the narrator capable of living by this standard?
- What religious metaphor does Zorba use to encourage the narrator to go the widow?
- How does his use of this metaphor support his ideas about celebrating Christmas?

For homework:

- Write an extended metaphor (about half a page) that relates the dynamic of the narrator's relationship to Zorba? In other words, pick a symbolic act that mirrors the narrator's attempt to be more like Zorba, and write it out.

Lesson 15 (from Chapter 11)

Objective

Chapter 11

Madame Hortense is an ironic lover for Zorba. While he is firmly and physically planted in the present and their affair seems a product of destiny, Madame Hortense is lost in memories of her past loves. Zorba believes he is her ultimate lover, but Hortense cannot and will not return this feeling.

In this lesson the objective is to explore irony as a tool for challenging characterizations which are seemingly invincible to most other physical and ideological challenges.

Lesson

1) For in-class discussion:

- What is irony?
- How does Zorba see his relationship with Madame Hortense?
- How highly does Hortense regard the affair?
- How is this incongruent with Zorba's rather autocratic version of their relationship?
- How does irony work to undermine Zorba's confidence?

2) Divide the class into small groups and allow fifteen to twenty minutes for a brief dialogue analysis. Have the groups record dialogue between Zorba and other characters in which what is said or overtly communicated may be the opposite of reality or the opposite of what is meant. Have the group present their findings.

For homework:



The narrator's fears about approaching the widow turn out to be somewhat ironic. In a few brief paragraphs, compare and contrast the irony in Hortense and Zorba's relationship to that in the narrator and the widow's relationship.

Lesson 16 (from Chapter 12)

Objective

Chapter 12

Chapter 12 deals with the theme of the various types of men represented in the book. Zorba, the narrator, the friend, and Karayannis are each categorized according to their way of life and distinctions are drawn between the narrator and his abstractions and the other characters and the ways in which they act their wills out in the physical world. The Buddha Manuscript and the genre of poetry are situated as adverse to one another in this chapter.

The objective of this lesson is to consider the points of crossover between the categorizations of men as they are represented by the symbols in the story.

Lesson

1) In-class discussion: The narrator realizes that his once-cherished poetry actually belongs to the Void and the world of abstractions, and he ceases to believe that it holds importance in the real physical world of men.

- What is poetry? How is poetry different than prose?
- Are there sections in Zorba the Greek that could be considered to be "poetic"?
- How do these sections work differently on the reader than those that are purely the telling of action?
- Do you think these sections are less important to the novel as a whole?
- Zorba often speaks of the importance of the language of dance.
- How might the language of dance be similar to poetry? How is it different?

2) Take a class poll on the topic of whether poetry is important in the physical world. Divide the class into two groups, those who think that poetry is relevant and those who don't. Ask them to find support for their arguments primarily in the text but also in other sources (poetry books, Internet, etc.), and then hold a debate to further explore the relationship between the physical world and the poetic.

For Homework:



In Chapter 12 Zorba seeks to find the perfect slope measurement for the timber rail. This is a symbol of his ultimate presence in the physical world as it is contrasted to the narrator as he wrestles with the Void, its lack of measurement and existence. Poetry can, however, entail the use of a great amount of mathematical measurement.

Try writing a sonnet about the lignite mine with the following guidelines:

- 14 lines long.
- 10 syllables per line.
- Use the following rhyme scheme for the line endings: abab cdcd efef gg (or make up your own rhyme scheme!).
- Is your poem a physical thing? Or just an idea?

Lesson 17 (from Chapter 13)

Objective

Chapter 13

Chapter 13 is one of several chapters in which a letter written by one character to another is used by the author as part of the text in the novel. In this chapter the reader observes Zorba's expression of self and emotion in a letter to his boss. The objective of this lesson is to study the epistolary exchange in literature.

Lesson

1) For class discussion: Discuss the meaning of the word "epistolary."

- What other examples of the use of the letter in literature or as historical document can the students name?
- How does the reading of a character's letter -- essentially a switch from 3rd to 1st person narration -- change the reader's experience?
- How is it a different experience than reading spoken dialogue?
- Is Zorba's ability to communicate himself improved or hindered through the writing of a letter?
- What about other characters who have written letters so far in the book (ie. the narrator, his soldier friend, Karayannis)?

2) In-class activity: Have each student pick a letter from the book so far. Have them pick out which sentences might take on a different meaning if spoken aloud. Where the

speaker/writer likely would be interrupted or responded to by the person to whom they are writing. How might this change the letter? Share findings with the class.

For homework:

- Write a letter from Zorba to one of his lovers, either past or present. Try to stay in character as Zorba.
- When finished, ask how what you've written is different from how Zorba might speak to that same lover in person.

Lesson 18 (from Chapter 14)

Objective

Chapter 14

In Chapter 14 the plot runs counter to several of the themes and characters' ideals. The villagers blame the widow for Pavli's suicide while Zorba's misogynistic view of women holds them responsible for any problems they might cause men. This lesson deals with the themes of gender presented in the novel.

Lesson

1) In-class activity: Each student makes three columns on a page and labels the three "Zorba," "the narrator," and "the villagers." In each column, have the students list the qualities and responsibilities that each assigns to women (both as a whole gender and to specific women). Then in a group discussion, address how these varying attitudes play out against a larger theme of gender relations. How do Zorba and the narrator's attitudes about women play out as a central conflict? How has Zorba come to his very unique conclusions about women when his fellow Grecians are capable of such an opposite perspective?

2) In-class writing assignment: Write for ten minutes about your opinion on the cause of Pavli's death.

- Should the widow have handled her interactions with Pavli differently?
- Is she in part to blame? Who else might be to blame? Anyone?
- Could his death have been prevented?
- Does the time and place of the novel make a difference in this situation?
- How would your answers differ in a contemporary and local setting?
- Share responses with the class.



For homework:

- In a few brief paragraphs compare and contrast gender relations in the novel with your perspective of modern gender relations.
- Which character(s) ideals about women are most relevant or similar to the present day?

Lesson 19 (from Chapter 15)

Objective

Chapter 15

Chapter 15 delves deeply and from many angles into the presence of a God, religion, and corresponding human actions in the world. The convent's statue of the Martyred Virgin is one symbol introduced at the center of an array of characters' approaches to a possible higher power or lack thereof. This lesson explores the characters' ponderings with concentration on the statue and other important symbols.

Lesson

1) For class discussion: Discuss the array of religious/philosophical theories/approaches observed in Chapter 15: the narrator's meditation, the shepherd's Buddhist inclinations, the old man's expressions about sin and pleasure, and Mother Superior's talk of eternity.

- Are the abandoned ruins of the city a symbol of one of these kinds of thought?
- What does a city that is no longer inhabited symbolize about human nature, culture, fluidity, and possibly religious ideology?

2) For class discussion: The Martyred Virgin seems to symbolize a confluence of the many theories presented in this chapter. Discuss the possible meanings of her wound.

- What could be the meaning of it bleeding once a year?
- Do you think this is a true miracle?
- What contemporary "miracles" have you heard of similar to this?
- How might such a "miracle" work to unite all of the theories presented?
- How might such a "miracle" further separate the characters involved?

For homework:



- The narrator reveals his belief that Buddha is his last great obstacle. He follows this thought up with the acknowledgment that he fully expects another, equally difficult life challenge.
- Write a few paragraphs on how the statue of the Martyred Virgin might be a symbol of the narrator's struggle.

Lesson 20 (from Chapter 16)

Objective

Chapter 16

The two edifices that play a role in this chapter are the monastery and the lignite mine. Buildings strongly represent the construction or bringing to fruition of ideas.

The objective of this lesson is to explore symbols of construction, specifically the mine and the monastery, as symbols of a life's work.

Lesson

1) For class discussion:

- How does a monastery symbolize the narrator's way of thinking?
- Why does Zorba's suggestion that the narrator would like to build a monastery sadden the narrator?
- How does the mine symbolize Zorba's way of thinking?
- Should any import be attached to the notion that things and people are often added to a monastery, while things are often removed from a mine and people sometimes killed in the mining profession?
- What does the narrator mean when he tells Zorba they have both "seen nothing, nothing at all"?

2) For class discussion: Zorba and the narrator engage in dialogue around thoughts about their accomplishments and what makes them feel vital and fulfilled.

- If either character were to create a building that reflected their life's accomplishments, what kind of building do you think it would be?
- Zorba alters his appearance to reflect his life's priorities. The narrator speaks about focus and concentration as crucial to success. How might these characteristics offer hints about what kind of buildings they might aspire to create.



- Do the two lend each other any wisdom, or is each dutifully following their own assigned and natural rhythms, unassociated to the other?
- If they were to build something together, what would it be?

For homework:

- Consider the symbolism in the potential construction of the timber rail.
- Write a few paragraphs detailing how such a construction might symbolize a change or shift in one's life work.
- Does the fact that the rail is going to run on the monastery land for the mine's advance have any symbolic meaning?

Lesson 21 (from Chapter 17)

Objective

Chapter 17

Chapter 17 addresses desire as it is encountered by a range of characters with varying belief systems. The objective of this lesson is to explore the way the author demonstrates the desire for the material within the human being and the comparison with material things to the contents of the soul.

Lesson

1) For class discussion: Who is more prone to give into material longing, the narrator or Zorba? Which of the two characters finds more beauty in material things? What's the difference between desire and finding beauty in things? How does acting on one's desires prove to be beneficial to one or more of the characters? Does it harm any of the characters?

2) For class discussion: Religion and the categorization of men again play a role in Chapter 17. Discuss how varying ideologies impact the way men act out their will upon their desires.

For homework:

Write a letter from one of the monks to Zorba. The purpose of the letter is to try to persuade Zorba that he should join the monastery.



Lesson 22 (from Chapter 18)

Objective

Chapter 18

Chapter 18 is largely about appearances. The monastery appears to throw off the material for the journey of the soul, but in reality is quite corrupt. Zorba mentions that a bishop in a nightgown is not really a bishop at all. Zorba professes that he doesn't involve himself in others' business, yet he secretly coaches Zaharia on how to destroy the monastery. The objective of this lesson is to delve into the author's use of plot to undo or confuse the established thematic lines.

Lesson

1) For in-class discussion: The narrator is attempting to purge the Void and abstract pondering from his life. How do the events at the monastery support his efforts? Does being more like Zorba mean being less like the monks? Is Zorba corrupt? Do Zorba's theatrics as a man of the physical world release him from certain moral law?

2) Divide the class into two groups. For in-class debate, ask one team to create and defend an argument for destroying the monastery. Ask the other to defend the monastery's ongoing existence and holy operation. The defense should be centered on how their position would best further the story's plot.

For homework:

- Chapter 18 seems to turn the established themes on end. Zorba and the narrator are faced with a spiritual battle between seeming and being.
- Make a list of all the ways the narrator, despite his challenges, still maintains the task of exorcising the Buddha.
- Use evidence from the chapter.

Lesson 23 (from Chapter 19)

Objective

Chapter 19

In chapter 19, Zorba retells the story of the mythological Zeus in a way that fits Zorba's personal ideology about the existence of a higher power. He plays Zeus as a creature made to please and serve women, rather than in his traditional image as a lecherous womanizer. The retelling of myth and the recycling of mythological figures in literature as an effective trope used to layer a story with reference and, in turn, deepen its

thematic content. The objective of this lesson is to explore the way the author has done this through the character of Zorba.

Lesson

1) For in-class discussion:

- Who is Zeus?
- What are his most notorious characteristics in regards to his relationships with women in ancient literature?
- What characteristics does he share with Zorba?
- How does Zorba glorify and subvert Zeus's lechery?
- Zeus is the King of the Gods in Greek mythology; what does this say about Zorba's opinion about sexual prowess?
- Is the figure of Zeus that Zorba presents consistent with his earlier description of a god who is just like Zorba?

2) In-class activity: Divide the class into two groups. In Chapter 19 Zorba differentiates between men who live the mystery and men who are "pen-pushers." He says he doesn't have time to be a pen-pusher or man of books because he is so fully a man of the mysterious physical world. He goes on to support his argument with figures (Jesus and Zeus) whose modern existence we owe to writers. In changing their historical roles to fit his goal, Zorba engages in the oral tradition, a form of storytelling passed on with spoken language which often slightly alters the original and makes it fresh and more relevant to the present.

- Assign one group the task of defending writers and the other the defense of the performative storyteller.
- Have the class debate which form is more crucial to the perseverance of story through the ages.

For Homework:

- Zorba mentions that Jesus is the heir of Zeus but that he learned from Zeus's mistakes with women and warned men against them. Create a depiction of how the transaction of power from Zeus to Jesus might have taken place. Be creative.
- Write a lecture, a letter, draw a picture depicting the exchange, and write a short story or anything else you can think of.

Lesson 24 (from Chapter 20)

Objective

Chapter 20

Chapter 20 is marked with Zorba's storytelling. He reveals many of his violent acts as a man of the physical world and relates more to the narrator about the act of creating reality through appearance. The objective of this lesson is to explore how, through actions, the different categorizations of men are able to create reality in varying ways in the story.

Lesson

1) For in-class discussion: Review the categorizations of men that have been defined within the context of the novel, men living for self, nation, or God.

- In his stories about being a warrior, how does Zorba act as a man living for his nation?
- Has he maintained any qualities of a man living for the people/nation at the present in the story?
- In the previous chapter, Zorba went to great length to compare himself to Zeus and his role in giving women what they need.
- Does this make Zorba a man who appears to live for God as he understands God?
- Zorba claims to be a man who lives for self and the physical experience? What evidence do we have that Zorba is presently a man who lives for self?
- Do you believe that he is a man who lives for self?

2) In-class writing assignment: Zorba's story about the True Cross supports the idea that appearance creates belief and reality.

- Write for 10 minutes about one incident in the book in which appearance turned out not to be reality.
- Write for ten more minutes about a situation in which appearance did indeed create reality.

For Homework:

The narrator takes a bit of a back seat in this chapter as he examines Zorba's experience. Zorba has lived his life in some combination of the categorizations of men in the story.



- Do you think the narrator is successfully moving away from being a man who lives for God and into some other category?
- In what ways is your answer supported by physical appearances in the book? What is the narrator DOING to change?
- Write a 1/2 page response.

Lesson 25 (from Chapter 21)

Objective

Chapter 21

In Chapter 21 the narrator experiences the shift from head to body, which he marks with the statement that "the soul is flesh as well." The objective of this lesson is to take a closer look at how the author is exploring the merging of self in the narrator from its disassociated parts through the act of writing.

Lesson

1) In-class discussion:

- How does intimacy with the widow act for the narrator as a supplement to his completion of The Buddha Manuscript?
- He says that his body was working independently of his mind; do you believe that this is possible?
- Is he truly cured of his disembodied thought and philosophizing?
- Did the writing of the Buddha Manuscript afford him the ability to pursue a physical relationship with the widow?
- Would he have ultimately done so without tackling his esoteric thinking?

2) Break the class into groups of 3 or 4. Ask them to make two lists, one which describes the ways in which Zorba has synthesized himself as a man of God, the nation, and self; and another that details the narrator's approach at becoming a more physically dynamic individual. Ask them to summarize how the two have taken different life approaches and how they have acted similarly. Have they reached a similar place? Share findings with the class.

For homework:

- Free-write for 20 minutes using nothing but stream of consciousness.



- Then write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the free-write to a physical activity, be it a sport, eating, or anything physical that works more from bodily intuition than thought.
- Finally, using your conclusions, write a paragraph summarizing if you think the act of writing has the potential of being a purely physical experience for the narrator of Zorba the Greek or if he will always be plagued with thoughtful interruptions.
- Are different types of writing more bodily than others (i.e. poetry vs. prose)?

Lesson 26 (from Chapter 22)

Objective

Chapter 22

In Chapter 22 the narrator has finally found the "manliness" that Zorba equates to freedom, that which is found in the physical life. Just as the Buddha has seemingly been exorcised, the "symbol," ever an enemy to physical manliness returns to the narrator in the form of the widow's death. The objective of this lesson is to consider the challenge an author faces in creating a physical experience for the reader through the use of symbolism.

Lesson

1) For class discussion:

- What is a symbol? What makes a physical thing a symbol?
- What is the difference between an object and a symbol?
- What symbols have been consistently important to you as a reader throughout the text? Why?
- What symbols would the narrator think are important?
- Are there any symbols that Zorba would find important to his life?
- Why does Zorba consider symbols to be dangerous?
- Do you think symbols are important?
- Do they work differently in real life than they do in literature? Why?

2) In-class activity: Have each student pick a symbol that has stood out to them in the reading. Ask the students to make 3 columns on a page. For ten minutes ask them to fill the columns as follows:



- What meanings does the symbol have in the story?
- What connotations do you as reader attach to the symbol that may not exist in the story?
- What other stories, movies, novels, poems, or television shows can you think of in which this symbol is important?
- Share with the class.

For homework:

- Symbols are thought to have the power to physically evoke a response to the thing which they represent.
- Pick a symbol from Zorba the Greek that you think has had some sort of physical impact on both Zorba and the narrator.
- Write one paragraph detailing how the symbol has impacted Zorba and another for the narrator.

Lesson 27 (from Chapter 23)

Objective

Chapter 23

The death of Madame Hortense leaves Zorba with neither answers about true freedom nor the implements of the physical life. Madame Hortense's possessions must be dealt with but the absence of her person cannot be consoled. The objective of this lesson is to consider the way the characters physically experience the death of another.

Lesson

1) In-class activity: Have each student make an inventory of the items belonging to Hortense that are mentioned in Chapter 23. Next to each item, have them write down what each might have symbolized in her life. Share with the class.

2) For class discussion: As the villagers disassemble Hortense's physical life, her belongings and home, Zorba quietly mourns.

- As a man of the physical world, do you think Zorba is upset with the pillaging of Hortense's belongings?
- He mentions that her body is a piece of the earth but also that she has been taken away somewhere.



- What does this say about Zorba's opinion on life? Is it a purely physical ideology?

For homework:

- When the dirge singers begin, the author writes, "...old griefs of their own invaded their minds like poison..." From Zorba's point of view, write a half-page explanation/defense of how this might actually physically work.
- Include how, in turn, their wailing might aid Zorba.

Lesson 28 (from Chapter 24)

Objective

Chapter 24

When confronted with the meaning of death, the narrator has no answers. He summarizes what he knows to Zorba as "sacred awe," and immediately he sees a change take place in himself. The objective of this lesson is to explore the author's use of questioning and experience in the thematic search for freedom.

Lesson

1) For class discussion:

- What is the "sacred awe" that the narrator reveals?
- Do you think it comes in part from knowledge he's gained from his books?
- He nearly describes it as "poetry" but instead calls it "great danger." Why might "sacred awe" be described as both "poetry" and "great danger"?
- Because the "sacred awe" is "not Knowledge, or Virtue, or Goodness, or Victory..." all crucial elements to the physical life of man, is it possible that it can lead to freedom by Zorba's definition?

2) For class discussion:

- What do you think this change is that the narrator experiences?
- Is it a physical change?
- If not, is it relevant to his quest for freedom and manliness?
- What triggered it?
- Is Zorba also capable of such change?



For homework: Write a poem describing the change that the narrator observes himself going through as you imagine it to happen.

Lesson 29 (from Chapter 25)

Objective

Chapter 25

Disaster marks Chapter 25 in the form of mechanical failure and murder. Themes of loss and companionship weave together here to evoke a deep understanding and happiness within the narrator. The objective of this lesson is to further explore the summation of this thematic content.

Lesson

1) For in-class discussion: The narrator experiences a premonition regarding the danger his soldier friend might be in.

- Do you think the knowledge that his friend dies offers the narrator more or less confidence in his body?
- Is intuition a physical experience?
- Zorba's ultimate project, the timber rail, fails; and, as a result, the narrator loses everything. How has his relationship with Zorba countered his loss?
- Why is the soldier friend's name not revealed until the end of the book?

2) In-class discussion:

- What do you think the narrator's greatest accomplishment in the novel has been?
- What might he be celebrating when he and Zorba roast the sheep after the timber rail collapses?
- How would you describe his relationship to Zorba?

3) Write a letter from Stavridaki to the narrator in which he describes hearing/understanding the telepathic message that the narrator sends to him.

Lesson 30 (from Chapter 26)

Objective

Chapter 26

In the final chapter of the book, an exquisite balance between the two main characters is exposed as an ultimate existence which neither has yet conquered. The objective of this lesson is to review the path traveled by the narrator in achieving the understanding that he has reached.

Lesson

1) For class discussion:

- What does Zorba mean when he tells the narrator that he needs folly to be fully free? Is Zorba fully free?
- Do you think the narrator has found freedom?
- Which of the two do you think is more "free" at the conclusion of the novel?

2) Ask each student to draw a chain of major events that have led to the narrator's state at the conclusion of the book. For Discussion:

- Are most of them positive or negative?
- What would you conclude is the author's primary message on what the most valuable experiences for learning are? Do you agree?

For homework:

- What does the beautiful green stone that Zorba invites the narrator to see symbolize?
- Write a one-page response. Include why you think the narrator refused to go see it and what the result of that decision might entail.

Fun Activities

Newspaper Articles

- Bring in newspaper or Internet articles with contemporary tellings of some action in Zorba the Greek. These could be mining stories, honor killing stories, stories of returning to one's ancestral land, etc.
- Present to the class.

Painting

Paint your own version of the painting of Madame Hortense that Zorba presents her with.

Dress Up

With old clothes, dress up in a costume you think Zorba might wear.

Drama

- In groups of 3 or 4, reenact a short portion of Zorba the Greek.
- Use dialogue from the book and create more where necessary.

Film

Watch the film adaptation of Zorba the Greek and give a short presentation of it to the class.

Lignite Research

- Do some research on the mining of lignite.
- Determine how it is symbolically different from the mining of peat or coal.
- Give a brief presentation to the class.

Diagram

- Diagram a series of pictures detailing the formation of lignite.



- Don't use words in the diagrams.

Photography

- With several classmates, dress up in costumes to appear like characters from Zorba the Greek.
- Create still photos of the group acting out scenes from the book.

Clay Idol

- Bring something small from home.
- Using clay, make a small statue of something with the item embedded inside.
- Decide whether you would be able to leave the thing inside forever or if you would want to destroy it for the item.

Married Life

Write one scene form a play about the widow's life when she was previously married.

Shoebox Scene

Create a shoebox scene using miniatures and other found objects to recreate the scene in the cafe when the narrator first meets the widow.

Poem

Write a love/breakup poem from the narrator to the Buddha.

Sulpture

Make a sculpture of the Buddha.

Videorecording

With a small group of classmates, create and record a reenactment of your interpretation of the moment when the Buddha is exorcised from the narrator. Show to class.



Short Story

Write a one-page short story in which Zorba decides to become a Buddhist.

Sketch/Picture

Using charcoal, create a picture of the moment when the narrator successfully exorcises the Buddha.

Song

Using a musical instrument, make up a song without words that expresses the looting scene at Hortense's home after she dies.

Short Story

Write a one-page short story in which you describe what happens to the beautiful green stone in Germany after the end of the novel.

Engineering/Architecture

Create a rough blueprint of what you think the lignite mine might have looked like.

Festival

Make up your own festival. Detail all of the rituals involved. Describe why it is an important festival.



Essay Topics

Essay Topic 1

The santuri instrument is an important symbol throughout the novel. It is one of many modes of expression between the two main characters.

Part 1) What does the santuri symbolize in terms of language?

Part 2) What is the significance of the fact that Zorba brags about his talent on the instrument yet will only play it when he's in the mood?

Part 3) Why do you think the santuri is the object left to the narrator when Zorba dies?

Essay Topic 2

One theme throughout the story is that God and the devil may be one and the same creature.

Part 1) How does the narrator's writing of the Buddha Manuscript exhibit this theme?

Part 2) How does the atheist Zorba's description of both God and the devil support this theme?

Part 3) What does this mean in the narrator's search for ultimate "freedom"?

Essay Topic 3

In the beginning of the story, the narrator is reading a book called The Dialogue of Buddha and the Shepherd, which encourages the virtue of possessing nothing. By the end of the story, he has exorcised the Buddha as an inhabitant of the Void where abstract and unhelpful thinking occurs.

Part 1) How does the appearance of his reading material foreshadow the narrator's experience?

Part 2) Describe the asset that the narrator discovers to be most essential to life. Is this asset truly a possession?

Part 3) Describe Zorba's relationship with possessions. Would he consider his experiences to be his possessions?



Essay Topic 4

Zorba describes sex as the essence of paradise and not at all an impediment to gaining "freedom." Simultaneously, he describes man as a servant sent to please women sexually.

Part 1) Is Zorba's description of Zeus, a creature beaten to sexual exhaustion in his service to women, mutually exclusive to his claims of manly freedom or are they indeed one and the same?

Part 2) The narrator uses less aggression when approaching women, yet he's able to use some of Zorba's advice to good result. Do you think the teacher or the student better masters Zorba's twofold theory on sexuality?

Essay Topic 5

Zorba offers a range of religious thought. At times, he calls himself an atheist. Later, he describes God and the devil to be exactly like himself. Still later, he rewrites Christianity, claiming that Jesus is an heir to Zeus.

Part 1) Describe Zorba's relationship to the religion of the villagers. How does he react to it?

Part 2) Based on dialogue and actions, Is Zorba truly an atheist? Why?

Part 3) How does the irony of Zorba's religious talk instruct the narrator on his path to exorcising his own philosophical thought?

Essay Topic 6

Kazantzakis seems to use destruction, as opposed to creation, as a central theme which moves both main characters away from their original states and toward something new.

Part 1) What things, ideas, and people are destroyed in the novel? Which of these seem most symbolic to you?

Part 2) What two major destructions, which also happen to be the two great "works" of the narrator and Zorba, occur almost simultaneously near the end of the book?

- Are these parallel losses?
- Is one greater than the other?
- How do these two losses make the two characters more similar to one another?



- How do they make them more different?

Part 3) Do the human deaths in the story seem to add or take away from the overall circumstances of the two main characters? Why?

Essay Topic 7

Zorba has a complex relationship with the female sex. The narrator regards him as misogynistic, but he, at times, seems to afford women more freedoms than the average villager.

Part 1) Under what category of his "marriages" would Zorba's relationship with Madame Hortense fall under? Why?

- How does Zorba treat her differently than the other villagers do?
- Does his treatment of her fall in line with his claim that women have less moral strength than men?

Part 2) Zorba tells a story of his brother threatening to kill his daughter for becoming pregnant out of wedlock upon which he offers no opinion. He also reveals that to his greatest love he was only "half-honestly" married.

- Do you think Zorba is a misogynist?
- How does his behavior with women deviate from traditional values?
- Does this make him less of a misogynist?
- Do any of his behaviors make him more "free"?

Part 3) How does Zorba's description of Zeus, the overworked love slave, contradict his misogyny? Does it support it?

Essay Topic 8

There are several parallel calamities/destructions that occur in the novel:

- 1) the lignite mine and the monastery
- 2) the Buddha and the timber rail
- 3) the death of Madame Hortense and the death of the widow

Pick one set to compare and contrast both literally and symbolically.



Essay Topic 9

Being present in the moment is a major theme in *Zorba the Greek*. Kazantzakis utilizes Zorba to literally reinforce this to the narrator but provides him with an array of symbolic messages as well.

Part 1) Describe the narrator's memory of destroying the butterfly cocoon. How did this impact him?

- How does this make him more receptive to Zorba's advice?
- How does it make him less so?

Part 2) Zorba says that the act of celebrating is more important than the object of celebration.

- How is this a message of presence?
- Could Zorba's atheism be a similar symbol of presence? How so?

Part 3) The narrator believes that he can channel his sexual energy for the widow into the Buddha manuscript.

- Do you agree that such an act is possible?
- Is it possible for him to stay present in his physical body as he attempts this?

Essay Topic 10

The narrator's intention in the Buddha Manuscript shifts throughout the course of the novel.

Part 1) What does the manuscript begin as, and what does it become? What instigates the change in the narrator's intention?

Part 2) Do you think the narrator achieves his revised goal or his original goal with the finished product?

Part 3) Zorba constantly reinforces that living in the physical world is living in the mystery.

- Do you think that language is physical?
- Could the narrator have created a physical change in his life simply by writing the Buddha Manuscript?



Essay Topic 11

Kazantzakis injects the epistolary into the trajectory of the novel. Some of the characters express more emotion with this mode of communication, while it is simply different for others.

Part 1) The reader gets to know the narrator's soldier friend only by way of the narrator's memories and letters between the men.

- How is their relationship different in letters than it would be in person?
- What other forms of communication do the two men practice?
- Which do you think is the strongest between them?

Part 2) Zorba writes to the narrator from Candia.

- Is his expression altered, impaired, or improved upon by letter writing?
- Do the two characters grow closer through the exchange?

Part 3) Letter writing could be classified under what Zorba calls pen-pushing.

- Do you think the letter writing between the men is a less physical form of interaction than speaking?
- Why or why not?

Essay Topic 12

A constant struggle in the novel exists between what is fated and what is the result of enacted will.

Part 1) How do the narrator and Zorba differ on the topic of fate? Does either one think that fate can be altered?

Part 2) How does his opinion on fate impact the way the narrator handles his relationship with the widow? What is Zorba's opinion on this?

Part 3) Zorba indicates that he believes all men fall into the marriage "trap" eventually. He also speaks of men and women's particular and inborn flaws. Would these opinions be relegations to fate, or would they, by Zorba's law, be things that an active will could prevent?

Essay Topic 13

The narrator's intuition is a powerful asset which returns to him over and over as a sort of interface between the mind, body, and soul.

Part 1) Describe how the narrator's intuition works when he fabricates a letter from Zorba to Madame Hortense.

- How is he able to come up with Zorba's private terms of endearment?
- Do you think this level of intuition is more an act of the mind, the body, the soul, or some combination of the three?

Part 2) Do you think Zorba or the narrator is the more intuitive man?

- Taking into account their respective histories, what elements might have developed intuition more in one character or the other?
- Is intuition a product of being physically present or might it have developed as compensation for indulgence in a life of books?

Part 3) The narrator also exercises his intuition when he foresees Stavridaki's peril. Look for other instances in which the narrator seems to sense reality.

- How are these different from the way that Zorba considers reality?
- Does the narrator become more or less intuitive as the novel progresses?
- Does Zorba impact this characteristic in him?

Essay Topic 14

The notion of "eternity" plays a consistent though seldom-mentioned role in Zorba the Greek.

Part 1) How would Zorba describe "eternity" on the boat at the beginning of the story?

- How would he describe it after Madame Hortense's death?
- What has brought him to this point?
- Is there any way in which Zorba can reconcile living presently in the mystery with attempting to solve the question of an eternity that may be marked by a lack of physicality?
- Does he come close to solving this problem for himself?



Part 2) The narrator has a conversation with Mother Superior at the convent in which "eternity" is discussed?

- What is the narrator's response to the conversation?
- What does he mean when he refers to Buddha as the terrible "Last Man"?
- Is eternity a part of the "Void" for the narrator, or is it a notion he is able to reconcile with his quest for the ever-present physical world?

Part 3) How do the deaths of Madame Hortense and the widow alter Zorba and the narrator's convictions about eternity?

Essay Topic 15

After Zorba's return from Candia, the narrator attempts to convince him that the power of a mind concentrated on one thing is the singular path to great accomplishment.

Part 1) How does Zorba respond to this attempted lesson?

- Is the narrator's lesson on meditation received and practiced or do both file it with the "Void"?
- Do you agree with the narrator?

Part 2) How might concentration on a single thing threaten Zorba's way of life and very existence?

Part 3) Zorba has returned from Candia with an appearance altered to look younger. This is a strange juxtaposition to the narrator's focus on meditation.

- Are there parallels in the two men's behaviors?
- Or are they simply at odds with one another?

Essay Topic 16

Human management of the desire for material things and other people is a central crux of the characters' experiences.

Part 1) How does Zorba suggest that intense desire be sated?

- How is this similar to the narrator's act of writing the Buddha Manuscript?
- Do you think there is more value in lust for abstract philosophizing than in lust for the material world? Or vice versa?



- Are they equally gluttonous attitudes?

Part 2) Zorba notes that all of the monks strongly desire some material thing.

- How does he encourage them to handle their desires?
- Does he encourage Demetrios and Gavrili to handle their lusts similarly?
- Does Zorba's attempt at getting a deal on the land support his theories on desire and satisfaction or contradict them?

Part 3) How do the men at the monastery symbolize the struggle between Zorba and the narrator? Do the bishop's great theories on religion and the abbot's business ventures make the men more like Zorba or more like the narrator?

Essay Topic 17

Zorba's relationship with Madame Hortense challenges everything he believes about women and relationships.

Part 1) How is Madame Hortense similar to Zorba's generalization of all women? How is she different?

Part 2) Zorba waffles between insisting that men are in service to women and that women are inferior to men.

- In what way does Madame Hortense situate him strictly as a service person?
- How does Zorba respond to this?

Part 3) Do you think Madame Hortense is settling for Zorba?

- Is Zorba settling for her?
- Why does he agree to marry her?

Essay Topic 18

Zorba seems to conclude the thematic strand of the categories of men by retelling stories of war, both his own and others.

Part 1) Describe the way in which Zorba moved from patriotism, a man for his nation, to being a man of self. How might the story of the True Cross have encouraged this shift?

Part 2) Zorba admits to some heinous murders while acting as a man of patriotism. He also acknowledges extreme selfishness as a man who lives for the self.



- Do you think that one of the categorizations represented in the book might be more prone to wrongdoing? Which one and why?
- Might a man of God be just as likely to commit horrible crimes if he believed he was doing it for God?

Part 3) Zorba says he is no longer concerned with a man's nationality, only whether he is "good" or "bad."

- What would qualify as "good" to Zorba?
- Do you agree with Zorba's definition of "good"?

Essay Topic 19

Several occurrences dovetail into the final exorcism of the Buddha.

Part 1) The death of Madame Hortense coincides with the narrator's affair with the widow and his completion of the manuscript.

- How might Hortense's death symbolize the death of the Buddha? Was Hortense physically present in life?
- Could her fantasies about past lovers and her role as a siren be categorized as a part of the "Void"?
- What kind of symbolic import does the looting of her belongings have on the theme of the Buddha?

-

Part 2) Zorba ultimately encourages the narrator to pursue the widow. Describe the outcome of the physical intimacy.

- Do you believe that physical intimacy could free the narrator from his philosophizing?
- Does the narrator adopt Zorba's ideas about physical intimacy? Should he?
-

Part 3) Do you think the narrator is completely finished with the Buddha when he finishes the manuscript? Provide evidence to support your answer.

Essay Topic 20

Dualism is an important part of Zorba the Greek. Wherever one theory or way of being is presented, a counter theory exists.



Part 1) When the villagers kill the widow, how are they subverting Zorba's definition of women?

- Which of the two ways of thinking is more accurate?
- How might these extremes support the author's overall intention?

Part 2) How do Zorba and Hortense view their relationship to one another?

- Does Hortense's view of her own past match the way Zorba recounts her history?
- Does Zorba see himself as the partner to her that she sees in him?
- How do their opposing views ultimately affect their relationship?
- Why is she so fixated on marrying Zorba?

Part 3) Do you think that the Buddha has been completed or destroyed for the narrator at the end of the story?

Short Essay Questions

1. Describe the narrator's relationship with his old friend.

2. What does Zorba represent in the story?

3. Why is the narrator going to Crete?

4. What kinds of responsibilities does Zorba take on at the initiation of his friendship with the narrator.

5. How does the fact that Zorba is missing half of his finger relate to his connection between manliness and freedom?

6. Describe the narrator's counter argument to Zorba's connection between manliness and freedom regarding his missing finger?



7. At the conclusion of Chapter 2, do you think Zorba or the narrator has a more realistic outlook on how to live life?

8. What significance does the fact that Madame Hortense is a widow have toward the theme of manliness?

9. How might Madame Hortense's romantic history challenge Zorba's concept of his own manliness?

10. In Chapter 3, how are the relationships between men and women on Crete exhibited?

11. When Zorba tells the story of the old man who will never die, what does this show about his own and the narrator's perspectives on life and death?

12. Explain the parrot's role in the life of Madame Hortense and her guests.

13. Describe the narrator's memory of his old friend while on their visit to the museum.

14. When the narrator makes an attempt to get to know some of the mine workers, he begins to discuss socialism with them. Zorba does not like this. What are his reasons?

15. Discuss the two goals that the narrator sets for himself at the end of Chapter 4? How is this a shift from the beginning of the story?

16. How does the narrator reveal that he is like his grandfather?

17. What feelings does Zorba express about religion?

18. When the narrator observes Zorba's ease with problem solving in Chapter 5, what figures come into his mind?

19. How does the narrator describe Zorba the first time he sees him dancing?

20. Do you think Zorba's description of dance as a language is accurate? In other words, does the narrator understand what Zorba means by his erratic dancing?



21. Describe Zorba's categories of marriage and how many of each he's experienced.

22. Describe Zorba's only account of his heart being broken.

23. Describe the first time that the narrator sees the widow.

24. When Zorba encourages the narrator to be more like he is and pursue the widow, how does this contradict Zorba's other advice?

25. What does Zorba's version of God look like?

26. What reasons does Zorba give in Chapter 9 for so intensely wanting the narrator to go and sleep with the widow?

27. How does the narrator try to get the widow out of his mind at the beginning of Chapter 10?



- 28.** How does the narrator's memory of the butterfly impact his feelings about approaching the widow?
- 29.** Describe the painting that Zorba presents to Madame Hortense.
- 30.** What is Zorba's account of God's creation of woman?
- 31.** Do you think the narrator has actually lost all interest and faith in poetry as he claims in Chapter 12? How so?
- 32.** What does Karayannis's letter from Africa remind the narrator that he has always wanted to do?
- 33.** How does Zorba's version of the devil living inside him compare to Zorba himself?
- 34.** What does Zorba do while in Candia?



- 35.** Why does Anagnosti say that Pavli is blessed?
- 36.** When writing letters to Madame Hortense, what does the narrator have to do?
- 37.** How does the narrator describe eternity in Chapter 15?
- 38.** What evidence of artistic inspiration does the narrator find in the ruins of the old city? How does he feel when he sees it?
- 39.** What does Zorba say about women when the narrator reveals that he has proposed to Madame Hortense on his behalf?
- 40.** In Chapter 16, what did the sleeping workmen do who when they heard Zorba playing his Santuri?
- 41.** Why does Zaharia say he became a monk?

42. Describe the incident that prompted the monastery icon's name to be changed from Our Lady of Mercy to Our Lady of Revenge.

43. Describe the monastery bishop's first theory on religion.

44. In his third theory of religion, what does the bishop give as God's reason for sending religion to the masses?

45. What is the irony of Zorba comparing himself to Zeus in Chapter 19?

46. What does Madame Hortense actually think of Zorba?

47. Describe what happened while Zorba was at war that changed his mind about judging a person based on nationality.

48. What story does Zorba tell in Chapter 20 that supports the theme that appearance creates reality?



49. What two major shifts happen to the narrator in Chapter 21? What major realization do these shifts spur in the narrator.

50. What does the narrator succeed in doing in Chapter 21 that Zorba could not?

51. Describe the actions that follow after the widow enters the church at the Easter celebration.

52. After the widow's murder, what happens when Zorba and Manolakas meet near the widow's garden?

53. As the narrator watches Zorba comfort Madame Hortense on her death bed with the others eagerly awaiting her death, what does he compare the scene to?

54. What does Zorba say about the act of crying when Madame Hortense dies?

55. What was Zaharia's inspiration for burning down the monastery?



56. What does the narrator state is the reason for Zaharia's death?
57. How did Zaharia appear when he was found dead?
58. Why do you think the narrator's good friend, the soldier, is not named until his death?
59. What might be the significance of the narrator inheriting the Santuri?
60. How are Zorba's final moments described?

Short Essay Questions Key

1. Describe the narrator's relationship with his old friend.

The narrator and his friend have a deep connection and love for one another. However, the connection is largely unspoken as the two men often argue rather than express emotion to one another. The soldier friend is more of an adventurer than the narrator, and often teases the narrator for being such a bookworm. The two men contrast one another; the narrator is more of a philosopher who is focused on a higher power, while the friend is a soldier who believes in living his life for his fellow man and his nation. The connection between the two men, despite their differences, is clear in their agreement to send mental messages to one another if they sense danger. This obviously indicates that they believe strongly in their connection and friendship.

2. What does Zorba represent in the story?

Zorba represents a man who lives for the physical world and ultimately for the individual self in that world. He is an agent of instinct and lacks theoretical reason for his actions. For the narrator, Zorba is a potential symbol of freedom in the narrator's quest to find freedom.

3. Why is the narrator going to Crete?

The narrator is curious about the adventurous life his friend preached to him. He is going to Crete to experiment with such a life by renting a lignite mine and thus engaging more with the physical world. His overall goal in these actions is to find freedom through a marriage of the mind and body.

4. What kinds of responsibilities does Zorba take on at the initiation of his friendship with the narrator.

Zorba agrees to act as foreman of the lignite mine. He also promises to cook the narrator soup and play him music on his santuri.



5. How does the fact that Zorba is missing half of his finger relate to his connection between manliness and freedom?

Zorba says that he cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of making pottery. He argues that anything that gets in the way of man doing what he wants should be removed. Because it takes a great deal of physical and mental courage to remove a body part, the connection for Zorba is strong.

6. Describe the narrator's counter argument to Zorba's connection between manliness and freedom regarding his missing finger?

The narrator argues that although such passions are admirable, they could also possibly lead to the desire to remove more crucial body parts. He suggests that Zorba might eventually want to remove his sexual organs, which would have a much more life-altering and drastic result.

7. At the conclusion of Chapter 2, do you think Zorba or the narrator has a more realistic outlook on how to live life?

I think that they have very different perspectives as distinct as two different languages. Zorba's outlook might be easier on a day-by-day basis as his doesn't require a lot of thinking through of various options and looks directly to instinct and passion. The narrator's perspective might be the more "realistic" however, in that it takes a much broader look at the many elements and their complex arrangements which come together to inform life.

8. What significance does the fact that Madame Hortense is a widow have toward the theme of manliness?

Madame Hortense is a character on whom Zorba and the narrator choose instantly to rely upon for shelter. The fact that she is completely devoid of Zorba's "manliness" (as a widowed woman) and has outlived her four great lovers, admirals who could be classified as the most manly of all men, speaks to a contrasting energy of freedom neither articulated by the narrator nor by Zorba.



9. How might Madame Hortense's romantic history challenge Zorba's concept of his own manliness?

Zorba believes in living for the day and that any impediment to freedom and manliness should be removed. Because he thinks sexual relationships are the ultimate in the physical life, he is helpless against the force of her own history. She has been romanced by legendary and powerful men, and Zorba cannot do anything to remove them as competitive forces from his own life. He offers to take on Canavaro's role in her life, but he has no power or awareness of how to actually fulfill that role.

10. In Chapter 3, how are the relationships between men and women on Crete exhibited?

In the beginning of the chapter, the narrator's encounter with the young women in the country exhibits the historical impact of war and violence on the male/female relationship. They are immediately frightened of him as a stranger, and so their encounter is stunted. Mavrandoni's offer to let the men stay in his house to avoid the scandal of staying with a woman also exhibits a level of division and acceptable interaction between men and women.

11. When Zorba tells the story of the old man who will never die, what does this show about his own and the narrator's perspectives on life and death?

Neither the narrator nor Zorba come to a conclusion about how one should live one's life. Zorba clearly lives as though each day is his last, in opposition to the old man in his story. The narrator is uncertain and contemplative about life and death and seems to change his mind slightly as he is influenced by different thinking.

12. Explain the parrot's role in the life of Madame Hortense and her guests.

Hortense's parrot is a constant reminder of Madame Hortense's greatest love. As a possession, it has been trained to say Canavaro's name repeatedly and therefore to challenge the immediacy of Zorba's manliness.



13. Describe the narrator's memory of his old friend while on their visit to the museum.

The narrator's old friend told him of his love for a painting by Rembrandt; a painting he says he will owe his greatest accomplishments to. As they are leaving the museum, they see a bird land on a statue of an Amazon and begin singing. The narrator asks what it might mean, and the friend recites a few lines that encourage the narrator not to bother himself with such thoughts.

14. When the narrator makes an attempt to get to know some of the mine workers, he begins to discuss socialism with them. Zorba does not like this. What are his reasons?

Zorba believes that supervising a workforce requires complete authority. He thinks it's better if they believe they have fewer rights and that workers who feel like they are equal to their bosses will eventually take rights away from their bosses.

15. Discuss the two goals that the narrator sets for himself at the end of Chapter 4? How is this a shift from the beginning of the story?

The narrator wants to rid himself of Buddha and the abstract thinking that comes along with Buddha. He also wants to be completely present in the physical world of men. He has wanted to find this physicality since the beginning of the story when his old friend's words inspire him to seek such a life, and begin his journey to Crete. Originally, he was completely invested in philosophizing as well. However, the fact that he wants to exorcise Buddha from his thinking is a definite shift in his character.

16. How does the narrator reveal that he is like his grandfather?

He remembers his grandfather demanding that guests tell him their personal stories of adventure so that he could experience the thrill through their stories. This is similar to the narrator in that the adventures for both occur removed from the action and inside the head and ideas of the two.

17. What feelings does Zorba express about religion?

Zorba claims to be an atheist. However, when it comes to the other villagers, Zorba



believes that religion is not only important but is the center of their way of life. He warns the narrator that speaking against religion to the villagers is not wise as it is better for them than having no organized structure at all.

18. When the narrator observes Zorba's ease with problem solving in Chapter 5, what figures come into his mind?

The narrator realizes that Zorba's mind is not stressed with education and that his problem solving is a result of his connection with the physical world. He compares Zorba to Alexander the Great cutting through the Gordian knot with his sword. His notes that it is difficult to miss with feet planted firmly and held by the weight of the entire body. This leads him to compare Zorba to the serpent worshiped by Africans. He notes that anything so connected with and touching the earth constantly must be superior in its understanding of the earth's workings.

19. How does the narrator describe Zorba the first time he sees him dancing?

The narrator says Zorba looks like he is wearing rubber shoes. He also says that Zorba's soul looks like it is trying to fling his body like a meteor into the darkness.

20. Do you think Zorba's description of dance as a language is accurate? In other words, does the narrator understand what Zorba means by his erratic dancing?

Zorba says that he had so much joy that he had to let it out somehow and dancing was the best way to let the explosion loose. The dancing reminds the narrator of a story he made up about how his grandfather died. He told friends that the old man bounced on rubber shoes until he disappeared into the clouds. This does exhibit some understanding. The narrator associates the dancing with a great release of energy although he cannot clearly name it.

21. Describe Zorba's categories of marriage and how many of each he's experienced.

Zorba says he's been married "honestly," "half-honestly," and "dishonestly." He says that he's been married "honestly" or legally only once. He says that he's been "half-honestly" married, or in relationships similar to marriage that were not made formal and legal with a wedding, two times. He says that he's been "dishonestly" married a thousand times,

and by this he is referring to every sexual encounter he's ever had.

22. Describe Zorba's only account of his heart being broken.

Zorba met a woman named Noussa ten days after leaving the village of his previous lover. Noussa invited him to her house for a feast at which Zorba gave a toast. After this, the lights went out and a massive orgy began. He lost Noussa in the midst of the orgy but found her the next day, and they remained together for 6 months. She then eloped with a soldier and broke Zorba's heart.

23. Describe the first time that the narrator sees the widow.

The narrator and Zorba duck into a cafe in the middle of a rainstorm, and from here, they see the widow run past the window. The narrator immediately finds her beautiful, although there are a variety of responses to her presence, not all of them positive. Soon after, Mimiko enters and reports that the widow has lost her sheep and offers a reward to anyone who can help return it to her.

24. When Zorba encourages the narrator to be more like he is and pursue the widow, how does this contradict Zorba's other advice?

Previously, Zorba told a parable about a crow who tries to walk like a pigeon, reinforcing his idea that one must remain true to his true and individual identity. Zorba's disappointment with the narrator when he is unable to be the man of sensuality that Zorba is, contradicts this parable to some extent.

25. What does Zorba's version of God look like?

Zorba claims to be an atheist, but he does tell the narrator that God is likely a more outrageous version of himself for whom forgiveness is not difficult, and who does not want to be worshiped.



26. What reasons does Zorba give in Chapter 9 for so intensely wanting the narrator to go and sleep with the widow?

He says that women need men to sleep with them and protect them; that it is a part of a greater plan. He says she will be ruined if a man does not go and sleep with her. He also says that not taking the opportunity to sleep with her is one sin that God will not forgive.

27. How does the narrator try to get the widow out of his mind at the beginning of Chapter 10?

The narrator views the widow as a temptation of the Evil One and focuses on writing his Buddha Manuscript in order to exorcise her image and the lust he feels for her from his mind. To him, his writing is comparable to the force of savages facing beasts with their spears.

28. How does the narrator's memory of the butterfly impact his feelings about approaching the widow?

The narrator had attempted to help the butterfly emerge from the cocoon by blowing warm air on it. Doing this made the butterfly emerge too quickly and die. The narrator realizes while meditating on this memory, that an individual must "confidently obey the eternal rhythm." He knows, in turn, that he can't speed his relationship with the widow and must let it unfold naturally.

29. Describe the painting that Zorba presents to Madame Hortense.

The painting has four huge battleships on it in red, gold, gray, and black, each with a flag from one of four countries: England, France, Italy, and Russia. Leading the battleship as a siren was Madame Hortense, naked with a yellow ribbon around her neck and holding four strings attached to the ships.

30. What is Zorba's account of God's creation of woman?

Zorba says that when God removed the rib from Adam, the devil turned into a snake and snatched the rib and ran off with it. God then chased the devil and caught him, but the devil ultimately got away while God was left holding only his horns. God then made

woman out of the devil's horns rather than the rib of Adam.

31. Do you think the narrator has actually lost all interest and faith in poetry as he claims in Chapter 12? How so?

No. When the narrator says of the Buddha, "I must mobilize words and their necromantic power...invoke magic rhythms; lay siege to him, cast a spell over him and drive him out of my entrails! I must throw over him the net of images, catch him and free myself!" he demonstrates a transformation in the way he sees poetry. He sees it less as contemplation and more as a physical act of using language. His use of the craft has changed, but it is untrue that he no longer has use for it as he so claims.

32. What does Karayannis's letter from Africa remind the narrator that he has always wanted to do?

He has a desire to see and touch as much of the world as he possibly can before he dies.

33. How does Zorba's version of the devil living inside him compare to Zorba himself?

Zorba says that the devil is a mirror image of himself. The only difference is that the devil refuses to grow old. He also wears a red carnation behind his ear.

34. What does Zorba do while in Candia?

He meets a young girl with whom he has an affair. He also spends all of the boss's money.

35. Why does Anagnosti say that Pavli is blessed?

Pavli commits suicide by drowning, and Anagnosti says that he is blessed because he is free from the object of his desire, the widow. Anagnosti claims that Pavli could not have lived happily with or without her because he had so much passion for her but now he is at peace.



36. When writing letters to Madame Hortense, what does the narrator have to do?

The narrator must pretend he is Zorba. Therefore, he must take on Zorba's characteristics in his writings while looking for the best in Madame Hortense.

37. How does the narrator describe eternity in Chapter 15?

He describes it as being each minute that passes.

38. What evidence of artistic inspiration does the narrator find in the ruins of the old city? How does he feel when he sees it?

The narrator finds a partially finished jar carved from stone and a chisel on the ground nearby. This fills him with bitterness as he realizes the artistic inspiration has been defeated.

39. What does Zorba say about women when the narrator reveals that he has proposed to Madame Hortense on his behalf?

Zorba says that women are delicate creatures and are unable to handle such jokes.

40. In Chapter 16, what did the sleeping workmen do who when they heard Zorba playing his Santuri?

They got up, circled around him and began dancing to the music he played.

41. Why does Zaharia say he became a monk?

He says poverty led him to become a monk. He was hungry and knew that if he went into the monastery there would be no way he could starve.



42. Describe the incident that prompted the monastery icon's name to be changed from Our Lady of Mercy to Our Lady of Revenge.

In ancient times Algerians raided and set fire to the monastery. When they passed by the statue, it is said that she came to life, leaped down, and began stabbing the warriors with her spear until she had killed them all.

43. Describe the monastery bishop's first theory on religion.

He believes that the shape of a flower influences its color and its color then has an influence on its properties which in turn produce a specific effect on humans. He summarizes this theory with the belief that men should be careful when walking through fields of flowers because of the peculiar effects the flowers are having on them.

44. In his third theory of religion, what does the bishop give as God's reason for sending religion to the masses?

He says that God sent religion as an act of mercy for the masses in order that they might experience living in "eternity." The bishop believes that only a few people on earth are able to live an eternity during their natural lives on earth.

45. What is the irony of Zorba comparing himself to Zeus in Chapter 19?

Zorba says that he is like Zeus in that he sacrifices his own self in order to bring women happiness. This is ironic because Zeus is traditionally considered to be lecherous towards women.

46. What does Madame Hortense actually think of Zorba?

Madame Hortense thinks Zorba will make a useful husband but does not think much of him above and beyond that role. She wishes also that he were as exciting and accomplished as her former lovers.



47. Describe what happened while Zorba was at war that changed his mind about judging a person based on nationality.

While at war, Zorba murdered a Bulgarian priest who had been invading Greek villages and killing Greeks. Later, when Zorba sees the orphans of the priest, he realizes that nationality doesn't matter. Rather, "good" and "bad" are the only important classifications to consider.

48. What story does Zorba tell in Chapter 20 that supports the theme that appearance creates reality?

Zorba tells a story in which his grandfather takes a piece of wood, calls it part of the True Cross, and declares that it will protect the soldier to whom he gifts it from all harm in battle. The soldier then becomes a brave and invincible warrior simply because he believes that he has nothing to fear.

49. What two major shifts happen to the narrator in Chapter 21? What major realization do these shifts spur in the narrator.

The narrator finally sleeps with the widow, which Zorba has been encouraging him to do for some time. The narrator also finishes the Buddha Manuscript and with it, has the realization that he has exorcised the Buddha from himself. These two shifts make it clear to the narrator that "the soul is flesh as well," or in other words the actions of his body are just as important and spiritual as the meditating and thinking to which he is accustomed.

50. What does the narrator succeed in doing in Chapter 21 that Zorba could not?

The narrator recognizes that Madame Hortense is seriously ill and takes care of her both mentally and physically. He mentally encourages her by reminding her of her wedding while physically bringing a doctor to attend to her. He uses Zorba's romantic speech tricks while conscientiously attending to her health as well. Zorba, on the other hand, is a successful romantic but not a responsible partner.



51. Describe the actions that follow after the widow enters the church at the Easter celebration.

Because the villagers blame the widow for Pavli's death, Manolakas leads a mob to the church when they discover that she is there. When she walks out of the church, the mob surrounds her and Mavrandoni blocks the door to keep her from going back in. The mob begins to throw stones at her, and several pull knives as well. Mavrandoni says it is his right to declare judgment and orders her to be killed. The narrator attempts to save her but trips on a rock. Zorba arrives and also attempts to save her. Momentarily, he does as he wrestles Manolakas away from her, but ultimately Mavrandoni cuts her head off.

52. After the widow's murder, what happens when Zorba and Manolakas meet near the widow's garden?

Manolakas challenges Zorba to a knife fight after having been beaten previously. Zorba tells him he will fight without weapons. Then the narrator intervenes and talks them down from fighting at all. They end up all drinking together.

53. As the narrator watches Zorba comfort Madame Hortense on her death bed with the others eagerly awaiting her death, what does he compare the scene to?

The narrator first compares the scene to a huge exotic bird with a broken wing that has fallen and is dying on the beach, with all of the villagers standing around watching for entertainment. Then he compares Madame Hortense to other animals as well, like an "old angora cat" and "a sick old seal."

54. What does Zorba say about the act of crying when Madame Hortense dies?

He says that he isn't ashamed to cry in front of men because of the unity they share. He says that crying in front of women is different because it is a man's job to prove his courage when before women.

55. What was Zaharia's inspiration for burning down the monastery?

He says he was acting on a mission assigned to him by Archangel Michael. He acted, however, based on the knowledge he received from Zorba.



56. What does the narrator state is the reason for Zaharia's death?

The narrator says that Zaharia has fulfilled his main passion and purpose and has therefore accomplished everything that life would ask of him, so he can die.

57. How did Zaharia appear when he was found dead?

He was found shaven bald and pierced with the spear of the Holy Virgin of Revenge.

58. Why do you think the narrator's good friend, the soldier, is not named until his death?

It may be to emphasize the theme of the importance of human interaction and companionship. Just as the narrator is gaining the realization that human connection is essential, his friend dies and his friend's name is revealed. His friend has also fulfilled his passion, which was to serve his country. His name is then symbolically mythologized when it appears in the story.

59. What might be the significance of the narrator inheriting the Santuri?

The Santuri, Zorba's musical instrument, was one of the symbols in the story of the expression of emotion outside of words. Zorba plays the Santuri in the story when he is happy. The fact that the story ends with the Santuri in the narrator's possession is an indication that he has grown closer to reaching his goal, that of a marriage between the body and spirit, and that he has attained some level of the sought after "freedom."

60. How are Zorba's final moments described?

Zorba dies howling and laughing like an animal.



Multiple Choice

Chapter 1

1. Where is the narrator sitting and thinking at the beginning of the story?

- (a) On the beach.
- (b) In his bedroom.
- (c) At work.
- (d) In a bar.

2. What does the narrator remember his friend teasing him about?

- (a) Being too short.
- (b) Renting a lignite mine.
- (c) Having family from Italy.
- (d) Being a bookworm rather than an adventurer.

3. What part of the narrator's friendship with his absent friend is he sad about?

- (a) The two got into a fist fight before his friend left.
- (b) He thinks his friend hates him.
- (c) He thinks his friend will find a new best friend.
- (d) The two argued rather than expressing love.

4. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?

- (a) They agree to one day own a lignite mine together.
- (b) They agree to fight in the war together.
- (c) They agree to telepathically warn one another of danger.
- (d) They agree to a double wedding when they reunite.

5. What is the name of the new friend the narrator makes at the beginning of the novel?

- (a) The Devil.
- (b) Crete.
- (c) Santuri.
- (d) Zorba.

6. Who does the narrator hire to help him mine lignite on the island?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Crete.
- (c) Santuri.
- (d) His best friend.



7. What does Zorba promise the narrator upon the initiation of their friendship?

- (a) He promises to do all of his cooking and cleaning.
- (b) He promises to make him a fortune.
- (c) He promises to cook him soup and play him music.
- (d) He promises to find him a wife.

8. What or who does the narrator live for?

- (a) Mankind.
- (b) God.
- (c) Zorba.
- (d) Women.

9. What or who does Zorba live for?

- (a) Man as individual.
- (b) Mankind.
- (c) God.
- (d) Mining.

10. What or who does the narrator's long-time friend live for?

- (a) The narrator.
- (b) God.
- (c) Women.
- (d) Mankind.

11. What reason does Zorba give for having attacked his old boss?

- (a) He offers no excuse or reason.
- (b) He says the man cheated him.
- (c) He claims the man kissed his girlfriend.
- (d) He says the man tried to assault him first.

12. What exclamation does the first chapter conclude with?

- (a) "Jesus and Satan!"
- (b) "Monks and Demons!"
- (c) "God and the Devil!"
- (d) "Heaven and Hell!"

Chapter 2

13. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?

- (a) Ear.
- (b) Toe.
- (c) Arm.
- (d) Finger.



14. Why does Zorba say he removed the body part?

- (a) It got in the way of his pottery.
- (b) It hurt constantly.
- (c) It was too big.
- (d) It was strangely colored.

15. The narrator warn Zorba that such passions may lead to the removal of what body part?

- (a) The ears.
- (b) The achilles.
- (c) The sexual organs.
- (d) The brain.

16. What is the primary message in the book that the narrator is reading?

- (a) It emphasizes the virtue of possessing nothing.
- (b) It offers instruction on running a mine.
- (c) It makes an example of the inefficiency of bookworms.
- (d) It exhibits the excellence of true love.

17. Zorba tells the narrator stories about the island. What kind of events does he describe?

- (a) Wars and revolutions.
- (b) Carnivals and circuses.
- (c) Feasts and birthdays.
- (d) Rape and thievery.

18. Who do Zorba and the narrator stay with on their first night on the island?

- (a) A young boy.
- (b) A monk.
- (c) Dame Hortense.
- (d) A village elder.

19. With whom does Zorba begin a romance?

- (a) A young widowed mother.
- (b) A nun.
- (c) A strange woman walking on the beach.
- (d) Dame Hortense.

20. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?

- (a) He brutally killed hundreds of people in the revolution.
- (b) He carried everyone's bags onto the ship.
- (c) He cut part of his ear off because it was larger than the other.
- (d) He cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of his pottery.



21. Why does the narrator say that the sexual organs may get in the way of freedom?

- (a) He says that the need to have children keeps people from living full lives.
- (b) He says that sexual thoughts can keep a person from being productive.
- (c) He says that clothing that doesn't fit correctly restricts freedom.
- (d) He says that being promiscuous can keep a man from going to heaven.

22. What is the ultimate physical experience for Zorba?

- (a) Mining.
- (b) Going to war.
- (c) Playing a musical instrument.
- (d) Sex.

23. Although the narrator remains unnamed, what does Zorba call the narrator?

- (a) Captain.
- (b) Boss.
- (c) Bro.
- (d) Sir.

24. How does Zorba suggest that a man best get to know the world?

- (a) He suggests that a man spend some time being savage and sinful.
- (b) He says that a man should try foreign foods.
- (c) He says that a man should go sailing around the world.
- (d) He says that a man should have relations with many women.

Chapter 3

25. What does the narrator do on his first morning in Crete?

- (a) He discusses his plans for the mine with Zorba.
- (b) He goes to the market.
- (c) He takes a stroll through the countryside.
- (d) He reads the Bible.

26. When the narrator meets some young women on his first day in Crete, how do the girls respond?

- (a) Fearfully.
- (b) With ridicule.
- (c) With hatred.
- (d) Joyfully.



27. In Chapter 3, what is the narrator reading when Zorba asks him to come in for lunch?

- (a) The Bible.
- (b) Shakespeare.
- (c) Dante.
- (d) Virgil.

28. Who is the second person to offer the narrator and Zorba lodging in Crete?

- (a) The local baker.
- (b) The pharmacist.
- (c) The monks.
- (d) The village elder.

29. Who were Madame Hortense's four great loves?

- (a) Four admirals from England, France, Italy, Russia.
- (b) Four thieves from Crete.
- (c) Two pilots from America and two from Germany.
- (d) Four chefs from Italy, France, Spain, and Poland.

30. Which of her lovers' names does Madame Hortense's parrot repeat?

- (a) Canavaro.
- (b) Nowacka.
- (c) Baudrillard.
- (d) Johnson.

31. What has historically impacted Crete and the Cretan people more than anything else?

- (a) Movie theaters.
- (b) Wars.
- (c) Carnivals.
- (d) Religious ceremonies.

32. Zorba tells the story of an old man who will what?

- (a) Never die.
- (b) Cook a delicious soup.
- (c) Play a musical instrument when happy.
- (d) Never leave Crete.

33. How does Zorba live his life?

- (a) He reads books that instruct him how to live.
- (b) He moves about suspecting that everyone wants to hurt him.
- (c) He lives like every day is his last.
- (d) He trusts that other people will show him how to live.



34. When Zorba and the narrator refuse Mavrandoni's offer of hospitality, what does he say about them?

- (a) He says they are ungrateful.
- (b) He says they are free to choose.
- (c) He calls Madame Hortense mean names.
- (d) He says that he thinks they must be very hungry.

35. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?

- (a) Canavaro.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) Mavrandoni.
- (d) Her parrot.

36. How many places does Zorba set the dinner table for on their first night on Crete?

- (a) 2
- (b) 4
- (c) 3
- (d) 1

Chapter 4

37. In Chapter 4, what does the narrator do when he first awakens?

- (a) Has coffee with Zorba.
- (b) Smokes a pipe.
- (c) Goes jogging.
- (d) Goes straight to work.

38. To whom does the narrator's soldier friend say his greatest actions will be owed credit?

- (a) His father.
- (b) Rembrandt's "Warrior."
- (c) The narrator.
- (d) Sampson from the Bible.

39. What does Zorba tell the narrator he should have done before going to bed the night before in chapter 4?

- (a) He tells the narrator that he should have made some work notes for the following day.
- (b) He tells him he should have cleaned the house.
- (c) He says the narrator should have told Dame Hortense how beautiful she is.
- (d) Zorba tells him that he should have meditated.



40. As the narrator gets to know the mine workers, what does he talk to them about?

- (a) Socialist ideas.
- (b) Religion.
- (c) Women.
- (d) Revolution.

41. What does Zorba do when he hears his boss talking to the workmen?

- (a) He throws his boss out of the mine.
- (b) He asks his boss to get them lunch.
- (c) He asks his boss to record the men's work hours.
- (d) He tells his boss that they are lazy.

42. What does Zorba think is the best way to run the mine?

- (a) Bonus awards.
- (b) A voting system.
- (c) Volunteer work.
- (d) Cruel authority.

43. What is one of the narrator's goals at the end of Chapter 4?

- (a) He wants to improve his vocabulary.
- (b) He wants to forget about Buddha.
- (c) He wants to grow his hair long.
- (d) He wants to learn to meditate.

44. What is the narrator's second goal at the end of Chapter 4?

- (a) He wants to become an excellent cook.
- (b) He wants to be more grounded in the physical world of men.
- (c) He wants to find a lover.
- (d) He wants to learn to play a musical instrument.

45. What does Zorba say that his 80 year-old grandmother wanted?

- (a) She wanted to travel to Crete.
- (b) She wanted a young husband.
- (c) She wanted to be serenaded.
- (d) She wanted the wars to end.

46. What does the narrator remember his grandfather doing?

- (a) He had many lovers.
- (b) He demanded stories from his guests.
- (c) He sailed around the world.
- (d) He started a mining business.



47. How does Zorba believe a man should treat a woman?

- (a) He should cook and clean for her.
- (b) He should tell her she's beautiful no matter what.
- (c) He should only spend time with her if he wants to marry her.
- (d) He should lie to her about his other lovers.

48. Who takes charge when the work begins in the mine?

- (a) The narrator's grandfather.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) A soldier.
- (d) Zorba.

Chapter 5

49. What happens at the celebration in Chapter 5?

- (a) Several marriage ceremonies.
- (b) The castration of pigs.
- (c) The slaughter of sheep.
- (d) The eating of elaborate cakes.

50. What story does Anagnosti tell at the celebration?

- (a) The ancient civilization of Crete.
- (b) Noah's Ark.
- (c) The tale of his birth.
- (d) A love story.

51. Why does Zorba tell the narrator not to preach equality of the sexes?

- (a) He says that Anagnosti will kill him if he does.
- (b) He says it is all lies anyway.
- (c) He says it will disrupt the island's way of life without offering solutions for making it better.
- (d) He says that the people of Crete believe in equality of the sexes already.

52. What does Zorba indicate would be the worst thing the narrator could do to Anagnosti?

- (a) Leave his celebration.
- (b) Cast down his religion.
- (c) Hire him at the mine.
- (d) Kill his children.



53. What does the narrator begin doing late one restless night in Chapter 5?

- (a) He begins a romance with Madame Hortense.
- (b) He takes a long walk on the beach.
- (c) He makes a map of the mine.
- (d) He begins the writing of his manuscript.

54. What are Zorba's beliefs about the existence of God?

- (a) He does not personally believe in God but believes religion is essential to civilization.
- (b) He believes in a higher power but not in religion.
- (c) He is a Christian.
- (d) He looks to Anagnosti for all of his religious questions and shares his beliefs.

Chapter 6

55. In regards to food, what three categories does Zorba say that the three different types of men turn their food into?

- (a) Sex, work, and fat.
- (b) Fear, love, and God.
- (c) Love and kindness, manure and energy, and gluttony.
- (d) Fat and manure, work and good humor, and God.

56. In which category does Zorba think his boss strives for with his food?

- (a) God.
- (b) Fat and manure.
- (c) Love and kindness.
- (d) Work.

57. What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?

- (a) Communication.
- (b) Sexual.
- (c) Competition.
- (d) Entertainment.

58. What is the great plan that Zorba reveals to the narrator in Chapter 6?

- (a) He wants to build a ship so that he and his boss can sail around the world.
- (b) He wants to develop a cable system for transporting timber.
- (c) He plans to marry Madame Hortense for her great wealth.
- (d) He plans to blast a new entrance to the mine.



59. What does the narrator mostly do while Zorba works in the mine?

- (a) He works on his writing.
- (b) He swims in the ocean.
- (c) He romances Madame Hortense.
- (d) He also works in the mine.

60. How does Zorba feel about women?

- (a) He feels closer to them than he does to men.
- (b) He believes they are intellectually superior to men.
- (c) He does not take them seriously but enjoys them physically.
- (d) He doesn't speak to them but looks constantly for a wife.

Chapter 7

61. What is Zorba's response when the narrator asks him how many times he has been married?

- (a) Once honestly and twice half-honestly.
- (b) Twice honestly and once half-honestly.
- (c) Three times.
- (d) Four times.

62. What does Zorba mean when he describes being married "dishonestly"?

- (a) Being married to two women at the same time.
- (b) Sexual relationships that later lead to marriage.
- (c) Any sexual adventure.
- (d) Marrying an Italian woman.

63. How did Zorba temporarily keep track of his sexual relationships?

- (a) He carved notches in the side of a boat.
- (b) He asked his mother to remember his list of lovers.
- (c) He recorded the names of the women in a small book.
- (d) He cut off a lock of each lover's hair.

64. What are the names of Zorba's two "half-honest" lovers?

- (a) Alexandra and Diana.
- (b) Sophinka and Noussa.
- (c) Madame Hortense and Anagnosti.
- (d) Sophia and Cecilia.



65. At the feast at Noussa's house, what does Zorba say happened after he gave the toast?

- (a) A candle lighting ceremony.
- (b) An extravagant meal.
- (c) A concert.
- (d) An orgy.

66. Under what conditions does Zorba say that Noussa left him?

- (a) She committed suicide.
- (b) She mysteriously vanished.
- (c) She went back to her home village to care for her sick mother.
- (d) She eloped with a soldier.

Chapter 8

67. In a letter to his friend, what does the narrator say his friend inspired him to do?

- (a) Get married.
- (b) Go to university.
- (c) Pursue a life of physical action.
- (d) Join a circus.

68. How does the narrator end the letter to his friend in Chapter 8?

- (a) He tells him that he wishes he too were at war.
- (b) He reveals his plans for the mine.
- (c) He suggests they not see one another again.
- (d) He tells him that he has love for him.

69. Why does Zorba suggest that the narrator should burn his library?

- (a) Because his books don't celebrate nature enough.
- (b) Because the books are religious.
- (c) Because the books are romantic.
- (d) Because the books are unrelated to mining.

70. While Zorba and the narrator are in the shop, who runs past the window?

- (a) A beautiful widow.
- (b) A fellow miner.
- (c) A paper boy.
- (d) A juggler.



71. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Mimiko.
- (c) Manolakus.
- (d) Anagnosti.

72. Who does Zorba suggest that the narrator romantically pursue?

- (a) The widow.
- (b) Madame Hortense.
- (c) The long lost love of his life.
- (d) Noussa.

Chapter 9

73. How does Zorba describe God?

- (a) He describes him as peaceful and quiet.
- (b) He describes him as "ether."
- (c) He describes him as a crazier and wilder version of himself.
- (d) He likens him to the mine.

74. What happens at the mine in Chapter 9?

- (a) It collapses.
- (b) Five men suffocate to death.
- (c) They find record amounts of lignite.
- (d) A baby is abandoned there.

75. About what does Zorba confront the miners?

- (a) Not following the proper safety procedures.
- (b) Leaving lanterns lit inside.
- (c) Taking long lunch breaks.
- (d) Failing to get their picks before exiting.

76. What does the narrator do when Zorba displays frustration with the miners?

- (a) He fires several miners.
- (b) He leaves the mine without speaking.
- (c) He fires Zorba.
- (d) He calls a lunch break.

77. Why does Zorba watch the widow's home?

- (a) He wants to protect her from Mimiko.
- (b) He wants to make sure the narrator is not sneaking into her house.
- (c) He wants to steal from her.
- (d) He wants to make sure she is not going to bed alone.



78. What happens to Zorba that he believes to be a terrible omen?

- (a) He falls in love with a woman.
- (b) A priest crosses his path.
- (c) He loses his job at the mine.
- (d) He grows interested in philosophy.

Chapter 10

79. What makes the narrator want the widow even more?

- (a) He gets a letter from a family member.
- (b) He learns to mine.
- (c) He has a brush with death.
- (d) He reads a love story.

80. With what does the narrator compare his lustful feelings for the widow to?

- (a) The temptation of Buddha by the Evil One.
- (b) Not ever finding any lignite in the mine.
- (c) The widow's garden.
- (d) Walking on the beach at night.

81. What does Zorba tell the narrator that God would rather him do?

- (a) God would rather him go to church than work at the mine.
- (b) God would rather him work at the mine than attend a celebration.
- (c) God would rather him celebrate Christmas than work on his writing.
- (d) God would rather him visit the widow than go to church.

82. With whom do the narrator and Zorba enjoy Christmas Eve dinner?

- (a) Mimiko.
- (b) Madame Hortense.
- (c) The widow.
- (d) Buddha.

83. What incident on the beach mellows the narrator's restlessness?

- (a) A horse and rider pass by.
- (b) He hears strange music.
- (c) He sees a shooting star.
- (d) He accidentally kills a butterfly.



84. What reason does the narrator give in his argument that Zorba should not pressure him to visit the widow?

- (a) He needs to stay focused on his writing.
- (b) He doesn't want to hurt the widow's feelings.
- (c) Acting impulsively is his nature and he's trying to change.
- (d) Acting impulsively is against his nature.

Chapter 11

85. In Chapter 11, what does the narrator do when he sees the widow?

- (a) Nothing. He is unable to approach her.
- (b) He strikes up a conversation about mining.
- (c) He approaches her and kisses her hand.
- (d) He asks her to dinner.

86. What painting does Zorba present to Madame Hortense?

- (a) A painting of her as a siren leading battleships.
- (b) A portrait of the two of them in a garden.
- (c) A portrait of the two of them in front of a castle.
- (d) A painting of her as a goddess.

87. What does Zorba's gift prompt Madame Hortense to do?

- (a) Leave the room.
- (b) Start crying.
- (c) Profess her love for Zorba.
- (d) Talk about her love affairs.

88. Who does Zorba blame for Madame Hortense's promiscuity?

- (a) Her father.
- (b) Her mother.
- (c) A priest.
- (d) God.

89. How does Zorba treat women for the most part?

- (a) He is physically abusive.
- (b) He is mostly very kind.
- (c) He belittles them in public.
- (d) He acts as a servant to them.



90. How does the narrator depict Madame Hortense?

- (a) Witchy.
- (b) As intensely beautiful.
- (c) Comically and unattractively.
- (d) Dangerous.

Chapter 12

91. What does the narrator decide about the poetry he has always loved?

- (a) It is a foundational part of his sophisticated world view.
- (b) It helped him get through his youth but is of little value now.
- (c) It should be banned and removed from all libraries.
- (d) It is worthless and does not relate to the true human experience.

92. With what does the narrator begin to equate Buddha?

- (a) A new, evolved civilization.
- (b) Successful mining operations.
- (c) The onset of true peace.
- (d) The Void and the end of civilization.

93. What does the narrator's manuscript become for him?

- (a) A meditation on finding true peace.
- (b) A war-like attempt to completely remove the prophet from his soul.
- (c) A blueprint for redesigning the mine.
- (d) A guideline for feeling comfortable in the Void.

94. Why does Zorba travel to town in Chapter 12?

- (a) To buy supplies for the mine.
- (b) To find a new job.
- (c) To buy Madame Hortense many fine gifts.
- (d) To hire a prostitute.

95. Who does the narrator receive letters from in Chapter 12?

- (a) Karayannis and his father.
- (b) His mother and his old friend.
- (c) Karayannis and Zorba.
- (d) His old friend and Karayannis.

96. While Zorba is away, who invites the narrator to visit Africa?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Karayannis.
- (c) The narrator's older brother.
- (d) His soldier friend.



Chapter 13

97. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

- (a) It does not like romance.
- (b) It loves philosophy.
- (c) It has warts.
- (d) It refuses to grow old.

98. Who does Zorba meet while in Candia?

- (a) His former best friend.
- (b) A young woman.
- (c) His ex-wife.
- (d) His long lost brother.

99. What does the narrator request of Zorba when he remains in Candia for longer than expected?

- (a) He requests that he double the supplies purchase.
- (b) He asks that he never return.
- (c) He asks that he bring food when he returns.
- (d) He requests that he return immediately.

100. In Chapter 13, Zorba demonstrates his dedication to what?

- (a) His "honest" wife.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) Madame Hortense.
- (d) His immediate passions.

101. Why does Zorba begin to feel restless and depressed while in Candia?

- (a) He realizes he's aging.
- (b) He is going to be a father.
- (c) He has suddenly become afraid of mining.
- (d) He has fallen in love.

102. How does Lola refer to Zorba?

- (a) Son.
- (b) Daddy.
- (c) Uncle.
- (d) Grandad.



Chapter 14

103. What message does the narrator tell Madame Hortense that Zorba has sent from Candia?

- (a) He says that Zorba wants to stay longer in the city.
- (b) He tells her that Zorba says he is never returning.
- (c) He tells her that Zorba has proposed marriage to her.
- (d) He reports that Zorba has said he wants a raise.

104. Why does Pavli commit suicide?

- (a) He was in love with someone not in love with him.
- (b) He felt he was not talented enough to please his father.
- (c) He was fired from the mine.
- (d) He could not understand the nature of God.

105. Whose death is sought after to avenge Pavli's death?

- (a) Mimiko.
- (b) Madame Hortense.
- (c) The widow.
- (d) Anagnosti.

106. How does Zorba describe proposal and marriage?

- (a) As a blessed union.
- (b) As something he has not and will never do.
- (c) As rarely successful.
- (d) As "the trap."

107. Who publicly defends the accused and attempts to break up the mob which seeks justice for Pavli's death?

- (a) Anagnosti.
- (b) Mimiko.
- (c) Zorba.
- (d) The narrator.

108. What gift does Mimiko deliver from the accused in Pavli's death?

- (a) A bouquet of flowers.
- (b) A basket of oranges.
- (c) A loaf of bread.
- (d) An aromatic oil.



Chapter 15

109. What does the narrator come across while walking on the mountain path?

- (a) An ancient inscribed tablet.
- (b) The ruins of a Minoan city.
- (c) A cave.
- (d) A human skeleton.

110. When the narrator meets an old man on the trail, where does the man ask if he's headed?

- (a) The convent.
- (b) The garden.
- (c) The river.
- (d) The pub.

111. What supposedly happens to the Martyred Virgin once every year?

- (a) It draws a warring army.
- (b) It cries tears of blood.
- (c) It causes storms.
- (d) It bleeds from a chiseled wound.

112. The narrator disagrees with the way the old man on the mountain trail does what?

- (a) The old man does not treat his wife as an equal.
- (b) The old man insists that it's sinful to mark one's preference for certain foods.
- (c) The old man talks too much.
- (d) The old man smokes too many cigarettes.

113. What is the narrator's topic of conversation with the Mother Superior?

- (a) Blood.
- (b) The Martyred Virgin.
- (c) Eternity.
- (d) The cross.

114. In Chapter 15, what does the narrator momentarily believe is his last obstacle to freedom?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Mining.
- (c) The widow.
- (d) Buddha.



Chapter 16

115. What startling news does Zorba receive when he returns from Candia?

- (a) He learns that the mine will soon close.
- (b) He learns that he is expected to propose to Madame Hortense.
- (c) He learns that he is going to be a father.
- (d) He hears that a revolution is brewing on Crete.

116. How does Zorba feel about the narrator's false promises made while Zorba was in Candia?

- (a) He is so angry that he ends their friendship.
- (b) He is angry but willing to follow through on the promise.
- (c) He is thrilled.
- (d) He is extremely sad but willing to follow through.

117. How does Zorba change his appearance while in Candia?

- (a) He dyed his hair black.
- (b) He bought new gold hoop earrings.
- (c) He shaved his head.
- (d) He grew a beard.

118. In Chapter 16, what type of power does the narrator attempt to describe?

- (a) The power of the rail system.
- (b) The power of the human body.
- (c) The power of a sexual relationship.
- (d) The power of the mind concentrated on one thing.

119. On what activity does the narrator try to instruct Zorba in Chapter 16?

- (a) Writing his thoughts down.
- (b) Cooking.
- (c) Meditation.
- (d) Playing the Santuri.

120. Upon his return from Candia, what does Zorba encourage the narrator to quickly get started on?

- (a) Building a house for them to live in.
- (b) Building a monastery.
- (c) Publication of his manuscript.
- (d) The timber rail project.



Chapter 17

121. From whom must Zorba and the narrator rent land for the timber rail project?

- (a) Madame Hortense.
- (b) The governor of Crete.
- (c) Anagnosti.
- (d) Monks at the monastery.

122. Who do Zorba and the narrator meet as they climb the mountain?

- (a) A patron saint.
- (b) Demetrios.
- (c) Zaharia.
- (d) Pavli's ghost.

123. What is the statue of Our Lady of Revenge notorious for?

- (a) Killing all of Crete's thieves.
- (b) Killing greedy landowners.
- (c) Killing an Algerian army.
- (d) Killing a group of sinful monks.

124. What does Demetrios want to show Zorba and the narrator?

- (a) The well.
- (b) His art collection.
- (c) His library.
- (d) His clay nun.

125. How does Zorba say that he gets rid of intense longings?

- (a) Meditation and abstinence.
- (b) Stuffing himself gluttonously with the desired thing.
- (c) Self-moderation.
- (d) Ignoring the passionate thoughts.

126. Who does Zorba say is having a sexual relationship with his student?

- (a) Buddha.
- (b) Gavrili.
- (c) Zaharia.
- (d) Demetrios.



Chapter 18

127. How do the negotiations over land between Zorba and the abbot begin?

- (a) They agree completely to the original negotiation.
- (b) Zorba insists that they pay more.
- (c) The abbot tries to charge more money than agreed upon.
- (d) The abbot charges a lesser amount to prove his devotion to a higher power.

128. For what action is Zorba trying to make up for by his actions in Chapter 18?

- (a) Proposing to Madame Hortense.
- (b) Spending all of the narrator's money in Candia.
- (c) All of the stealing he did as a young boy.
- (d) Cheating the abbot.

129. What startles the narrator from his sleep at the monastery?

- (a) A gun shot.
- (b) Singing.
- (c) A loud argument.
- (d) A woman's screams.

130. How does the narrator respond to the bishop's theories on religion?

- (a) "Those theories would benefit from inclusion of my theory."
- (b) "Those theories may save many souls."
- (c) "Those theories fall short of a true God."
- (d) "Those theories cannot help a man of the world."

131. Who mocks the bishop's theories?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Gavril.
- (c) The narrator.
- (d) Demetrios.

132. What happens to Gavril in the night at the monastery?

- (a) He is murdered by his lover.
- (b) He is held hostage by invaders.
- (c) He is raped.
- (d) He thinks he hears God speaking to him.



Chapter 19

133. What does Madame Hortense want from Zorba in Chapter 19?

- (a) To be married immediately.
- (b) To impregnate her.
- (c) To support her.
- (d) To build them a new house.

134. What gift does Madame Hortense present to Zorba when he returns from the monastery?

- (a) A small clay statue.
- (b) A pair of wedding rings.
- (c) A new pair of pants.
- (d) A boat.

135. Why does Zorba refuse to sleep with Madame Hortense in Chapter 19?

- (a) He believes God wants them to wait until marriage.
- (b) He is unable to perform.
- (c) It is lent.
- (d) He is ill.

136. In pleasing Madame Hortense, to whom does Zorba compare himself?

- (a) Zeus.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) Odysseus.
- (d) A monk.

137. How does Zorba compare to Hortense's former lovers in her eyes?

- (a) He is not as good a conversationalist.
- (b) He is less sexually satisfying.
- (c) He is not as handsome.
- (d) He is not as exotic.

138. What does the narrator say about Hortense becoming a bride?

- (a) It takes away from her allure as a widow.
- (b) It makes her glow.
- (c) It makes her more respectable.
- (d) It is likely to have a negative impact on business.



Chapter 20

139. Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?

- (a) Killed a woman.
- (b) Been to Italy.
- (c) Fought in a war.
- (d) Fathered a child.

140. What does Zorba say prompted him to quit the army?

- (a) Seeing the orphans of a priest he killed.
- (b) Being trapped in a trench with dead bodies.
- (c) seeing children murdered.
- (d) Torching a village.

141. After rescuing Zorba from being captured, what happens to the widow in his war story?

- (a) She dies in childbirth.
- (b) He marries her and is with her for several years.
- (c) She runs away to live in a distant village.
- (d) She dies when Zorba sets her village on fire.

142. What good omen marks the narrator and Zorba's morning on the day work is to begin on the railway?

- (a) Candles that Madame Hortense has lit.
- (b) Children singing in the streets.
- (c) White flowers blooming outside their window.
- (d) A light breeze sweeping the fog away.

143. For what do the villagers gather to watch in Chapter 20?

- (a) A newborn baby is baptized.
- (b) Zorba celebrates the beginning of the railway construction.
- (c) Zorba weds Madame Hortense.
- (d) The narrator holds a celebration for the mine's reopening.

144. In his story, what does Zorba's grandfather tell the old soldier about the piece of wood he gives him?

- (a) He says it's part of the True Cross.
- (b) He says it's a piece of Noah's Ark.
- (c) He says it's a piece of wood from the house he was born in.
- (d) He says it is anything he believes it to be.



Chapter 21

145. What do the narrator and Zorba do on Easter Sunday?

- (a) Swim in the ocean.
- (b) Make a feast for the village orphans.
- (c) Walk into Candia.
- (d) Make a feast for Madame Hortense.

146. Who does the narrator see as he is walking toward the village on Easter?

- (a) Buddha.
- (b) Zorba.
- (c) The widow.
- (d) Madame Hortense.

147. For what action does Zorba grow proud of the narrator?

- (a) The narrator decides to join the army.
- (b) The narrator finally pursues the widow.
- (c) The narrator strikes a huge load of lignite.
- (d) The narrator stands up to the villagers about their sinful ways.

148. Why does the narrator call a doctor on Easter?

- (a) The widow appears to be pregnant.
- (b) Zorba has grown very ill.
- (c) Madame Hortense has grown very ill.
- (d) The widow has fallen from a cliff.

149. Why does the narrator feel like he can forget about the Enlightened One?

- (a) Mining is all that he cares about now.
- (b) He has become engrossed with the physical world.
- (c) He has finished his Buddha Manuscript.
- (d) His sexual relationship is more fulfilling than meditation.

150. After sleeping with the widow, what does the narrator realize?

- (a) "The flesh is language for the soul."
- (b) "The soul is to be treasured much more than the flesh."
- (c) "The soul is a gem that the flesh will never uncover."
- (d) "The soul is flesh as well."



Chapter 22

151. What causes the Easter celebration to abruptly stop?

- (a) A small child is killed.
- (b) The widow enters the church.
- (c) A man starts screaming.
- (d) The monks flood into the church.

152. Who claims the right to pronounce judgment on the widow regarding Pavli's death?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Anagnosti.
- (c) Mavrandoni.
- (d) Manolakas.

153. Who fights the mob leader in an attempt to save the widow?

- (a) Pavli.
- (b) the narrator.
- (c) Mavrandoni.
- (d) Zorba.

154. Who kills the widow and how is it done?

- (a) Mavrandoni cuts her head off.
- (b) Manolakas cuts her head off.
- (c) Mavrandoni stabs her in the heart.
- (d) Zorba accidentally shoots her while trying to shoot Manolakas.

155. Which character reveals that he had a son who died at the age of three?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) Mavrandoni.
- (d) Manolakas.

156. Who challenges Zorba to a knife fight near the widow's garden?

- (a) Pavli's ghost.
- (b) Mavrandoni.
- (c) Manolakas.
- (d) Dimitri.



Chapter 23

157. What does Zorba learn when he awakens from a dream in Chapter 23?

- (a) Madame Hortense is dying.
- (b) The narrator is dying.
- (c) The narrator has decided to leave Crete.
- (d) The narrator's old friend is taking over as foreman of the mine.

158. Who waits outside for Hortense to die in order to loot her belongings?

- (a) The monks.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) The mob.
- (d) Dirge singers.

159. When she dies, who brings the officials to inventory Madame Hortense's belongings?

- (a) Mavrandoni.
- (b) Manolakas.
- (c) Zorba.
- (d) Anagnosti.

160. Who does Zorba adopt when Hortense dies?

- (a) Pavli.
- (b) Dimitri.
- (c) Hortense's daughter.
- (d) Hortense's parrot.

161. Who closes Hortense's eyes when she dies?

- (a) A priest.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) Anagnosti.
- (d) Zorba.

162. Who attempts to cheer Zorba up following the death of Hortense?

- (a) Anagnosti.
- (b) The dirge singers.
- (c) The festival-goers.
- (d) The monks.



Chapter 24

163. What does Zorba ask the narrator to explain to him in Chapter 24?

- (a) Death and why people die.
- (b) The meaning of life.
- (c) The best techniques for extracting lignite from the mine.
- (d) How to cook a good soup.

164. What causes Zorba to become infuriated after Hortense's death?

- (a) Madame Hortense has not left him anything in her will.
- (b) The narrator announces that he will leave Crete.
- (c) The narrator does not have the answers to his questions.
- (d) The narrator fires him from the mine.

165. Who does Zorba claim was Hortense's greatest lover?

- (a) A Spanish admiral.
- (b) Canavaro.
- (c) Pavli.
- (d) Zorba.

166. What news does the monk Zaharia bring in Chapter 24?

- (a) He has burned down the monastery.
- (b) He wants to become a lignite miner.
- (c) He has quit his life at the monastery.
- (d) He robbed the monastery.

167. Who does Zaharia say inspired his mission?

- (a) Demetrios.
- (b) Archangel Michael.
- (c) The Holy Spirit.
- (d) The abbot.

168. What concept does the narrator come up with when formulating his ideas about death?

- (a) Sacred body.
- (b) Death by philosophy.
- (c) Sacred awe.
- (d) Spirit of the body.



Chapter 25

169. What miracle do the monks come down from the mountain to share?

- (a) Zaharia has reached enlightenment.
- (b) The Holy Virgin of Revenge has killed Zaharia.
- (c) The Holy Virgin of Revenge has killed an army of invaders.
- (d) Zaharia saved a man through meditation.

170. What happens when the first log is tested on the new railway?

- (a) The structure is sound, and the log reaches its destination.
- (b) The rail system works well but is in need of a few minor adjustments.
- (c) The whole structure shakes and the log is destroyed along the way.
- (d) The structure shakes unsteadily, but the log makes it all the way.

171. What happens when the fourth log is tested on the rail system?

- (a) The entire system collapses.
- (b) The system cracks and the log gets jammed.
- (c) The system is still shaky, but the log reaches its destination.
- (d) The operations appear to have been repaired to perfection.

172. What language does Zorba teach the narrator in chapter 25?

- (a) Dance.
- (b) Old Greek.
- (c) Italian.
- (d) Latin.

173. After receiving a letter from his friend in Chapter 25, who does the narrator warn when he feels a sense of danger?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) His soldier friend.
- (c) Zaharia.
- (d) He decides the feeling is nothing, so he does nothing and goes to sleep.

174. When the narrator loses everything, what does he find?

- (a) Happiness.
- (b) Death.
- (c) Intense sorrow.
- (d) Revolution.



Chapter 26

175. What does the narrator promise to binge on so that he no longer desires it?

- (a) Alcohol.
- (b) Food.
- (c) Women.
- (d) Books.

176. What does the narrator tell Zorba that they will one day build?

- (a) A new cable rail system.
- (b) A house near the mine.
- (c) A statue of Buddha.
- (d) The monastery of free men.

177. When he arrives in Candia, what news does the narrator receive?

- (a) A new revolution has begun.
- (b) The widow was pregnant with his child when she died.
- (c) His family is being held hostage.
- (d) His friend Stavridaki has died.

178. What does Zorba invite his old boss to come and see in Chapter 26?

- (a) His newborn son.
- (b) A clay nun much like the one they saw years earlier.
- (c) A beautiful green stone.
- (d) His collection of musical instruments.

179. What does the narrator inherit from Zorba?

- (a) All of Zorba's belongings.
- (b) The santuri.
- (c) A green stone.
- (d) All of Hortense's belongings.

180. What does Zorba suggest the narrator will need to become completely free?

- (a) A green stone.
- (b) Great wealth.
- (c) True love.
- (d) Folly.

Multiple Choice Key

1. D	11. A	21. D	31. B	41. A	51. C
2. D	12. C	22. D	32. A	42. D	52. B
3. D	13. D	23. B	33. C	43. B	53. D
4. C	14. A	24. A	34. B	44. B	54. A
5. D	15. C	25. C	35. A	45. C	55. D
6. A	16. A	26. A	36. C	46. B	56. A
7. C	17. A	27. C	37. B	47. B	57. A
8. B	18. C	28. D	38. B	48. D	58. B
9. A	19. D	29. A	39. C	49. B	59. A
10. D	20. D	30. A	40. A	50. C	60. C
61. A	71. B	81. D	91. D	101. A	111. D
62. C	72. A	82. B	92. D	102. D	112. A
63. D	73. C	83. D	93. B	103. C	113. C
64. B	74. A	84. D	94. A	104. A	114. D
65. D	75. D	85. A	95. D	105. C	115. B
66. D	76. D	86. A	96. B	106. D	116. B
67. C	77. D	87. D	97. D	107. D	117. A
68. D	78. B	88. D	98. B	108. B	118. D
69. A	79. C	89. B	99. D	109. B	119. C
70. A	80. A	90. C	100. D	110. A	120. D
121. D	131. A	141. D	151. B	161. D	171. A
122. C	132. A	142. C	152. C	162. C	172. A
123. C	133. A	143. B	153. D	163. A	173. B
124. D	134. B	144. A	154. A	164. C	174. A
125. B	135. C	145. D	155. A	165. D	175. D
126. D	136. A	146. C	156. C	166. A	176. D
127. C	137. D	147. B	157. A	167. B	177. D
128. B	138. A	148. C	158. D	168. C	178. C
129. A	139. C	149. C	159. D	169. B	179. B
130. B	140. A	150. D	160. B	170. C	180. D

Short Answer Questions

1. Where is the narrator sitting and thinking at the beginning of the story?

2. What does the narrator remember his friend teasing him about?

3. What part of the narrator's friendship with his absent friend is he sad about?

4. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?

5. What is the name of the new friend the narrator makes at the beginning of the novel?

6. Who does the narrator hire to help him mine lignite on the island?

7. What does Zorba promise the narrator upon the initiation of their friendship?



8. What or who does the narrator live for?

9. What or who does Zorba live for?

10. What or who does the narrator's long-time friend live for?

11. What reason does Zorba give for having attacked his old boss?

12. What exclamation does the first chapter conclude with?

13. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?

14. Why does Zorba say he removed the body part?

15. The narrator warn Zorba that such passions may lead to the removal of what body part?

16. What is the primary message in the book that the narrator is reading?

17. Zorba tells the narrator stories about the island. What kind of events does he describe?

18. Who do Zorba and the narrator stay with on their first night on the island?

19. With whom does Zorba begin a romance?

20. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?

21. Why does the narrator say that the sexual organs may get in the way of freedom?



- 22.** What is the ultimate physical experience for Zorba?
- 23.** Although the narrator remains unnamed, what does Zorba call the narrator?
- 24.** How does Zorba suggest that a man best get to know the world?
- 25.** What does the narrator do on his first morning in Crete?
- 26.** When the narrator meets some young women on his first day in Crete, how do the girls respond?
- 27.** In Chapter 3, what is the narrator reading when Zorba asks him to come in for lunch?
- 28.** Who is the second person to offer the narrator and Zorba lodging in Crete?



29. Who were Madame Hortense's four great loves?

30. Which of her lovers' names does Madame Hortense's parrot repeat?

31. What has historically impacted Crete and the Cretan people more than anything else?

32. Zorba tells the story of an old man who will what?

33. How does Zorba live his life?

34. When Zorba and the narrator refuse Mavrandoni's offer of hospitality, what does he say about them?

35. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?



36. How many places does Zorba set the dinner table for on their first night on Crete?

37. In Chapter 4, what does the narrator do when he first awakens?

38. To whom does the narrator's soldier friend say his greatest actions will be owed credit?

39. What does Zorba tell the narrator he should have done before going to bed the night before in chapter 4?

40. As the narrator gets to know the mine workers, what does he talk to them about?

41. What does Zorba do when he hears his boss talking to the workmen?

42. What does Zorba think is the best way to run the mine?



- 43.** What is one of the narrator's goals at the end of Chapter 4?
- 44.** What is the narrator's second goal at the end of Chapter 4?
- 45.** What does Zorba say that his 80 year-old grandmother wanted?
- 46.** What does the narrator remember his grandfather doing?
- 47.** How does Zorba believe a man should treat a woman?
- 48.** Who takes charge when the work begins in the mine?
- 49.** What happens at the celebration in Chapter 5?



50. What story does Anagnosti tell at the celebration?

51. Why does Zorba tell the narrator not to preach equality of the sexes?

52. What does Zorba indicate would be the worst thing the narrator could do to Anagnosti?

53. What does the narrator begin doing late one restless night in Chapter 5?

54. What are Zorba's beliefs about the existence of God?

55. In regards to food, what three categories does Zorba say that the three different types of men turn their food into?

56. In which category does Zorba think his boss strives for with his food?

- 57.** What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?
- 58.** What is the great plan that Zorba reveals to the narrator in Chapter 6?
- 59.** What does the narrator mostly do while Zorba works in the mine?
- 60.** How does Zorba feel about women?
- 61.** What is Zorba's response when the narrator asks him how many times he has been married?
- 62.** What does Zorba mean when he describes being married "dishonestly"?
- 63.** How did Zorba temporarily keep track of his sexual relationships?



64. What are the names of Zorba's two "half-honest" lovers?
65. At the feast at Noussa's house, what does Zorba say happened after he gave the toast?
66. Under what conditions does Zorba say that Noussa left him?
67. In a letter to his friend, what does the narrator say his friend inspired him to do?
68. How does the narrator end the letter to his friend in Chapter 8?
69. Why does Zorba suggest that the narrator should burn his library?
70. While Zorba and the narrator are in the shop, who runs past the window?



71. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?

72. Who does Zorba suggest that the narrator romantically pursue?

73. How does Zorba describe God?

74. What happens at the mine in Chapter 9?

75. About what does Zorba confront the miners?

76. What does the narrator do when Zorba displays frustration with the miners?

77. Why does Zorba watch the widow's home?

- 78.** What happens to Zorba that he believes to be a terrible omen?
- 79.** What makes the narrator want the widow even more?
- 80.** With what does the narrator compare his lustful feelings for the widow to?
- 81.** What does Zorba tell the narrator that God would rather him do?
- 82.** With whom do the narrator and Zorba enjoy Christmas Eve dinner?
- 83.** What incident on the beach mellows the narrator's restlessness?
- 84.** What reason does the narrator give in his argument that Zorba should not pressure him to visit the widow?



85. In Chapter 11, what does the narrator do when he sees the widow?
86. What painting does Zorba present to Madame Hortense?
87. What does Zorba's gift prompt Madame Hortense to do?
88. Who does Zorba blame for Madame Hortense's promiscuity?
89. How does Zorba treat women for the most part?
90. How does the narrator depict Madame Hortense?
91. What does the narrator decide about the poetry he has always loved?



92. With what does the narrator begin to equate Buddha?

93. What does the narrator's manuscript become for him?

94. Why does Zorba travel to town in Chapter 12?

95. Who does the narrator receive letters from in Chapter 12?

96. While Zorba is away, who invites the narrator to visit Africa?

97. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

98. Who does Zorba meet while in Candia?



99. What does the narrator request of Zorba when he remains in Candia for longer than expected?

100. In Chapter 13, Zorba demonstrates his dedication to what?

101. Why does Zorba begin to feel restless and depressed while in Candia?

102. How does Lola refer to Zorba?

103. What message does the narrator tell Madame Hortense that Zorba has sent from Candia?

104. Why does Pavli commit suicide?

105. Whose death is sought after to avenge Pavli's death?



- 106.** How does Zorba describe proposal and marriage?
- 107.** Who publicly defends the accused and attempts to break up the mob which seeks justice for Pavli's death?
- 108.** What gift does Mimiko deliver from the accused in Pavli's death?
- 109.** What does the narrator come across while walking on the mountain path?
- 110.** When the narrator meets an old man on the trail, where does the man ask if he's headed?
- 111.** What supposedly happens to the Martyred Virgin once every year?
- 112.** The narrator disagrees with the way the old man on the mountain trail does what?

113. What is the narrator's topic of conversation with the Mother Superior?

114. In Chapter 15, what does the narrator momentarily believe is his last obstacle to freedom?

115. What startling news does Zorba receive when he returns from Candia?

116. How does Zorba feel about the narrator's false promises made while Zorba was in Candia?

117. How does Zorba change his appearance while in Candia?

118. In Chapter 16, what type of power does the narrator attempt to describe?

119. On what activity does the narrator try to instruct Zorba in Chapter 16?



120. Upon his return from Candia, what does Zorba encourage the narrator to quickly get started on?

121. From whom must Zorba and the narrator rent land for the timber rail project?

122. Who do Zorba and the narrator meet as they climb the mountain?

123. What is the statue of Our Lady of Revenge notorious for?

124. What does Demetrios want to show Zorba and the narrator?

125. How does Zorba say that he gets rid of intense longings?

126. Who does Zorba say is having a sexual relationship with his student?

127. How do the negotiations over land between Zorba and the abbot begin?

128. For what action is Zorba trying to make up for by his actions in Chapter 18?

129. What startles the narrator from his sleep at the monastery?

130. How does the narrator respond to the bishop's theories on religion?

131. Who mocks the bishop's theories?

132. What happens to Gavrili in the night at the monastery?

133. What does Madame Hortense want from Zorba in Chapter 19?



- 134.** What gift does Madame Hortense present to Zorba when he returns from the monastery?
- 135.** Why does Zorba refuse to sleep with Madame Hortense in Chapter 19?
- 136.** In pleasing Madame Hortense, to whom does Zorba compare himself?
- 137.** How does Zorba compare to Hortense's former lovers in her eyes?
- 138.** What does the narrator say about Hortense becoming a bride?
- 139.** Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?
- 140.** What does Zorba say prompted him to quit the army?

141. After rescuing Zorba from being captured, what happens to the widow in his war story?

142. What good omen marks the narrator and Zorba's morning on the day work is to begin on the railway?

143. For what do the villagers gather to watch in Chapter 20?

144. In his story, what does Zorba's grandfather tell the old soldier about the piece of wood he gives him?

145. What do the narrator and Zorba do on Easter Sunday?

146. Who does the narrator see as he is walking toward the village on Easter?

147. For what action does Zorba grow proud of the narrator?

148. Why does the narrator call a doctor on Easter?

149. Why does the narrator feel like he can forget about the Enlightened One?

150. After sleeping with the widow, what does the narrator realize?

151. What causes the Easter celebration to abruptly stop?

152. Who claims the right to pronounce judgment on the widow regarding Pavli's death?

153. Who fights the mob leader in an attempt to save the widow?

154. Who kills the widow and how is it done?



155. Which character reveals that he had a son who died at the age of three?

156. Who challenges Zorba to a knife fight near the widow's garden?

157. What does Zorba learn when he awakens from a dream in Chapter 23?

158. Who waits outside for Hortense to die in order to loot her belongings?

159. When she dies, who brings the officials to inventory Madame Hortense's belongings?

160. Who does Zorba adopt when Hortense dies?

161. Who closes Hortense's eyes when she dies?

162. Who attempts to cheer Zorba up following the death of Hortense?

163. What does Zorba ask the narrator to explain to him in Chapter 24?

164. What causes Zorba to become infuriated after Hortense's death?

165. Who does Zorba claim was Hortense's greatest lover?

166. What news does the monk Zaharia bring in Chapter 24?

167. Who does Zaharia say inspired his mission?

168. What concept does the narrator come up with when formulating his ideas about death?



169. What miracle do the monks come down from the mountain to share?

170. What happens when the first log is tested on the new railway?

171. What happens when the fourth log is tested on the rail system?

172. What language does Zorba teach the narrator in chapter 25?

173. After receiving a letter from his friend in Chapter 25, who does the narrator warn when he feels a sense of danger?

174. When the narrator loses everything, what does he find?

175. What does the narrator promise to binge on so that he no longer desires it?

176. What does the narrator tell Zorba that they will one day build?

177. When he arrives in Candia, what news does the narrator receive?

178. What does Zorba invite his old boss to come and see in Chapter 26?

179. What does the narrator inherit from Zorba?

180. What does Zorba suggest the narrator will need to become completely free?

Short Answer Questions Key

1. Where is the narrator sitting and thinking at the beginning of the story?

In a bar.

2. What does the narrator remember his friend teasing him about?

Being a bookworm rather than an adventurer.

3. What part of the narrator's friendship with his absent friend is he sad about?

The two argued rather than expressing love.

4. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?

They agree to telepathically warn one another of danger.

5. What is the name of the new friend the narrator makes at the beginning of the novel?

Zorba.

6. Who does the narrator hire to help him mine lignite on the island?

Zorba.

7. What does Zorba promise the narrator upon the initiation of their friendship?

He promises to cook him soup and play him music.



8. What or who does the narrator live for?

God.

9. What or who does Zorba live for?

Man as individual.

10. What or who does the narrator's long-time friend live for?

Mankind.

11. What reason does Zorba give for having attacked his old boss?

He offers no excuse or reason.

12. What exclamation does the first chapter conclude with?

"God and the Devil!"

13. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?

Finger.

14. Why does Zorba say he removed the body part?

It got in the way of his pottery.



15. The narrator warn Zorba that such passions may lead to the removal of what body part?

The sexual organs.

16. What is the primary message in the book that the narrator is reading?

It emphasizes the virtue of possessing nothing.

17. Zorba tells the narrator stories about the island. What kind of events does he describe?

Wars and revolutions.

18. Who do Zorba and the narrator stay with on their first night on the island?

Dame Hortense.

19. With whom does Zorba begin a romance?

Dame Hortense.

20. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?

He cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of his pottery.

21. Why does the narrator say that the sexual organs may get in the way of freedom?

He says that being promiscuous can keep a man from going to heaven.



22. What is the ultimate physical experience for Zorba?

Sex.

23. Although the narrator remains unnamed, what does Zorba call the narrator?

Boss.

24. How does Zorba suggest that a man best get to know the world?

He suggests that a man spend some time being savage and sinful.

25. What does the narrator do on his first morning in Crete?

He takes a stroll through the countryside.

26. When the narrator meets some young women on his first day in Crete, how do the girls respond?

Fearfully.

27. In Chapter 3, what is the narrator reading when Zorba asks him to come in for lunch?

Dante.

28. Who is the second person to offer the narrator and Zorba lodging in Crete?

The village elder.



29. Who were Madame Hortense's four great loves?

Four admirals from England, France, Italy, Russia.

30. Which of her lovers' names does Madame Hortense's parrot repeat?

Canavaro.

31. What has historically impacted Crete and the Cretan people more than anything else?

Wars.

32. Zorba tells the story of an old man who will what?

Never die.

33. How does Zorba live his life?

He lives like every day is his last.

34. When Zorba and the narrator refuse Mavrandoni's offer of hospitality, what does he say about them?

He says they are free to choose.

35. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?

Canavaro.



36. How many places does Zorba set the dinner table for on their first night on Crete?

3

37. In Chapter 4, what does the narrator do when he first awakens?

Smokes a pipe.

38. To whom does the narrator's soldier friend say his greatest actions will be owed credit?

Rembrandt's "Warrior."

39. What does Zorba tell the narrator he should have done before going to bed the night before in chapter 4?

He says the narrator should have told Dame Hortense how beautiful she is.

40. As the narrator gets to know the mine workers, what does he talk to them about?

Socialist ideas.

41. What does Zorba do when he hears his boss talking to the workmen?

He throws his boss out of the mine.

42. What does Zorba think is the best way to run the mine?

Cruel authority.



43. What is one of the narrator's goals at the end of Chapter 4?

He wants to forget about Buddha.

44. What is the narrator's second goal at the end of Chapter 4?

He wants to be more grounded in the physical world of men.

45. What does Zorba say that his 80 year-old grandmother wanted?

She wanted to be serenaded.

46. What does the narrator remember his grandfather doing?

He demanded stories from his guests.

47. How does Zorba believe a man should treat a woman?

He should tell her she's beautiful no matter what.

48. Who takes charge when the work begins in the mine?

Zorba.

49. What happens at the celebration in Chapter 5?

The castration of pigs.



50. What story does Anagnosti tell at the celebration?

The tale of his birth.

51. Why does Zorba tell the narrator not to preach equality of the sexes?

He says it will disrupt the island's way of life without offering solutions for making it better.

52. What does Zorba indicate would be the worst thing the narrator could do to Anagnosti?

Cast down his religion.

53. What does the narrator begin doing late one restless night in Chapter 5?

He begins the writing of his manuscript.

54. What are Zorba's beliefs about the existence of God?

He does not personally believe in God but believes religion is essential to civilization.

55. In regards to food, what three categories does Zorba say that the three different types of men turn their food into?

Fat and manure, work and good humor, and God.

56. In which category does Zorba think his boss strives for with his food?

God.



57. What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?

Communication.

58. What is the great plan that Zorba reveals to the narrator in Chapter 6?

He wants to develop a cable system for transporting timber.

59. What does the narrator mostly do while Zorba works in the mine?

He works on his writing.

60. How does Zorba feel about women?

He does not take them seriously but enjoys them physically.

61. What is Zorba's response when the narrator asks him how many times he has been married?

Once honestly and twice half-honestly.

62. What does Zorba mean when he describes being married "dishonestly"?

Any sexual adventure.

63. How did Zorba temporarily keep track of his sexual relationships?

He cut off a lock of each lover's hair.



64. What are the names of Zorba's two "half-honest" lovers?

Sophinka and Noussa.

65. At the feast at Noussa's house, what does Zorba say happened after he gave the toast?

An orgy.

66. Under what conditions does Zorba say that Noussa left him?

She eloped with a soldier.

67. In a letter to his friend, what does the narrator say his friend inspired him to do?

Pursue a life of physical action.

68. How does the narrator end the letter to his friend in Chapter 8?

He tells him that he has love for him.

69. Why does Zorba suggest that the narrator should burn his library?

Because his books don't celebrate nature enough.

70. While Zorba and the narrator are in the shop, who runs past the window?

A beautiful widow.



71. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?

Mimiko.

72. Who does Zorba suggest that the narrator romantically pursue?

The widow.

73. How does Zorba describe God?

He describes him as a crazier and wilder version of himself.

74. What happens at the mine in Chapter 9?

It collapses.

75. About what does Zorba confront the miners?

Failing to get their picks before exiting.

76. What does the narrator do when Zorba displays frustration with the miners?

He calls a lunch break.

77. Why does Zorba watch the widow's home?

He wants to make sure she is not going to bed alone.



78. What happens to Zorba that he believes to be a terrible omen?

A priest crosses his path.

79. What makes the narrator want the widow even more?

He has a brush with death.

80. With what does the narrator compare his lustful feelings for the widow to?

The temptation of Buddha by the Evil One.

81. What does Zorba tell the narrator that God would rather him do?

God would rather him visit the widow than go to church.

82. With whom do the narrator and Zorba enjoy Christmas Eve dinner?

Madame Hortense.

83. What incident on the beach mellows the narrator's restlessness?

He accidentally kills a butterfly.

84. What reason does the narrator give in his argument that Zorba should not pressure him to visit the widow?

Acting impulsively is against his nature.



85. In Chapter 11, what does the narrator do when he sees the widow?

Nothing. He is unable to approach her.

86. What painting does Zorba present to Madame Hortense?

A painting of her as a siren leading battleships.

87. What does Zorba's gift prompt Madame Hortense to do?

Talk about her love affairs.

88. Who does Zorba blame for Madame Hortense's promiscuity?

God.

89. How does Zorba treat women for the most part?

He is mostly very kind.

90. How does the narrator depict Madame Hortense?

Comically and unattractively.

91. What does the narrator decide about the poetry he has always loved?

It is worthless and does not relate to the true human experience.



92. With what does the narrator begin to equate Buddha?

The Void and the end of civilization.

93. What does the narrator's manuscript become for him?

A war-like attempt to completely remove the prophet from his soul.

94. Why does Zorba travel to town in Chapter 12?

To buy supplies for the mine.

95. Who does the narrator receive letters from in Chapter 12?

His old friend and Karayannis.

96. While Zorba is away, who invites the narrator to visit Africa?

Karayannis.

97. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

It refuses to grow old.

98. Who does Zorba meet while in Candia?

A young woman.



99. What does the narrator request of Zorba when he remains in Candia for longer than expected?

He requests that he return immediately.

100. In Chapter 13, Zorba demonstrates his dedication to what?

His immediate passions.

101. Why does Zorba begin to feel restless and depressed while in Candia?

He realizes he's aging.

102. How does Lola refer to Zorba?

Grandad.

103. What message does the narrator tell Madame Hortense that Zorba has sent from Candia?

He tells her that Zorba has proposed marriage to her.

104. Why does Pavli commit suicide?

He was in love with someone not in love with him.

105. Whose death is sought after to avenge Pavli's death?

The widow.



106. How does Zorba describe proposal and marriage?

As "the trap."

107. Who publicly defends the accused and attempts to break up the mob which seeks justice for Pavli's death?

The narrator.

108. What gift does Mimiko deliver from the accused in Pavli's death?

A basket of oranges.

109. What does the narrator come across while walking on the mountain path?

The ruins of a Minoan city.

110. When the narrator meets an old man on the trail, where does the man ask if he's headed?

The convent.

111. What supposedly happens to the Martyred Virgin once every year?

It bleeds from a chiseled wound.

112. The narrator disagrees with the way the old man on the mountain trail does what?

The old man does not treat his wife as an equal.



113. What is the narrator's topic of conversation with the Mother Superior?

Eternity.

114. In Chapter 15, what does the narrator momentarily believe is his last obstacle to freedom?

Buddha.

115. What startling news does Zorba receive when he returns from Candia?

He learns that he is expected to propose to Madame Hortense.

116. How does Zorba feel about the narrator's false promises made while Zorba was in Candia?

He is angry but willing to follow through on the promise.

117. How does Zorba change his appearance while in Candia?

He dyed his hair black.

118. In Chapter 16, what type of power does the narrator attempt to describe?

The power of the mind concentrated on one thing.

119. On what activity does the narrator try to instruct Zorba in Chapter 16?

Meditation.



120. Upon his return from Candia, what does Zorba encourage the narrator to quickly get started on?

The timber rail project.

121. From whom must Zorba and the narrator rent land for the timber rail project?

Monks at the monastery.

122. Who do Zorba and the narrator meet as they climb the mountain?

Zaharia.

123. What is the statue of Our Lady of Revenge notorious for?

Killing an Algerian army.

124. What does Demetrios want to show Zorba and the narrator?

His clay nun.

125. How does Zorba say that he gets rid of intense longings?

Stuffing himself gluttonously with the desired thing.

126. Who does Zorba say is having a sexual relationship with his student?

Demetrios.



127. How do the negotiations over land between Zorba and the abbot begin?

The abbot tries to charge more money than agreed upon.

128. For what action is Zorba trying to make up for by his actions in Chapter 18?

Spending all of the narrator's money in Candia.

129. What startles the narrator from his sleep at the monastery?

A gun shot.

130. How does the narrator respond to the bishop's theories on religion?

"Those theories may save many souls."

131. Who mocks the bishop's theories?

Zorba.

132. What happens to Gavrili in the night at the monastery?

He is murdered by his lover.

133. What does Madame Hortense want from Zorba in Chapter 19?

To be married immediately.



134. What gift does Madame Hortense present to Zorba when he returns from the monastery?

A pair of wedding rings.

135. Why does Zorba refuse to sleep with Madame Hortense in Chapter 19?

It is lent.

136. In pleasing Madame Hortense, to whom does Zorba compare himself?

Zeus.

137. How does Zorba compare to Hortense's former lovers in her eyes?

He is not as exotic.

138. What does the narrator say about Hortense becoming a bride?

It takes away from her allure as a widow.

139. Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?

Fought in a war.

140. What does Zorba say prompted him to quit the army?

Seeing the orphans of a priest he killed.



141. After rescuing Zorba from being captured, what happens to the widow in his war story?

She dies when Zorba sets her village on fire.

142. What good omen marks the narrator and Zorba's morning on the day work is to begin on the railway?

White flowers blooming outside their window.

143. For what do the villagers gather to watch in Chapter 20?

Zorba celebrates the beginning of the railway construction.

144. In his story, what does Zorba's grandfather tell the old soldier about the piece of wood he gives him?

He says it's part of the True Cross.

145. What do the narrator and Zorba do on Easter Sunday?

Make a feast for Madame Hortense.

146. Who does the narrator see as he is walking toward the village on Easter?

The widow.

147. For what action does Zorba grow proud of the narrator?

The narrator finally pursues the widow.



148. Why does the narrator call a doctor on Easter?

Madame Hortense has grown very ill.

149. Why does the narrator feel like he can forget about the Enlightened One?

He has finished his Buddha Manuscript.

150. After sleeping with the widow, what does the narrator realize?

"The soul is flesh as well."

151. What causes the Easter celebration to abruptly stop?

The widow enters the church.

152. Who claims the right to pronounce judgment on the widow regarding Pavli's death?

Mavrandoni.

153. Who fights the mob leader in an attempt to save the widow?

Zorba.

154. Who kills the widow and how is it done?

Mavrandoni cuts her head off.



155. Which character reveals that he had a son who died at the age of three?

Zorba.

156. Who challenges Zorba to a knife fight near the widow's garden?

Manolakas.

157. What does Zorba learn when he awakens from a dream in Chapter 23?

Madame Hortense is dying.

158. Who waits outside for Hortense to die in order to loot her belongings?

Dirge singers.

159. When she dies, who brings the officials to inventory Madame Hortense's belongings?

Anagnosti.

160. Who does Zorba adopt when Hortense dies?

Dimitri.

161. Who closes Hortense's eyes when she dies?

Zorba.



162. Who attempts to cheer Zorba up following the death of Hortense?

The festival-goers.

163. What does Zorba ask the narrator to explain to him in Chapter 24?

Death and why people die.

164. What causes Zorba to become infuriated after Hortense's death?

The narrator does not have the answers to his questions.

165. Who does Zorba claim was Hortense's greatest lover?

Zorba.

166. What news does the monk Zaharia bring in Chapter 24?

He has burned down the monastery.

167. Who does Zaharia say inspired his mission?

Archangel Michael.

168. What concept does the narrator come up with when formulating his ideas about death?

Sacred awe.



169. What miracle do the monks come down from the mountain to share?

The Holy Virgin of Revenge has killed Zaharia.

170. What happens when the first log is tested on the new railway?

The whole structure shakes and the log is destroyed along the way.

171. What happens when the fourth log is tested on the rail system?

The entire system collapses.

172. What language does Zorba teach the narrator in chapter 25?

Dance.

173. After receiving a letter from his friend in Chapter 25, who does the narrator warn when he feels a sense of danger?

His soldier friend.

174. When the narrator loses everything, what does he find?

Happiness.

175. What does the narrator promise to binge on so that he no longer desires it?

Books.



176. What does the narrator tell Zorba that they will one day build?

The monastery of free men.

177. When he arrives in Candia, what news does the narrator receive?

His friend Stavridaki has died.

178. What does Zorba invite his old boss to come and see in Chapter 26?

A beautiful green stone.

179. What does the narrator inherit from Zorba?

The santuri.

180. What does Zorba suggest the narrator will need to become completely free?

Folly.

Oral Reading Evaluation Sheet

Name: _____

Period: _____

5 = Above Average

3 = Average

1 = Below Average

Audibility - Projecting your voice so your audience can hear and understand you.

5 4 3 2 1

Pronunciation - Ability to recognize words before you say them and pronounce all the sounds correctly.

5 4 3 2 1

Articulation - Using your tongue, mouth and lips to pronounce all the sounds correctly.

5 4 3 2 1

Vocal Variety/Expression - Using appropriate pitch, volume and flow.

5 4 3 2 1

Rate - Reading a speed, or pace that is easy to follow.

5 4 3 2 1

Comments:

Reading Assignment Sheet

Name: _____

Period: _____

**Reading
Assignment**

Date Assigned

Date Due

Date Completed

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

To Page: _____

Writing Evaluation Form

Name: _____

Period: _____

5 = Above Average

3 = Average

1 = Below Average

Clear thesis or position

5 4 3 2 1

Strong conclusion

5 4 3 2 1

Relevant supporting arguments

5 4 3 2 1

Grammar

5 4 3 2 1

Transitions between paragraphs

5 4 3 2 1

Spelling

5 4 3 2 1

Clarity of expression

5 4 3 2 1

Punctuation

5 4 3 2 1

Comments:



One Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 20.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Who does Zorba meet while in Candia?

- (a) His ex-wife.
- (b) A young woman.
- (c) His long lost brother.
- (d) His former best friend.

2. In his story, what does Zorba's grandfather tell the old soldier about the piece of wood he gives him?

- (a) He says it's a piece of wood from the house he was born in.
- (b) He says it is anything he believes it to be.
- (c) He says it's a piece of Noah's Ark.
- (d) He says it's part of the True Cross.

3. Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?

- (a) Killed a woman.
- (b) Fathered a child.
- (c) Fought in a war.
- (d) Been to Italy.

4. What good omen marks the narrator and Zorba's morning on the day work is to begin on the railway?

- (a) Candles that Madame Hortense has lit.
- (b) A light breeze sweeping the fog away.
- (c) Children singing in the streets.
- (d) White flowers blooming outside their window.

5. Under what conditions does Zorba say that Noussa left him?

- (a) She committed suicide.
- (b) She mysteriously vanished.
- (c) She eloped with a soldier.
- (d) She went back to her home village to care for her sick mother.

Short Answer Questions

1. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

2. How did Zorba temporarily keep track of his sexual relationships?

3. For what do the villagers gather to watch in Chapter 20?

4. What are the names of Zorba's two "half-honest" lovers?

5. Why does Zorba begin to feel restless and depressed while in Candia?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. D
5. C

Short Answer Questions Key

1. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

It refuses to grow old.

2. How did Zorba temporarily keep track of his sexual relationships?

He cut off a lock of each lover's hair.

3. For what do the villagers gather to watch in Chapter 20?

Zorba celebrates the beginning of the railway construction.

4. What are the names of Zorba's two "half-honest" lovers?

Sophinka and Noussa.

5. Why does Zorba begin to feel restless and depressed while in Candia?

He realizes he's aging.



Two Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 15.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Who does the narrator receive letters from in Chapter 12?

- (a) Karayannis and Zorba.
- (b) His mother and his old friend.
- (c) His old friend and Karayannis.
- (d) Karayannis and his father.

2. Who is the second person to offer the narrator and Zorba lodging in Crete?

- (a) The monks.
- (b) The local baker.
- (c) The village elder.
- (d) The pharmacist.

3. In which category does Zorba think his boss strives for with his food?

- (a) God.
- (b) Fat and manure.
- (c) Work.
- (d) Love and kindness.

4. In Chapter 3, what is the narrator reading when Zorba asks him to come in for lunch?

- (a) Shakespeare.
- (b) Virgil.
- (c) The Bible.
- (d) Dante.

5. What does the narrator do when Zorba displays frustration with the miners?

- (a) He leaves the mine without speaking.
- (b) He fires Zorba.
- (c) He fires several miners.
- (d) He calls a lunch break.

Short Answer Questions

1. What does the narrator do on his first morning in Crete?
2. How does Zorba feel about women?
3. Which of her lovers' names does Madame Hortense's parrot repeat?
4. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?
5. What does the narrator come across while walking on the mountain path?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. C
2. C
3. A
4. D
5. D

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. What does the narrator do on his first morning in Crete?**

He takes a stroll through the countryside.

- 2. How does Zorba feel about women?**

He does not take them seriously but enjoys them physically.

- 3. Which of her lovers' names does Madame Hortense's parrot repeat?**

Canavaro.

- 4. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?**

Canavaro.

- 5. What does the narrator come across while walking on the mountain path?**

The ruins of a Minoan city.



Four Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 8.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. How does the narrator end the letter to his friend in Chapter 8?

- (a) He suggests they not see one another again.
- (b) He tells him that he wishes he too were at war.
- (c) He tells him that he has love for him.
- (d) He reveals his plans for the mine.

2. Zorba tells the story of an old man who will what?

- (a) Never leave Crete.
- (b) Cook a delicious soup.
- (c) Play a musical instrument when happy.
- (d) Never die.

3. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?

- (a) He carried everyone's bags onto the ship.
- (b) He cut part of his ear off because it was larger than the other.
- (c) He brutally killed hundreds of people in the revolution.
- (d) He cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of his pottery.

4. What story does Anagnosti tell at the celebration?

- (a) The tale of his birth.
- (b) A love story.
- (c) The ancient civilization of Crete.
- (d) Noah's Ark.

5. What is the great plan that Zorba reveals to the narrator in Chapter 6?

- (a) He wants to build a ship so that he and his boss can sail around the world.
- (b) He plans to blast a new entrance to the mine.
- (c) He wants to develop a cable system for transporting timber.
- (d) He plans to marry Madame Hortense for her great wealth.

Short Answer Questions

1. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?
2. Who do Zorba and the narrator stay with on their first night on the island?
3. Why does Zorba say he removed the body part?
4. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?
5. While Zorba and the narrator are in the shop, who runs past the window?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. C
2. D
3. D
4. A
5. C

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?**

Mimiko.

- 2. Who do Zorba and the narrator stay with on their first night on the island?**

Dame Hortense.

- 3. Why does Zorba say he removed the body part?**

It got in the way of his pottery.

- 4. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?**

Finger.

- 5. While Zorba and the narrator are in the shop, who runs past the window?**

A beautiful widow.



Four Week Quiz B

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 22.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. When the narrator meets an old man on the trail, where does the man ask if he's headed?

- (a) The river.
- (b) The garden.
- (c) The convent.
- (d) The pub.

2. Although the narrator remains unnamed, what does Zorba call the narrator?

- (a) Sir.
- (b) Captain.
- (c) Boss.
- (d) Bro.

3. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?

- (a) Her parrot.
- (b) Canavaro.
- (c) The narrator.
- (d) Mavrandoni.

4. When Zorba and the narrator refuse Mavrandoni's offer of hospitality, what does he say about them?

- (a) He says they are ungrateful.
- (b) He says that he thinks they must be very hungry.
- (c) He says they are free to choose.
- (d) He calls Madame Hortense mean names.

5. What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?

- (a) Communication.
- (b) Entertainment.
- (c) Competition.
- (d) Sexual.

Short Answer Questions

1. How many places does Zorba set the dinner table for on their first night on Crete?
2. What gift does Madame Hortense present to Zorba when he returns from the monastery?
3. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?
4. How does the narrator depict Madame Hortense?
5. In Chapter 13, Zorba demonstrates his dedication to what?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. A

Short Answer Questions Key

1. How many places does Zorba set the dinner table for on their first night on Crete?

3

2. What gift does Madame Hortense present to Zorba when he returns from the monastery?

A pair of wedding rings.

3. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?

Finger.

4. How does the narrator depict Madame Hortense?

Comically and unattractively.

5. In Chapter 13, Zorba demonstrates his dedication to what?

His immediate passions.



Eight Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 4.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. With whom does Zorba begin a romance?

- (a) A nun.
- (b) A strange woman walking on the beach.
- (c) A young widowed mother.
- (d) Dame Hortense.

2. What does Zorba think is the best way to run the mine?

- (a) Bonus awards.
- (b) A voting system.
- (c) Volunteer work.
- (d) Cruel authority.

3. What part of the narrator's friendship with his absent friend is he sad about?

- (a) The two argued rather than expressing love.
- (b) The two got into a fist fight before his friend left.
- (c) He thinks his friend hates him.
- (d) He thinks his friend will find a new best friend.

4. What does the narrator do on his first morning in Crete?

- (a) He goes to the market.
- (b) He reads the Bible.
- (c) He discusses his plans for the mine with Zorba.
- (d) He takes a stroll through the countryside.

5. How does Zorba believe a man should treat a woman?

- (a) He should lie to her about his other lovers.
- (b) He should only spend time with her if he wants to marry her.
- (c) He should cook and clean for her.
- (d) He should tell her she's beautiful no matter what.

Short Answer Questions

1. In Chapter 4, what does the narrator do when he first awakens?
2. When the narrator meets some young women on his first day in Crete, how do the girls respond?
3. What reason does Zorba give for having attacked his old boss?
4. Why does the narrator say that the sexual organs may get in the way of freedom?
5. What does the narrator remember his grandfather doing?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. D
2. D
3. A
4. D
5. D

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. In Chapter 4, what does the narrator do when he first awakens?**

Smokes a pipe.

- 2. When the narrator meets some young women on his first day in Crete, how do the girls respond?**

Fearfully.

- 3. What reason does Zorba give for having attacked his old boss?**

He offers no excuse or reason.

- 4. Why does the narrator say that the sexual organs may get in the way of freedom?**

He says that being promiscuous can keep a man from going to heaven.

- 5. What does the narrator remember his grandfather doing?**

He demanded stories from his guests.



Eight Week Quiz B

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 6.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does the narrator remember his friend teasing him about?

- (a) Having family from Italy.
- (b) Being too short.
- (c) Renting a lignite mine.
- (d) Being a bookworm rather than an adventurer.

2. What body part is Zorba missing a part of?

- (a) Finger.
- (b) Toe.
- (c) Ear.
- (d) Arm.

3. Zorba tells the narrator stories about the island. What kind of events does he describe?

- (a) Feasts and birthdays.
- (b) Rape and thievery.
- (c) Carnivals and circuses.
- (d) Wars and revolutions.

4. What does the narrator begin doing late one restless night in Chapter 5?

- (a) He makes a map of the mine.
- (b) He begins a romance with Madame Hortense.
- (c) He takes a long walk on the beach.
- (d) He begins the writing of his manuscript.

5. What exclamation does the first chapter conclude with?

- (a) "Monks and Demons!"
- (b) "God and the Devil!"
- (c) "Heaven and Hell!"
- (d) "Jesus and Satan!"

Short Answer Questions

1. What is the narrator's second goal at the end of Chapter 4?

2. What does Zorba indicate would be the worst thing the narrator could do to Anagnosti?

3. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?

4. In Chapter 4, what does the narrator do when he first awakens?

5. How does Zorba feel about women?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. D
2. A
3. D
4. D
5. B

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. What is the narrator's second goal at the end of Chapter 4?**

He wants to be more grounded in the physical world of men.

- 2. What does Zorba indicate would be the worst thing the narrator could do to Anagnosti?**

Cast down his religion.

- 3. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?**

He cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of his pottery.

- 4. In Chapter 4, what does the narrator do when he first awakens?**

Smokes a pipe.

- 5. How does Zorba feel about women?**

He does not take them seriously but enjoys them physically.



Eight Week Quiz C

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 9.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Zorba tells the story of an old man who will what?

- (a) Never die.
- (b) Cook a delicious soup.
- (c) Play a musical instrument when happy.
- (d) Never leave Crete.

2. What reason does Zorba give for having attacked his old boss?

- (a) He offers no excuse or reason.
- (b) He says the man cheated him.
- (c) He claims the man kissed his girlfriend.
- (d) He says the man tried to assault him first.

3. What is Zorba's response when the narrator asks him how many times he has been married?

- (a) Twice honestly and once half-honestly.
- (b) Once honestly and twice half-honestly.
- (c) Three times.
- (d) Four times.

4. Who does the narrator hire to help him mine lignite on the island?

- (a) Santuri.
- (b) Crete.
- (c) Zorba.
- (d) His best friend.

5. In which category does Zorba think his boss strives for with his food?

- (a) Fat and manure.
- (b) Love and kindness.
- (c) God.
- (d) Work.

Short Answer Questions

1. What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?
2. How does Zorba describe God?
3. What is the narrator's second goal at the end of Chapter 4?
4. How does Zorba feel about women?
5. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. A
2. A
3. B
4. C
5. C

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?**

Communication.

- 2. How does Zorba describe God?**

He describes him as a crazier and wilder version of himself.

- 3. What is the narrator's second goal at the end of Chapter 4?**

He wants to be more grounded in the physical world of men.

- 4. How does Zorba feel about women?**

He does not take them seriously but enjoys them physically.

- 5. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?**

They agree to telepathically warn one another of danger.



Eight Week Quiz D

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 12.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does Zorba's gift prompt Madame Hortense to do?

- (a) Start crying.
- (b) Talk about her love affairs.
- (c) Profess her love for Zorba.
- (d) Leave the room.

2. About what does Zorba confront the miners?

- (a) Taking long lunch breaks.
- (b) Not following the proper safety procedures.
- (c) Leaving lanterns lit inside.
- (d) Failing to get their picks before exiting.

3. The narrator warn Zorba that such passions may lead to the removal of what body part?

- (a) The ears.
- (b) The brain.
- (c) The achilles.
- (d) The sexual organs.

4. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?

- (a) The narrator.
- (b) Mavrandoni.
- (c) Her parrot.
- (d) Canavaro.

5. What is the primary message in the book that the narrator is reading?

- (a) It offers instruction on running a mine.
- (b) It exhibits the excellence of true love.
- (c) It makes an example of the inefficiency of bookworms.
- (d) It emphasizes the virtue of possessing nothing.

Short Answer Questions

1. What story does Anagnosti tell at the celebration?
2. What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?
3. What makes the narrator want the widow even more?
4. What happens at the mine in Chapter 9?
5. What does Zorba indicate would be the worst thing the narrator could do to Anagnosti?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. B
2. D
3. D
4. D
5. D

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. What story does Anagnosti tell at the celebration?**

The tale of his birth.

- 2. What does Zorba consider the act of dancing to be?**

Communication.

- 3. What makes the narrator want the widow even more?**

He has a brush with death.

- 4. What happens at the mine in Chapter 9?**

It collapses.

- 5. What does Zorba indicate would be the worst thing the narrator could do to Anagnosti?**

Cast down his religion.



Eight Week Quiz E

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 18.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Upon his return from Candia, what does Zorba encourage the narrator to quickly get started on?

- (a) Building a house for them to live in.
- (b) The timber rail project.
- (c) Publication of his manuscript.
- (d) Building a monastery.

2. What does Zorba tell the narrator he should have done before going to bed the night before in chapter 4?

- (a) He says the narrator should have told Dame Hortense how beautiful she is.
- (b) He tells the narrator that he should have made some work notes for the following day.
- (c) He tells him he should have cleaned the house.
- (d) Zorba tells him that he should have meditated.

3. With what does the narrator begin to equate Buddha?

- (a) A new, evolved civilization.
- (b) The Void and the end of civilization.
- (c) The onset of true peace.
- (d) Successful mining operations.

4. In Chapter 15, what does the narrator momentarily believe is his last obstacle to freedom?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Buddha.
- (c) Mining.
- (d) The widow.

5. Why does Zorba say he removed the body part?

- (a) It hurt constantly.
- (b) It got in the way of his pottery.
- (c) It was strangely colored.
- (d) It was too big.

Short Answer Questions

1. What message does the narrator tell Madame Hortense that Zorba has sent from Candia?
2. What painting does Zorba present to Madame Hortense?
3. With whom do the narrator and Zorba enjoy Christmas Eve dinner?
4. Who does the narrator hire to help him mine lignite on the island?
5. With whom does Zorba begin a romance?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. B
2. A
3. B
4. B
5. B

Short Answer Questions Key

1. What message does the narrator tell Madame Hortense that Zorba has sent from Candia?

He tells her that Zorba has proposed marriage to her.

2. What painting does Zorba present to Madame Hortense?

A painting of her as a siren leading battleships.

3. With whom do the narrator and Zorba enjoy Christmas Eve dinner?

Madame Hortense.

4. Who does the narrator hire to help him mine lignite on the island?

Zorba.

5. With whom does Zorba begin a romance?

Dame Hortense.



Eight Week Quiz F

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 21.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. With what does the narrator compare his lustful feelings for the widow to?

- (a) Not ever finding any lignite in the mine.
- (b) The widow's garden.
- (c) Walking on the beach at night.
- (d) The temptation of Buddha by the Evil One.

2. In pleasing Madame Hortense, to whom does Zorba compare himself?

- (a) Odysseus.
- (b) A monk.
- (c) The narrator.
- (d) Zeus.

3. Upon his return from Candia, what does Zorba encourage the narrator to quickly get started on?

- (a) The timber rail project.
- (b) Publication of his manuscript.
- (c) Building a house for them to live in.
- (d) Building a monastery.

4. What story does Anagnosti tell at the celebration?

- (a) The tale of his birth.
- (b) The ancient civilization of Crete.
- (c) Noah's Ark.
- (d) A love story.

5. Which of her lovers' names does Madame Hortense's parrot repeat?

- (a) Canavaro.
- (b) Nowacka.
- (c) Baudrillard.
- (d) Johnson.

Short Answer Questions

1. What startles the narrator from his sleep at the monastery?
2. Who does Zorba suggest that the narrator romantically pursue?
3. From whom must Zorba and the narrator rent land for the timber rail project?
4. How does Zorba feel about women?
5. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. D
2. D
3. A
4. A
5. A

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. What startles the narrator from his sleep at the monastery?**

A gun shot.

- 2. Who does Zorba suggest that the narrator romantically pursue?**

The widow.

- 3. From whom must Zorba and the narrator rent land for the timber rail project?**

Monks at the monastery.

- 4. How does Zorba feel about women?**

He does not take them seriously but enjoys them physically.

- 5. Who does Zorba offer to take the place of in Madame Hortense's world?**

Canavaro.



Eight Week Quiz G

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Chapter 25.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the name of the new friend the narrator makes at the beginning of the novel?

- (a) The Devil.
- (b) Santuri.
- (c) Zorba.
- (d) Crete.

2. What does Zorba do when he hears his boss talking to the workmen?

- (a) He throws his boss out of the mine.
- (b) He tells his boss that they are lazy.
- (c) He asks his boss to get them lunch.
- (d) He asks his boss to record the men's work hours.

3. What does the narrator mostly do while Zorba works in the mine?

- (a) He romances Madame Hortense.
- (b) He also works in the mine.
- (c) He swims in the ocean.
- (d) He works on his writing.

4. What does the narrator remember his friend teasing him about?

- (a) Having family from Italy.
- (b) Renting a lignite mine.
- (c) Being too short.
- (d) Being a bookworm rather than an adventurer.

5. What gift does Mimiko deliver from the accused in Pavli's death?

- (a) A bouquet of flowers.
- (b) An aromatic oil.
- (c) A loaf of bread.
- (d) A basket of oranges.

Short Answer Questions

1. After sleeping with the widow, what does the narrator realize?
2. What happens when the fourth log is tested on the rail system?
3. Who attempts to cheer Zorba up following the death of Hortense?
4. Why does Zorba tell the narrator not to preach equality of the sexes?
5. How does the narrator respond to the bishop's theories on religion?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. C
2. A
3. D
4. D
5. D

Short Answer Questions Key

- 1. After sleeping with the widow, what does the narrator realize?**

"The soul is flesh as well."

- 2. What happens when the fourth log is tested on the rail system?**

The entire system collapses.

- 3. Who attempts to cheer Zorba up following the death of Hortense?**

The festival-goers.

- 4. Why does Zorba tell the narrator not to preach equality of the sexes?**

He says it will disrupt the island's way of life without offering solutions for making it better.

- 5. How does the narrator respond to the bishop's theories on religion?**

"Those theories may save many souls."



Mid-Book Test - Easy

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 15 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the great plan that Zorba reveals to the narrator in Chapter 6?

- (a) He plans to marry Madame Hortense for her great wealth.
- (b) He wants to develop a cable system for transporting timber.
- (c) He wants to build a ship so that he and his boss can sail around the world.
- (d) He plans to blast a new entrance to the mine.

2. What or who does the narrator's long-time friend live for?

- (a) Mankind.
- (b) The narrator.
- (c) God.
- (d) Women.

3. Who does Zorba blame for Madame Hortense's promiscuity?

- (a) Her father.
- (b) God.
- (c) Her mother.
- (d) A priest.

4. What does the narrator remember his grandfather doing?

- (a) He sailed around the world.
- (b) He started a mining business.
- (c) He had many lovers.
- (d) He demanded stories from his guests.

5. About what does Zorba confront the miners?

- (a) Leaving lanterns lit inside.
- (b) Not following the proper safety procedures.
- (c) Taking long lunch breaks.
- (d) Failing to get their picks before exiting.

6. Who does the narrator hire to help him mine lignite on the island?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Crete.
- (c) His best friend.
- (d) Santuri.



7. How does Zorba describe God?

- (a) He describes him as "ether."
- (b) He describes him as a crazier and wilder version of himself.
- (c) He describes him as peaceful and quiet.
- (d) He likens him to the mine.

8. What does Zorba's gift prompt Madame Hortense to do?

- (a) Start crying.
- (b) Talk about her love affairs.
- (c) Leave the room.
- (d) Profess her love for Zorba.

9. Zorba tells the story of an old man who will what?

- (a) Never leave Crete.
- (b) Never die.
- (c) Play a musical instrument when happy.
- (d) Cook a delicious soup.

10. What happens at the celebration in Chapter 5?

- (a) The castration of pigs.
- (b) Several marriage ceremonies.
- (c) The slaughter of sheep.
- (d) The eating of elaborate cakes.

11. What is one of the narrator's goals at the end of Chapter 4?

- (a) He wants to improve his vocabulary.
- (b) He wants to grow his hair long.
- (c) He wants to forget about Buddha.
- (d) He wants to learn to meditate.

12. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?

- (a) They agree to fight in the war together.
- (b) They agree to one day own a lignite mine together.
- (c) They agree to a double wedding when they reunite.
- (d) They agree to telepathically warn one another of danger.

13. With what does the narrator compare his lustful feelings for the widow to?

- (a) Walking on the beach at night.
- (b) The temptation of Buddha by the Evil One.
- (c) The widow's garden.
- (d) Not ever finding any lignite in the mine.



14. How does Lola refer to Zorba?

- (a) Son.
- (b) Grandad.
- (c) Uncle.
- (d) Daddy.

15. Who is the second person to offer the narrator and Zorba lodging in Crete?

- (a) The village elder.
- (b) The local baker.
- (c) The monks.
- (d) The pharmacist.

Short Answer Questions

1. To whom does the narrator's soldier friend say his greatest actions will be owed credit?

2. While Zorba is away, who invites the narrator to visit Africa?

3. What does the narrator begin doing late one restless night in Chapter 5?

4. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

5. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?



Multiple Choice Answer Key

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 11. C |
| 2. A | 12. D |
| 3. B | 13. B |
| 4. D | 14. B |
| 5. D | 15. A |
| 6. A | |
| 7. B | |
| 8. B | |
| 9. B | |
| 10. A | |

Short Answer Key

1. To whom does the narrator's soldier friend say his greatest actions will be owed credit?

Rembrandt's "Warrior."

2. While Zorba is away, who invites the narrator to visit Africa?

Karayannis.

3. What does the narrator begin doing late one restless night in Chapter 5?

He begins the writing of his manuscript.

4. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

It refuses to grow old.

5. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?

Mimiko.

Final Test - Easy

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 15 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What startles the narrator from his sleep at the monastery?

- (a) Singing.
- (b) A loud argument.
- (c) A woman's screams.
- (d) A gun shot.

2. Who closes Hortense's eyes when she dies?

- (a) Zorba.
- (b) Anagnosti.
- (c) The narrator.
- (d) A priest.

3. When the narrator meets an old man on the trail, where does the man ask if he's headed?

- (a) The convent.
- (b) The pub.
- (c) The garden.
- (d) The river.

4. Who does Zorba adopt when Hortense dies?

- (a) Hortense's daughter.
- (b) Hortense's parrot.
- (c) Pavli.
- (d) Dimitri.

5. Who publicly defends the accused and attempts to break up the mob which seeks justice for Pavli's death?

- (a) Mimiko.
- (b) Anagnosti.
- (c) The narrator.
- (d) Zorba.



6. Who waits outside for Hortense to die in order to loot her belongings?

- (a) Dirge singers.
- (b) The monks.
- (c) The mob.
- (d) The narrator.

7. Who mocks the bishop's theories?

- (a) Gavrieli.
- (b) Demetrios.
- (c) Zorba.
- (d) The narrator.

8. The narrator disagrees with the way the old man on the mountain trail does what?

- (a) The old man insists that it's sinful to mark one's preference for certain foods.
- (b) The old man talks too much.
- (c) The old man smokes too many cigarettes.
- (d) The old man does not treat his wife as an equal.

9. After sleeping with the widow, what does the narrator realize?

- (a) "The soul is to be treasured much more than the flesh."
- (b) "The soul is flesh as well."
- (c) "The soul is a gem that the flesh will never uncover."
- (d) "The flesh is language for the soul."

10. Why does the narrator feel like he can forget about the Enlightened One?

- (a) He has finished his Buddha Manuscript.
- (b) His sexual relationship is more fulfilling than meditation.
- (c) Mining is all that he cares about now.
- (d) He has become engrossed with the physical world.

11. How does Zorba feel about the narrator's false promises made while Zorba was in Candia?

- (a) He is thrilled.
- (b) He is angry but willing to follow through on the promise.
- (c) He is so angry that he ends their friendship.
- (d) He is extremely sad but willing to follow through.

12. What does Zorba learn when he awakens from a dream in Chapter 23?

- (a) The narrator's old friend is taking over as foreman of the mine.
- (b) The narrator is dying.
- (c) Madame Hortense is dying.
- (d) The narrator has decided to leave Crete.



13. On what activity does the narrator try to instruct Zorba in Chapter 16?

- (a) Writing his thoughts down.
- (b) Playing the Santuri.
- (c) Meditation.
- (d) Cooking.

14. Why does the narrator call a doctor on Easter?

- (a) Zorba has grown very ill.
- (b) The widow has fallen from a cliff.
- (c) Madame Hortense has grown very ill.
- (d) The widow appears to be pregnant.

15. In pleasing Madame Hortense, to whom does Zorba compare himself?

- (a) A monk.
- (b) Zeus.
- (c) The narrator.
- (d) Odysseus.

Short Answer Questions

1. In Chapter 16, what type of power does the narrator attempt to describe?
2. What concept does the narrator come up with when formulating his ideas about death?
3. Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?
4. From whom must Zorba and the narrator rent land for the timber rail project?
5. What does the narrator promise to binge on so that he no longer desires it?



Multiple Choice Answer Key

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. D | 11. B |
| 2. A | 12. C |
| 3. A | 13. C |
| 4. D | 14. C |
| 5. C | 15. B |
| 6. A | |
| 7. C | |
| 8. D | |
| 9. B | |
| 10. A | |

Short Answer Key

- 1. In Chapter 16, what type of power does the narrator attempt to describe?**

The power of the mind concentrated on one thing.

- 2. What concept does the narrator come up with when formulating his ideas about death?**

Sacred awe.

- 3. Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?**

Fought in a war.

- 4. From whom must Zorba and the narrator rent land for the timber rail project?**

Monks at the monastery.

5. What does the narrator promise to binge on so that he no longer desires it?

Books.



Mid-Book Test - Medium

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 multiple choice questions, 5 short answer questions, and 10 short essay questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What or who does the narrator live for?

- (a) Mankind.
- (b) Women.
- (c) Zorba.
- (d) God.

2. What does Zorba's gift prompt Madame Hortense to do?

- (a) Leave the room.
- (b) Talk about her love affairs.
- (c) Profess her love for Zorba.
- (d) Start crying.

3. Who reports that a widow has lost her sheep and is offering a reward for it?

- (a) Anagnosti.
- (b) Zorba.
- (c) Manolakus.
- (d) Mimiko.

4. What does the narrator decide about the poetry he has always loved?

- (a) It helped him get through his youth but is of little value now.
- (b) It is worthless and does not relate to the true human experience.
- (c) It should be banned and removed from all libraries.
- (d) It is a foundational part of his sophisticated world view.

5. Why does Zorba begin to feel restless and depressed while in Candia?

- (a) He has suddenly become afraid of mining.
- (b) He has fallen in love.
- (c) He is going to be a father.
- (d) He realizes he's aging.

Short Answer Questions

1. What does Zorba promise the narrator upon the initiation of their friendship?
2. What is the ultimate physical experience for Zorba?
3. How does Zorba suggest that a man best get to know the world?
4. In Chapter 11, what does the narrator do when he sees the widow?
5. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?

Short Essay Questions

1. How does the fact that Zorba is missing half of his finger relate to his connection between manliness and freedom?

2. Discuss the two goals that the narrator sets for himself at the end of Chapter 4? How is this a shift from the beginning of the story?

3. What significance does the fact that Madame Hortense is a widow have toward the theme of manliness?

4. How might Madame Hortense's romantic history challenge Zorba's concept of his own manliness?

5. Describe the painting that Zorba presents to Madame Hortense.

6. Why is the narrator going to Crete?

7. Describe the narrator's memory of his old friend while on their visit to the museum.

8. When the narrator makes an attempt to get to know some of the mine workers, he begins to discuss socialism with them. Zorba does not like this. What are his reasons?

9. Do you think Zorba's description of dance as a language is accurate? In other words, does the narrator understand what Zorba means by his erratic dancing?

10. What does Karayannis's letter from Africa remind the narrator that he has always wanted to do?



Multiple Choice Answer Key

1. D
2. B
3. D
4. B
5. D

Short Answer Key

1. What does Zorba promise the narrator upon the initiation of their friendship?

He promises to cook him soup and play him music.

2. What is the ultimate physical experience for Zorba?

Sex.

3. How does Zorba suggest that a man best get to know the world?

He suggests that a man spend some time being savage and sinful.

4. In Chapter 11, what does the narrator do when he sees the widow?

Nothing. He is unable to approach her.

5. What act has Zorba performed that symbolizes the connection between freedom and manliness?

He cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of his pottery.



Short Essay Answer Key

1. How does the fact that Zorba is missing half of his finger relate to his connection between manliness and freedom?

Zorba says that he cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of making pottery. He argues that anything that gets in the way of man doing what he wants should be removed. Because it takes a great deal of physical and mental courage to remove a body part, the connection for Zorba is strong.

2. Discuss the two goals that the narrator sets for himself at the end of Chapter 4? How is this a shift from the beginning of the story?

The narrator wants to rid himself of Buddha and the abstract thinking that comes along with Buddha. He also wants to be completely present in the physical world of men. He has wanted to find this physicality since the beginning of the story when his old friend's words inspire him to seek such a life, and begin his journey to Crete. Originally, he was completely invested in philosophizing as well. However, the fact that he wants to exorcise Buddha from his thinking is a definite shift in his character.

3. What significance does the fact that Madame Hortense is a widow have toward the theme of manliness?

Madame Hortense is a character on whom Zorba and the narrator choose instantly to rely upon for shelter. The fact that she is completely devoid of Zorba's "manliness" (as a widowed woman) and has outlived her four great lovers, admirals who could be classified as the most manly of all men, speaks to a contrasting energy of freedom neither articulated by the narrator nor by Zorba.

4. How might Madame Hortense's romantic history challenge Zorba's concept of his own manliness?

Zorba believes in living for the day and that any impediment to freedom and manliness should be removed. Because he thinks sexual relationships are the ultimate in the physical life, he is helpless against the force of her own history. She has been romanced by legendary and powerful men, and Zorba cannot do anything to remove them as competitive forces from his own life. He offers to take on Canavaro's role in her life, but he has no power or awareness of how to actually fulfill that role.



5. Describe the painting that Zorba presents to Madame Hortense.

The painting has four huge battleships on it in red, gold, gray, and black, each with a flag from one of four countries: England, France, Italy, and Russia. Leading the battleship as a siren was Madame Hortense, naked with a yellow ribbon around her neck and holding four strings attached to the ships.

6. Why is the narrator going to Crete?

The narrator is curious about the adventurous life his friend preached to him. He is going to Crete to experiment with such a life by renting a lignite mine and thus engaging more with the physical world. His overall goal in these actions is to find freedom through a marriage of the mind and body.

7. Describe the narrator's memory of his old friend while on their visit to the museum.

The narrator's old friend told him of his love for a painting by Rembrandt; a painting he says he will owe his greatest accomplishments to. As they are leaving the museum, they see a bird land on a statue of an Amazon and begin singing. The narrator asks what it might mean, and the friend recites a few lines that encourage the narrator not to bother himself with such thoughts.

8. When the narrator makes an attempt to get to know some of the mine workers, he begins to discuss socialism with them. Zorba does not like this. What are his reasons?

Zorba believes that supervising a workforce requires complete authority. He thinks it's better if they believe they have fewer rights and that workers who feel like they are equal to their bosses will eventually take rights away from their bosses.

9. Do you think Zorba's description of dance as a language is accurate? In other words, does the narrator understand what Zorba means by his erratic dancing?

Zorba says that he had so much joy that he had to let it out somehow and dancing was the best way to let the explosion loose. The dancing reminds the narrator of a story he made up about how his grandfather died. He told friends that the old man bounced on



rubber shoes until he disappeared into the clouds. This does exhibit some understanding. The narrator associates the dancing with a great release of energy although he cannot clearly name it.

10. What does Karayannis's letter from Africa remind the narrator that he has always wanted to do?

He has a desire to see and touch as much of the world as he possibly can before he dies.



Final Test - Medium

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 multiple choice questions, 5 short answer questions, and 10 short essay questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. When he arrives in Candia, what news does the narrator receive?

- (a) A new revolution has begun.
- (b) His family is being held hostage.
- (c) The widow was pregnant with his child when she died.
- (d) His friend Stavridaki has died.

2. What happens to Gavril in the night at the monastery?

- (a) He is held hostage by invaders.
- (b) He is raped.
- (c) He thinks he hears God speaking to him.
- (d) He is murdered by his lover.

3. How do the negotiations over land between Zorba and the abbot begin?

- (a) The abbot tries to charge more money than agreed upon.
- (b) They agree completely to the original negotiation.
- (c) The abbot charges a lesser amount to prove his devotion to a higher power.
- (d) Zorba insists that they pay more.

4. What do the narrator and Zorba do on Easter Sunday?

- (a) Walk into Candia.
- (b) Swim in the ocean.
- (c) Make a feast for the village orphans.
- (d) Make a feast for Madame Hortense.

5. What does Madame Hortense want from Zorba in Chapter 19?

- (a) To be married immediately.
- (b) To support her.
- (c) To build them a new house.
- (d) To impregnate her.

Short Answer Questions

1. What happens when the first log is tested on the new railway?

2. After receiving a letter from his friend in Chapter 25, who does the narrator warn when he feels a sense of danger?

3. In his story, what does Zorba's grandfather tell the old soldier about the piece of wood he gives him?

4. Who does Zorba say is having a sexual relationship with his student?

5. In Chapter 16, what type of power does the narrator attempt to describe?

Short Essay Questions

1. How are Zorba's final moments described?
2. What does the narrator state is the reason for Zaharia's death?
3. What does Zorba say about the act of crying when Madame Hortense dies?
4. After the widow's murder, what happens when Zorba and Manolakas meet near the widow's garden?
5. As the narrator watches Zorba comfort Madame Hortense on her death bed with the others eagerly awaiting her death, what does he compare the scene to?
6. What is the irony of Zorba comparing himself to Zeus in Chapter 19?

7. How did Zaharia appear when he was found dead?

8. What story does Zorba tell in Chapter 20 that supports the theme that appearance creates reality?

9. In Chapter 16, what did the sleeping workmen do who when they heard Zorba playing his Santuri?

10. Describe the incident that prompted the monastery icon's name to be changed from Our Lady of Mercy to Our Lady of Revenge.



Multiple Choice Answer Key

1. D
2. D
3. A
4. D
5. A

Short Answer Key

- 1. What happens when the first log is tested on the new railway?**

The whole structure shakes and the log is destroyed along the way.

- 2. After receiving a letter from his friend in Chapter 25, who does the narrator warn when he feels a sense of danger?**

His soldier friend.

- 3. In his story, what does Zorba's grandfather tell the old soldier about the piece of wood he gives him?**

He says it's part of the True Cross.

- 4. Who does Zorba say is having a sexual relationship with his student?**

Demetrios.

- 5. In Chapter 16, what type of power does the narrator attempt to describe?**

The power of the mind concentrated on one thing.



Short Essay Answer Key

1. How are Zorba's final moments described?

Zorba dies howling and laughing like an animal.

2. What does the narrator state is the reason for Zaharia's death?

The narrator says that Zaharia has fulfilled his main passion and purpose and has therefore accomplished everything that life would ask of him, so he can die.

3. What does Zorba say about the act of crying when Madame Hortense dies?

He says that he isn't ashamed to cry in front of men because of the unity they share. He says that crying in front of women is different because it is a man's job to prove his courage when before women.

4. After the widow's murder, what happens when Zorba and Manolakas meet near the widow's garden?

Manolakas challenges Zorba to a knife fight after having been beaten previously. Zorba tells him he will fight without weapons. Then the narrator intervenes and talks them down from fighting at all. They end up all drinking together.

5. As the narrator watches Zorba comfort Madame Hortense on her death bed with the others eagerly awaiting her death, what does he compare the scene to?

The narrator first compares the scene to a huge exotic bird with a broken wing that has fallen and is dying on the beach, with all of the villagers standing around watching for entertainment. Then he compares Madame Hortense to other animals as well, like an "old angora cat" and "a sick old seal."



6. What is the irony of Zorba comparing himself to Zeus in Chapter 19?

Zorba says that he is like Zeus in that he sacrifices his own self in order to bring women happiness. This is ironic because Zeus is traditionally considered to be lecherous towards women.

7. How did Zaharia appear when he was found dead?

He was found shaven bald and pierced with the spear of the Holy Virgin of Revenge.

8. What story does Zorba tell in Chapter 20 that supports the theme that appearance creates reality?

Zorba tells a story in which his grandfather takes a piece of wood, calls it part of the True Cross, and declares that it will protect the soldier to whom he gifts it from all harm in battle. The soldier then becomes a brave and invincible warrior simply because he believes that he has nothing to fear.

9. In Chapter 16, what did the sleeping workmen do who when they heard Zorba playing his Santuri?

They got up, circled around him and began dancing to the music he played.

10. Describe the incident that prompted the monastery icon's name to be changed from Our Lady of Mercy to Our Lady of Revenge.

In ancient times Algerians raided and set fire to the monastery. When they passed by the statue, it is said that she came to life, leaped down, and began stabbing the warriors with her spear until she had killed them all.



Mid-Book Test - Hard

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 short answer questions, 10 short essay questions, and 1 (of 3) essay topics.

Short Answer Questions

1. About what does Zorba confront the miners?

2. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?

3. Where is the narrator sitting and thinking at the beginning of the story?

4. What or who does Zorba live for?

5. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

Short Essay Questions

1. What does Zorba do while in Candia?
2. How does the narrator reveal that he is like his grandfather?
3. How does the narrator describe Zorba the first time he sees him dancing?
4. How does the fact that Zorba is missing half of his finger relate to his connection between manliness and freedom?
5. In Chapter 3, how are the relationships between men and women on Crete exhibited?
6. How might Madame Hortense's romantic history challenge Zorba's concept of his own manliness?

7. What kinds of responsibilities does Zorba take on at the initiation of his friendship with the narrator.

8. What is Zorba's account of God's creation of woman?

9. What feelings does Zorba express about religion?

10. When Zorba tells the story of the old man who will never die, what does this show about his own and the narrator's perspectives on life and death?

Essay Topics

Write an essay for ONE of the following topics:

Essay Topic 1

In the beginning of the story, the narrator is reading a book called *The Dialogue of Buddha and the Shepherd*, which encourages the virtue of possessing nothing. By the end of the story, he has exorcised the Buddha as an inhabitant of the Void where abstract and unhelpful thinking occurs.

Part 1) How does the appearance of his reading material foreshadow the narrator's experience?

Part 2) Describe the asset that the narrator discovers to be most essential to life. Is this asset truly a possession?

Part 3) Describe Zorba's relationship with possessions. Would he consider his experiences to be his possessions?

Essay Topic 2

One theme throughout the story is that God and the devil may be one and the same creature.

Part 1) How does the narrator's writing of the *Buddha Manuscript* exhibit this theme?

Part 2) How does the atheist Zorba's description of both God and the devil support this theme?

Part 3) What does this mean in the narrator's search for ultimate "freedom"?

Essay Topic 3

Kazantzakis injects the epistolary into the trajectory of the novel. Some of the characters express more emotion with this mode of communication, while it is simply different for others.

Part 1) The reader gets to know the narrator's soldier friend only by way of the narrator's memories and letters between the men.

- How is their relationship different in letters than it would be in person?
- What other forms of communication do the two men practice?



- Which do you think is the strongest between them?

Part 2) Zorba writes to the narrator from Candia.

- Is his expression altered, impaired, or improved upon by letter writing?
- Do the two characters grow closer through the exchange?

Part 3) Letter writing could be classified under what Zorba calls pen-pushing.

- Do you think the letter writing between the men is a less physical form of interaction than speaking?
- Why or why not?

Short Answer Key

1. About what does Zorba confront the miners?

Failing to get their picks before exiting.

2. What pact do the narrator and his best friend make before parting?

They agree to telepathically warn one another of danger.

3. Where is the narrator sitting and thinking at the beginning of the story?

In a bar.

4. What or who does Zorba live for?

Man as individual.

5. In a letter to the narrator, Zorba indicates that he has a devil living inside of him who is like Zorba in every way except what?

It refuses to grow old.

Short Essay Answer Key

1. What does Zorba do while in Candia?

He meets a young girl with whom he has an affair. He also spends all of the boss's money.



2. How does the narrator reveal that he is like his grandfather?

He remembers his grandfather demanding that guests tell him their personal stories of adventure so that he could experience the thrill through their stories. This is similar to the narrator in that the adventures for both occur removed from the action and inside the head and ideas of the two.

3. How does the narrator describe Zorba the first time he sees him dancing?

The narrator says Zorba looks like he is wearing rubber shoes. He also says that Zorba's soul looks like it is trying to fling his body like a meteor into the darkness.

4. How does the fact that Zorba is missing half of his finger relate to his connection between manliness and freedom?

Zorba says that he cut part of his finger off because it got in the way of making pottery. He argues that anything that gets in the way of man doing what he wants should be removed. Because it takes a great deal of physical and mental courage to remove a body part, the connection for Zorba is strong.

5. In Chapter 3, how are the relationships between men and women on Crete exhibited?

In the beginning of the chapter, the narrator's encounter with the young women in the country exhibits the historical impact of war and violence on the male/female relationship. They are immediately frightened of him as a stranger, and so their encounter is stunted. Mavrandoni's offer to let the men stay in his house to avoid the scandal of staying with a woman also exhibits a level of division and acceptable interaction between men and women.

6. How might Madame Hortense's romantic history challenge Zorba's concept of his own manliness?

Zorba believes in living for the day and that any impediment to freedom and manliness should be removed. Because he thinks sexual relationships are the ultimate in the physical life, he is helpless against the force of her own history. She has been romanced by legendary and powerful men, and Zorba cannot do anything to remove



them as competitive forces from his own life. He offers to take on Canavaro's role in her life, but he has no power or awareness of how to actually fulfill that role.

7. What kinds of responsibilities does Zorba take on at the initiation of his friendship with the narrator.

Zorba agrees to act as foreman of the lignite mine. He also promises to cook the narrator soup and play him music on his santuri.

8. What is Zorba's account of God's creation of woman?

Zorba says that when God removed the rib from Adam, the devil turned into a snake and snatched the rib and ran off with it. God then chased the devil and caught him, but the devil ultimately got away while God was left holding only his horns. God then made woman out of the devil's horns rather than the rib of Adam.

9. What feelings does Zorba express about religion?

Zorba claims to be an atheist. However, when it comes to the other villagers, Zorba believes that religion is not only important but is the center of their way of life. He warns the narrator that speaking against religion to the villagers is not wise as it is better for them than having no organized structure at all.

10. When Zorba tells the story of the old man who will never die, what does this show about his own and the narrator's perspectives on life and death?

Neither the narrator nor Zorba come to a conclusion about how one should live one's life. Zorba clearly lives as though each day is his last, in opposition to the old man in his story. The narrator is uncertain and contemplative about life and death and seems to change his mind slightly as he is influenced by different thinking.



Final Test - Hard

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 short answer questions, 10 short essay questions, and 1 (of 3) essay topics.

Short Answer Questions

1. Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?

2. What does Zorba ask the narrator to explain to him in Chapter 24?

3. Who publicly defends the accused and attempts to break up the mob which seeks justice for Pavli's death?

4. What gift does Madame Hortense present to Zorba when he returns from the monastery?

5. When the narrator loses everything, what does he find?

Short Essay Questions

1. Describe the monastery bishop's first theory on religion.
2. What two major shifts happen to the narrator in Chapter 21? What major realization do these shifts spur in the narrator.
3. What evidence of artistic inspiration does the narrator find in the ruins of the old city? How does he feel when he sees it?
4. In Chapter 16, what did the sleeping workmen do who when they heard Zorba playing his Santuri?
5. What does the narrator state is the reason for Zaharia's death?
6. After the widow's murder, what happens when Zorba and Manolakas meet near the widow's garden?



7. What might be the significance of the narrator inheriting the Santuri?

8. Why does Anagnosti say that Pavli is blessed?

9. Why does Zaharia say he became a monk?

10. What does the narrator succeed in doing in Chapter 21 that Zorba could not?

Essay Topics

Write an essay for ONE of the following topics:

Essay Topic 1

Zorba describes sex as the essence of paradise and not at all an impediment to gaining "freedom." Simultaneously, he describes man as a servant sent to please women sexually.

Part 1) Is Zorba's description of Zeus, a creature beaten to sexual exhaustion in his service to women, mutually exclusive to his claims of manly freedom or are they indeed one and the same?

Part 2) The narrator uses less aggression when approaching women, yet he's able to use some of Zorba's advice to good result. Do you think the teacher or the student better masters Zorba's twofold theory on sexuality?

Essay Topic 2

There are several parallel calamities/destructions that occur in the novel:

- 1) the lignite mine and the monastery
- 2) the Buddha and the timber rail
- 3) the death of Madame Hortense and the death of the widow

Pick one set to compare and contrast both literally and symbolically.

Essay Topic 3

The notion of "eternity" plays a consistent though seldom-mentioned role in Zorba the Greek.

Part 1) How would Zorba describe "eternity" on the boat at the beginning of the story?

- How would he describe it after Madame Hortense's death?
- What has brought him to this point?
- Is there any way in which Zorba can reconcile living presently in the mystery with attempting to solve the question of an eternity that may be marked by a lack of physicality?
- Does he come close to solving this problem for himself?

Part 2) The narrator has a conversation with Mother Superior at the convent in which "eternity" is discussed?

- What is the narrator's response to the conversation?
- What does he mean when he refers to Buddha as the terrible "Last Man"?
- Is eternity a part of the "Void" for the narrator, or is it a notion he is able to reconcile with his quest for the ever-present physical world?

Part 3) How do the deaths of Madame Hortense and the widow alter Zorba and the narrator's convictions about eternity?



Short Answer Key

1. Before going to bed the night before beginning work on the railway, what does the narrator ask Zorba if he's ever done?

Fought in a war.

2. What does Zorba ask the narrator to explain to him in Chapter 24?

Death and why people die.

3. Who publicly defends the accused and attempts to break up the mob which seeks justice for Pavli's death?

The narrator.

4. What gift does Madame Hortense present to Zorba when he returns from the monastery?

A pair of wedding rings.

5. When the narrator loses everything, what does he find?

Happiness.

Short Essay Answer Key

1. Describe the monastery bishop's first theory on religion.

He believes that the shape of a flower influences its color and its color then has an influence on its properties which in turn produce a specific effect on humans. He summarizes this theory with the belief that men should be careful when walking through

fields of flowers because of the peculiar effects the flowers are having on them.

2. What two major shifts happen to the narrator in Chapter 21? What major realization do these shifts spur in the narrator.

The narrator finally sleeps with the widow, which Zorba has been encouraging him to do for some time. The narrator also finishes the Buddha Manuscript and with it, has the realization that he has exorcised the Buddha from himself. These two shifts make it clear to the narrator that "the soul is flesh as well," or in other words the actions of his body are just as important and spiritual as the meditating and thinking to which he is accustomed.

3. What evidence of artistic inspiration does the narrator find in the ruins of the old city? How does he feel when he sees it?

The narrator finds a partially finished jar carved from stone and a chisel on the ground nearby. This fills him with bitterness as he realizes the artistic inspiration has been defeated.

4. In Chapter 16, what did the sleeping workmen do who when they heard Zorba playing his Santuri?

They got up, circled around him and began dancing to the music he played.

5. What does the narrator state is the reason for Zaharia's death?

The narrator says that Zaharia has fulfilled his main passion and purpose and has therefore accomplished everything that life would ask of him, so he can die.

6. After the widow's murder, what happens when Zorba and Manolakas meet near the widow's garden?

Manolakas challenges Zorba to a knife fight after having been beaten previously. Zorba tells him he will fight without weapons. Then the narrator intervenes and talks them down from fighting at all. They end up all drinking together.



7. What might be the significance of the narrator inheriting the Santuri?

The Santuri, Zorba's musical instrument, was one of the symbols in the story of the expression of emotion outside of words. Zorba plays the Santuri in the story when he is happy. The fact that the story ends with the Santuri in the narrator's possession is an indication that he has grown closer to reaching his goal, that of a marriage between the body and spirit, and that he has attained some level of the sought after "freedom."

8. Why does Anagnosti say that Pavli is blessed?

Pavli commits suicide by drowning, and Anagnosti says that he is blessed because he is free from the object of his desire, the widow. Anagnosti claims that Pavli could not have lived happily with or without her because he had so much passion for her but now he is at peace.

9. Why does Zaharia say he became a monk?

He says poverty led him to become a monk. He was hungry and knew that if he went into the monastery there would be no way he could starve.

10. What does the narrator succeed in doing in Chapter 21 that Zorba could not?

The narrator recognizes that Madame Hortense is seriously ill and takes care of her both mentally and physically. He mentally encourages her by reminding her of her wedding while physically bringing a doctor to attend to her. He uses Zorba's romantic speech tricks while conscientiously attending to her health as well. Zorba, on the other hand, is a successful romantic but not a responsible partner.