***Great Books: Le Morte D'Arthur***

1. King Arthur was the hero king who gathered the best fighters he could find and waged war to restore \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; the warrior king who hacked order out of chaos with sword and mace and battle axe; who righted all wrongs and reigned in justice and peace for a brief, shining moment.
2. The Arthur legend was fully compiled for the first time in the twelfth century by a Welsh cleric named \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. It was recreated in the fifteenth century by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in his classic, ***Le Morte D'Arthur***.
4. The thing I find fascinating about mythology is that it's psychological \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It's a way of looking back in history at the way men think.
5. More important than streets and plumbing, the Romans brought to England \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, learning, law, and a new religion: the fundamentals of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. The search for Arthur begins at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Abbey, the possible home of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the enchanted Isle of Apples.
7. Camelot may have been located on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hill.
8. In medieval times, the myth of King Arthur was taken as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by many people, and as such it made its mark on history. This story and its hero helped to shape a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for Britons, Saxons, Angles, Danes and the other people of England and Europe.
9. King Arthur was first of all a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
10. In the building of civilization, first came the discipline of battle -- the code of the warrior -- demanding courage, skill, loyalty, and self control. But progress required something more. The word for it came from the French word for horseman. It was called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
11. Sir Thomas Malory admired courage, loyalty, and endeavor, but he also recognized that the world in which these things are struggled for by some people is a world in which the vicious and un-admirable is frequently successful. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ appears in strong form, as well as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
12. In the middle ages, marriages were arranged, and romantic love was found outside the marriage vows. And so the relationship between knights and women gave us that medieval variation on morals, manners and social graces known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
13. Chretien de Troyes, a French writer, more or less invented the knight \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
14. The classic "love triangle" of Arthur, Lancelot, and Guenevere illustrates the struggle between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
15. Merlin represents the desire all people share for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. He was more than an evil sorcerer. He was a great political figure, with the vulnerabilities of a man. After all, a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ entraps him, learns his secrets, and imprisons him.
16. Tintagel is the place where Arthur was conceived. In the cliffs below is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
17. Darth Vader is a modern creature of the dark side, and a sharp twist on the Arthurian conflict between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
18. In the Star Wars saga, good triumphs over evil, but Le Morte D'Arthur is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Arthur and his knights are powerful men with powerful \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Theirs is a world where mere accident and unintended consequence combine with the wages of sin to destroy the hero and his realm.
19. While Arthur represents good, his son \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ embodies evil.
20. The legend addresses the inevitable human tragedy. Arthur is not only a king; he is a man, and a man must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
21. The quest for the grail proved to be a trial of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
22. The grail is often used as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for anything we are seeking.
23. The nineteenth century retelling of the Arthur legend, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by Alfred Lord Tennyson, was written in part as a reaction against the idealism "pulverized by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Revolution."
24. Tennyson's central theme is that beauty and goodness cannot \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The Arthurian story becomes "one brief \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_," after which, the world returns to the chaos that it was in before.
25. In the 1930's, TH White published the first volume in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What are two "spin-offs" of this novel? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
26. What American president is associated with King Arthur?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
27. Excalibur still is a potent (powerful) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, reminding us it is sometimes necessary to use the sword to sustain an idea or a society. We still need the example of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
28. As time passes, civilization becomes more sophisticated and complex, but the yearnings of mankind remain the same: to be part of something, to be of use, to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
29. "Some men say in many parts of England that King Arthur is not dead, and men say that he shall come again, and he shall win the holy cross. I will not say that it shall be so, but many men say that there is written upon his tomb this verse: 'Here lies Arthur, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.'"
30. What is the origin of the modern word "freelance"?