Dante’s *Inferno*: Study Guide

A COMPLETED STUDY GUIDE WILL ADD 10 POINTS TO YOUR TEST SCORE.

**Background:**

Dante: (5 facts)

Beatrice:

Virgil:

Language:

**Vocab:**

tercet

terza rima

canto

allegory

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Setting** | **Characters** | **Punishment/Consequence** |
| **Dark Wood of Error**  **Canto 1** |  |  |  |
| **Vestibule**  **Canto 3** |  |  |  |
| **Circle 2**  **Canto 5** |  |  |  |
| **Circle 9**  **Canto 34** |  |  |  |

**REVIEW THE ORDER OF THE CIRCLES, SIN, AND PUNISHMENT. (YOU SHOULD HAVE A COMPLETED CHART WITH ALL OF THESE ANSWERS. THEY WILL BE ON THE TEST.**

**Questions:**

1. At the midpoint of life’s journey, where does Dante find himself?
2. Who appears to guide Dante on his journey? Why is this significant?
3. How does Dante react to the first horrors he sees in Hell?
4. What is Minos role in Circle Two?
5. Why must the souls in Circle Two whirl endlessly? How does this “fit” their sin?
6. Describe the area around Satan.
7. Describe Satan.
8. What sin is punished in Circle 9?
9. What punishment do Judas, Brutus, and Cassius endure?
10. Why do you think the circles get smaller as they go down?
11. How do Dane and Virgil escape?
12. What does Virgil represent allegorically?
13. What does Dante’s journey represent allegorically?
14. What do the three beasts in the Woods represent allegorically?
15. What does Dante reveal to the reader about his views on sin and punishment?
16. What about his views on human nature?
17. What is significant about the timing of Dante’s journey?
18. Make sure to review the nonfiction article on pg. 664. (Allegory)
19. Make sure you can write about the Cleopatra article. What level of hell would you place her in? Why?