Socratic Seminar #2 | Uncle Tom's Cabin

## Directions:

Pre-seminar - (prepare and bring to class) 25 points

- 1. Answer all SS questions (see next page). Answer in complete sentences using properly cited textual support to back up your answer. Avoid generalizations! You should have specific, detailed answers with textual support to receive full credit. Each answer must be a minimum of 5 sentences.
- 2. Questions should be typed out along with answers. Consider typing the question in bold or underlined font to set it apart from the answer. MLA formatting rules apply.
- 3. Come up with 2 additional thought-provoking questions. (note: think big ideas theme, characterization, slave narrative, etc. for these questions!) You do not need to answer these questions.

During-seminar - (engage as both a participant and a coach) 40 points - Participation Grade

The Participants: (30 points)

- Must support their opinions with evidence from the text
- May speak at any time during the seminar with respect for the other participants
- May refer to other works the class has read if applicable to the text
- Must present at least 2 relevant questions of other participants at some point during the seminar

The Coaches: (10 points)

- Must evaluate the participant's performance during the seminar
- Must provide oral and written feedback to the participant after the seminar
- May not speak to their participants during the seminar
- May not speak to other participants or coaches during the seminar

In Class Guidelines:

- ✓ <u>Minimum</u> participation expectation: 2 quality questions & 3 quality comments/responses with textual support when possible!
- ✓ Come prepared with your annotated text and prep work.
- ✓ Be an active listener and speaker. Contribute to the discussion.
  - No side discussions
  - o No talking over each other
  - Monitor your own "air time" (aka don't dominate the discussion)
  - One Voice only one person can speak at one time
- ✓ Be respectful (even if you do not agree)
- ✓ Use evidence or examples from your reading
  - You must back up statements with textual evidence (with specific page numbers)
  - Explain your answers a simple yes or no is not acceptable you must explain
- ✓ Address each other by name and use "I" phrases
  - I agree with \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_
  - I disagree with \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Anyone may ask questions of the group at any time. Talk to the group, not to the teacher

## Prep work Instructions:

Answer all SS questions (see below). Type out the question AND the answer. Answer in complete sentences using properly cited textual support to back up your answer. Avoid generalizations! You must have specific, detailed answers with textual support to receive full credit. Each answer must be a minimum of 5 sentences. Remember, you should have a detailed answer, but you don't need to worry about formal diction (i.e. be-verbs) or quote integration since this is not a formal paragraph.

## Socratic Seminar Questions:

- 1. Some critics maintain that characters like Mrs. Shelby and Augustine St. Clare are hypocrites because they willingly live as slave owners although they disagree with slavery as an institution. Do you agree with the actions/opinions of these characters? Why or why not?
- 2. North vs. South: Augustine St. Clare and Miss Ophelia disagree over some of the fundamental issues surrounding slavery, primarily pertaining to culpability (who– Northerners or Southerners– bears responsibility for slavery). Which character do you think makes the stronger argument? Why?
- 3. Several times during the story we are presented with scenarios where characters chose to obey God rather than man (following biblical principles rather than the law). Find one such instance and discuss whether you agree with the character's decision.
- 4. Stowe uses author asides to appeal to her reader's emotions and provoke a response. Pick 1-2 asides that you found particularly significant. Why did you find them appealing? What was Stowe trying to accomplish through them? Be specific!
- 5. Juxtaposition is a literary technique in which the author places two concepts, characters, ideas, or places near or next to each other to emphasize a stark contrast. Find an example of juxtaposition in Uncle Tom's Cabin and explain the point Stowe is seeking to make through this technique.
- 6. Find two examples of the characteristics of a Slave Narrative in Uncle Tom's Cabin. Should this work be considered a Slave Narrative? Why or why not?

\*\*Don't forget to write (but not answer) two additional thought-provoking questions!