

Name: _____

Transcendentalism Unit Test Study Guide:

1. Pg. 311 List the 7 transcendental tenets then paraphrase them:

Transcendental Tenet	Explain
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2. Paraphrase the following quotes from "Self-Reliance"

Quote	Paraphrase
• "There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide."	
• "Great men have always [trusted themselves], betraying their perception that the absolutely trustworthy was seated at their heart, working through their hands, predominating in all their being..."	
• "No law can be sacred to me but that of my nature. Good and bad are but names very readily transferable to that or this; the only right is what is after my constitution; ⁱ the only wrong what is against it..."	

The passage you will read on your test focuses on the natural world. Read this excerpt from Emerson’s “Nature” and answer the following questions.

Nature is a setting that fits equally well a comic or a mourning piece. In good health, the air is a cordial of incredible virtue. Crossing a bare common, in snow puddles, at twilight, under a clouded sky, without having in my thoughts any occurrence of special good fortune, I have enjoyed a perfect exhilaration. I am glad to the brink of fear. In the woods too, a man casts off his years, as the snake his slough, and at what period soever of life, is always a child. In the woods, is perpetual youth. Within these plantations of God, a decorum and sanctity reign, a perennial festival is dressed, and the guest sees not how he should tire of them in a thousand years. In the woods, we return to reason and faith. There I feel that nothing can befall me in life, — no disgrace, no calamity, (leaving me my eyes,) which nature cannot repair. Standing on the bare ground, — my head bathed by the blithe air, and uplifted into infinite space, — all mean egotism vanishes. I become a transparent eye-ball; I am nothing; I see all; the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part or particle of God. The name of the nearest friend sounds then foreign and accidental: to be brothers, to be acquaintances, — master or servant, is then a trifle and a disturbance. I am the lover of uncontained and immortal beauty. In the wilderness, I find something more dear and connate than in streets or villages. In the tranquil landscape, and especially in the distant line of the horizon, man beholds somewhat as beautiful as his own nature.

The greatest delight which the fields and woods minister, is the suggestion of an occult relation between man and the vegetable. I am not alone and unacknowledged. They nod to me, and I to them. The waving of the boughs in the storm, is new to me and old. It takes me by surprise, and yet is not unknown. Its effect is like that of a higher thought or a better emotion coming over me, when I deemed I was thinking justly or doing right.

1. What does Emerson think and feel when he stands in the woods?
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2. What does he compare himself to? _____
3. Write 2 quotes where Emerson expresses the idea of connecting with God through Nature.
4. According to Emerson, what is the greatest delight that Nature provides?
5. What does Emerson mean when he says the field and the woods “nod” to him?

<p>3. Memorize the following prefixes and their meanings. Write a common word that uses these prefixes.</p>	<p>4. Memorize the following latin root words and their meaning. Write a word that uses them.</p>
<p>un- (not) _____</p> <p>re- (again) _____</p> <p>ob- (to hold) _____</p> <p>sub- (near) _____</p>	<p>annus (year) _____</p> <p>opportunis (toward harbor) _____</p> <p>currere (to run) _____</p> <p>miserabilis (wretched) _____</p> <p>ferox (fierce looking) _____</p>
