

## OLYMPIADS SCHOOL/ENGLISH IB/TOPS/MACS/HANDOUT 15

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_ CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

**SELECTION 1/4**

The night-wind blew chill up the valley to meet them. Before them a wide grey shadow loomed, and they heard an endless rustle of leaves like poplars in the breeze.

‘Lothlórien!’ cried Legolas. ‘Lothlórien! We have come to the eaves of the Golden Wood. Alas that it is winter!’

Under the night the trees stood tall before them, arched over the road and stream that ran suddenly beneath their spreading boughs. In the dim light of the stars their stems were grey, and their quivering leaves a hint of fallow gold.

1. For each of the words below, give one word or short phrase (of not more than seven words) which has the same meaning that the word or phrase has in the passage.

i. Loomed	
ii. Rustle	
iii. Quivering	

**SELECTION 2/4**

‘Lothlórien!’ said Aragorn. ‘Glad I am to hear again the wind in the trees! We are still little more than five leagues from the Gates, but we can go no further. Here let us hope that the virtue of the Elves will keep us tonight from the peril that comes behind.’

‘If Elves indeed still dwell here in the darkening world,’ said Gimli.

'It is long since any of my own folk journeyed hither back to the land whence we wandered in ages long ago,' said Legolas, 'but we hear that Lórien is not yet deserted, for there is a secret power here that holds evil from the land. Nevertheless its folk are seldom seen, and maybe they dwell now deep in the woods and far from the northern border.'

'Indeed deep in the wood they dwell,' said Aragorn, and sighed as if some memory stirred in him. 'We must fend for ourselves tonight. We will go forward a short way, until the trees are all about us, and then we will turn aside from the path and seek a place to rest in.'

He stepped forward; but Boromir stood irresolute and did not follow. 'Is there no other way?' he said.

'What other fairer way would you desire?' said Aragorn. 'A plain road, though it led through a hedge of swords,' said Boromir. 'By strange paths has this Company been led, and so far to evil fortune. Against my will we passed under the shades of Moria, to our loss. And now we must enter the Golden Wood, you say. But of that perilous land we have heard in Gondor, and it is said that few come out who once go in; and of that few none have escaped unscathed.'

'Say not *unscathed*, but if you say *unchanged*, then maybe you will speak the truth,' said Aragorn. 'But lore wanes in Gondor, Boromir, if in the city of those who once were wise they now speak evil of Lothlórien. Believe what you will, there is no other way for us – unless you would go back to Moria-gate, or scale the pathless mountains, or swim the Great River all alone.'

'Then lead on!' said Boromir. 'But it is perilous.'

'Perilous indeed,' said Aragorn, 'fair and perilous; but only evil

2. For each of the words below, give one word or short phrase (of not more than seven words) which has the same meaning that the word or phrase has in the passage.

i. Stirred	
ii. Fend	
iii. Irresolute	
iv. Unscathed	

3. The words "leagues" is mostly a(n)\_\_\_\_\_.
4. What could be Gimli's tone of voice when he responds to Aragon's hopeful statement, "Here let us hope that the virtue of Elves will keep us tonight from the peril that comes behind."

5. What does Aragon's imperative statement, "We must fend for ourselves tonight," suggest about his view of the protective "virtue of the Elves"?

6. According to Aragorn, there is a possible outcome that is worse than escaping from the perilous land unscathed. In your own words, explain what this possible outcome is.

### SELECTION 3/4

need fear it, or those who bring some evil with them. Follow me!

They had gone little more than a mile into the forest when they came upon another stream flowing down swiftly from the tree-clad slopes that climbed back westward towards the mountains. They heard it splashing over a fall away among the shadows on their right. Its dark hurrying waters ran across the path before them, and joined the Silverlode in a swirl of dim pools among the roots of trees.

'Here is Nimrodel!' said Legolas. 'Of this stream the Silvan Elves made many songs long ago, and still we sing them in the North, remembering the rainbow on its falls, and the golden flowers that floated in its foam. All is dark now and the Bridge of Nimrodel is broken down. I will bathe my feet, for it is said that the water is healing to the weary.' He went forward and climbed down the deep-cloven bank and stepped into the stream.

‘Follow me!’ he cried. ‘The water is not deep. Let us wade across! On the further bank we can rest, and the sound of the falling water may bring us sleep and forgetfulness of grief.’

One by one they climbed down and followed Legolas. For a moment Frodo stood near the brink and let the water flow over his tired feet. It was cold but its touch was clean, and as he went on and it mounted to his knees, he felt that the stain of travel and all weariness was washed from his limbs.

When all the Company had crossed, they sat and rested and ate a little food; and Legolas told them tales of Lothlórien that the Elves of Mirkwood still kept in their hearts, of sunlight and starlight upon the meadows by the Great River before the world was grey.

At length a silence fell, and they heard the music of the waterfall running sweetly in the shadows. Almost Frodo fancied that he could hear a voice singing, mingled with the sound of the water.

‘Do you hear the voice of Nimrodel?’ asked Legolas. ‘I will sing

8. For each of the words below, give one word or short phrase (of not more than seven words) which has the same meaning that the word or phrase has in the passage.

i. Clad	
ii. Weary	
iii. Cloven	
iv. Mingled	

9. Can we find evidence from the selection to suggest that Legolas is an elf?

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10. According to Legolas, what will lull the travellers to sleep and therefore offer them some respite?

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11. Which phrase suggests that Frodo will be rejuvenated after he wades across Nimrodel?

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#### SELECTION 4/4

you a song of the maiden Nimrodel, who bore the same name as the stream beside which she lived long ago. It is a fair song in our woodland tongue; but this is how it runs in the Westron Speech, as some in Rivendell now sing it.' In a soft voice hardly to be heard amid the rustle of the leaves above them he began:

*An Elven-maid there was of old,  
A shining star by day:  
Her mantle white was hemmed with gold,  
Her shoes of silver-grey.*

*A star was bound upon her brows,  
A light was on her hair  
As sun upon the golden boughs  
In Lórien the fair.*

*Her hair was long, her limbs were white,  
And fair she was and free;  
And in the wind she went as light  
As leaf of linden-tree.*

*Beside the falls of Nimrodel,  
By water clear and cool,  
Her voice as falling silver fell  
Into the shining pool.*

*Where now she wanders none can tell,  
In sunlight or in shade;  
For lost of yore was Nimrodel  
And in the mountains strayed.*

**Look for examples of literary devices from the song in the selection. Write them down in the form of quotations and explain the effects these devices have on the reader.**

<b>Literary Devices</b>	<b>Quotations</b>	<b>Effects</b>
Metaphor		
Simile		
Simile		

## **WRITING SKILLS**

### **MASTERING THE 5-PARAGRAPH ESSAY**

<http://www.onlinehighschooliplomaprogram.com/paragraph-essay.html>

Most students do not need to be professional writers or a wizard in English class to learn how to write outstanding five paragraph essays. Practice makes perfect and with some basic skills and a lot of practice, any student can be writing proper essays in no time.

The five paragraph essay is of utmost importance because it is the chosen standard for measuring a student's writing skills and proficiency. Most grade schools use the five paragraph essay for class assignments and standardized testing. Mastering the patterned format of this essay will help to ensure that students score high marks and are prepared for secondary schooling such as colleges and universities. The five

paragraph essay sets the groundwork for all other levels of schooling and research and is a simplified mainstay for reports in the professional world as well.

### **Structure of the Essay**

The introductory paragraph is the first paragraph in the essay. An introductory paragraph is based on a thesis statement that defines the problem or question being addressed in the essay. The introductory paragraph should hint at the writer's conclusion while not examining the topic in depth.

The next three paragraphs should each describe a position regarding the topic. These different points should be addressed in order of importance. The second paragraph should describe the most important point; the third paragraph a lesser important point, etc. Each paragraph should begin by stating the fact, follow with facts supporting the writer's point, and end in summarizing a writer's conclusion about this point.

Finally the fifth paragraph should summarize the conclusions of the essay drawing on the conclusions arrived at in the middle three paragraphs. Ideally the first sentence should restate the problem or question introduced in the introduction, reiterate the writer's conclusions regarding the facts involved in the topic, and then be summarized in a final sentence which unites the observations made in the middle paragraphs into an overall conclusion about the topic.

### **HOW TO WRITE AN ESSAY INTRODUCTION**

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<http://www.brighthubeducation.com/high-school-english-lessons/22357-how-to-write-an-essay-introduction/> (adapted)

Writing an effective introductory paragraph binds the audience to the writer. A bound audience means you get to share all those wonderful ideas you've been wanting to share.

Write hook introductions that contain dynamic leads. Think fishing when you think of hooking the reader. Once the reader is hooked, you've got them. The following techniques are effective:

- An anecdote that exemplifies the thesis statement.
- An authoritative quotation
- A controversial opinion
- Shocking fact or statistic
- Definition of an unusual term central to your thesis

**PRACTICE**

**Your teacher will now assign an essay topic to the whole class. Imagine you are writing a five-paragraph essay, but write only the introduction in the space below. Let's see who comes up with the most effective hook!**

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**THE END**