

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

“A Rose for Emily” by William Faulkner

Vocabulary:

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| 1. remit – pardon | 9. deprecation – derogatory (belittle) |
| 2. mote – speck | 10. tableau – scene |
| 3. gilt – gold-edged | 11. cabal – secret intrigue |
| 4. pallid – pale | 12. impervious – not able to pass through |
| 5. hue – color/shade | 13. acrid – bitter |
| 6. temerity – courage | 14. thwart – to keep from happening; to stand in the way |
| 7. teeming – swarming | 15. august – magnificent; inspiring awe |
| 8. diffident – shy | 16. cuckold – husband of an adulterous wife |

Characters: Identify & describe each of the following characters.

1. Emily Grierson
2. Colonel Sartoris
3. Tobe
4. Judge Stevens
5. Homer Barron

Answer the following questions as you read the short story:

6. What is the point of view of the story?
7. What does the title of the story suggest about the townspeople’s feelings toward Miss Emily? Why do they feel this way about her? (Or: What does she represent to them?) Is there anything ironic about their feelings?
8. Describe and discuss the symbolism of Miss Emily’s house.
9. What is the role of “the smell” incident in the story. What other problems has Miss Emily caused the local authorities?
10. How do the townspeople know what they know about Miss Emily’s life? What is the source of their information?

11. What did Miss Emily tell her visitors the day after her father's death?
12. Why did the townspeople not think she was crazy for this?
13. What did the townspeople think of Miss Emily and her new boyfriend?
14. Why do the townspeople believe her boyfriend/husband has left?
15. When was the last time the townspeople saw the boyfriend/husband?
16. When Miss Emily was about forty, what had she done to earn money?
17. There is a room upstairs that no one has seen for forty years. After Miss Emily's funeral, the door to it is broken down. What do the townspeople find there?
18. What does the strand of hair reveal to readers? What do you think was her motivation for doing this?