**Short Story Unit Exam Study Guide**

**NB. This is a study GUIDE. You are expected to truly understand, apply, and analyze these concepts. Memorizing their definitions is not enough to be successful on this test.**

**Literary Theories:**

* Know the definition and major concerns of each (what do they value, what things do they tend to analyze)

-Reader Response

-Formalism

-Feminism

-Sociological

-Marxist

-Biographical

-Psychological

-Cultural

-Structuralism

-Deconstruction

**Short Stories:**

* Know the title,author, major characters, summary, and associated themes/analysis for each (including terms and author’s biography as discussed in class):

-“Pilgrims” by Julie Orringer

-“The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin

-“Girl” by Jamacia Kincaid

-“Hills Like White Elephants” by Ernest Hemingway

-“The Fat Girl” by Andre Dubus

-“The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

-“Our Lady of Peace” by ZZ Packer

-“The Conversion of the Jews” by Philip Roth

-“Here We Aren’t So Quickly” by Jonathan Safran Foer

**Terms to know:**

* Know the definition and which type of criticism and stories they refer to:

Relevant Terms: Formalism

* Universality

Formalism:

* Symbolism
* Structure of the text
* Diction
* Allusions

 Gender Theory

* Home
* Kitchens
* Nature (Gardens and the Moon)
* Speech
* Relationships
* Physical Movement
* Names
* Sight
* Treatment of Objects
* Possessions/Belongings
* Boundaries
* “Other”
* Public v. Private
* Sanity

Sociological Theory:

* Political Values
* Culture Values
* Economic Values

Relevant Terms: Gender

* Patriarchy
* Gender Norms

Relevant Terms: Sociological Theory

* Lost Generation
* Modernism
* Disillusionment

Marxist Theory

Relevant Terms: Marxism

* Communism
* Bourgeoisie
* Proletariat
* False Consciousness
* Ideology
* Commodification
* Satire
* Consumption
	+ Eating and Food
	+ Clothing
* Machines
* Literal Money
* Possessions
	+ Consumerism and Materialism
* Power (seen through hierarchy, decisions, voice)
* Career (Non)Choices
* Names
* Alieniation/isolation
* Defiance

Biographical

* Major life events for author
* Author’s cultural, political, religious values
* Major recurring themes in author’s works

Relevant Terms: Psychoanalytical

* Conscious
* Preconscious
* Unconscious
* Id
* Ego

Psychoanalytical

* Superego
* Repression
* Projection
* Regression
* Rationalization
* Displacement
* Unconscious desires
* Representations of Id, Ego, and Superego
* Coping mechanisms for traumatic situations /internal dilemmas

Relevant Terms: Cultural Studies

* Code Switching
* Double Consciousness

Cultural Studies

* Majority v. minority culture
* Identity

Structuralism/Deconstruction

Relevant Terms: Structuralism/Deconstruction

* Sign
* Signifier
* Binary Oppositions
* Postmodernism
* Double Negatives
* Contradictions
* Absolutes
* Hierarchies
* Patterns/structures of opposing ideas or words
	+ One “favored” or “unstable” binary
* Consistent or inconsistent meaning of the text as a whole