

## HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE PREP ENGLISH IIIA

### *The Andromeda Strain* Comprehension Questions

#### **Chapters 1 and 2:**

1. The man with the binoculars was watching:
  - a. a Ford van
  - b. the town of Piedmont, Arizona
  - c. Private Crane
  - d. Vandenburg Air Force Base
  
2. What were Lt. Shawn and Pvt. Crane looking for?
  - a. the radio directional equipment
  - b. a computer
  - c. a Scoop satellite capsule
  - d. the country of lost borders
  
3. Why were the men nervous?
  - a. The satellite landed at the wrong place
  - b. No one in the town had reported it
  - c. There were no signs of life or movement
  - d. All of the above
  
4. The chief duty officer for the month for all Scoop activities was:
  - a. Lt. Comroe
  - b. Lt. Shawn
  - c. Private Crane
  - d. Major Manchek

#### **Chapter 3:**

5. The Andromeda strain was the first:
  - a. biologic crisis
  - b. chemical crisis
  - c. physics crisis
  - d. mathematical crisis

#### **Chapter 4:**

6. What was the name of the project set up to investigate possible extraterrestrial life forms introduced from a returning space craft?
  - a. Andromeda
  - b. Wildfire
  - c. Jagers
  - d. Caper One

## **Chapter 5:**

7. The first member of the team was a bacteriologist from Stanford named:
  - a. Mark Hall
  - b. Peter Leavitt
  - c. Jeremy Stone
  - d. Christian Kirke
  
8. Stone was prominent because he:
  - a. won the Nobel Prize
  - b. had political contacts
  - c. had legal training
  - d. all of the above
  
9. Stone and J.J. Merricks of England believed that:
  - a. bacterial contamination was a two-edged sword
  - b. a returning space probe could contaminate our world
  - c. our space probe could contaminate another world
  - d. all of the above

Answer true or false to the following statements about the Wildfire Laboratory:

10. The laboratory was shaped like a cone (conical).      True              False
  
11. It had three floors.      True              False
  
12. It was above ground.              True              False
  
13. Each floor was progressively more sterile.              True              False
  
14. What was the true or real aim of Project Scoop?
  - a. to collect dust and organisms for study
  - b. to find new biological weapons of war
  - c. to lay the groundwork for space travel
  - d. to explore the upper atmosphere
  
15. Which of the following sites was not a research facility for CBW (Chemical and Biological warfare).
  - a. Jet Propulsion Laboratory
  - b. Fort Detrick
  - c. Dugway Proving Ground
  - d. Harley
  
16. Which is not a characteristic of Peter Leavitt?
  - a. experienced in treatment of infectious diseases
  - b. pessimistic
  - c. irritable and morose
  - d. care-free



25. Who was found alive in the town?
- a. a baby
  - b. an old man
  - c. both a and b
  - d. no one

**Chapter 8:**

26. What was directive 7-12?
- a. a plan to burn out the infection
  - b. a nuclear weapon
  - c. its code name was Cautery
  - d. all of the above
27. Was directive 7-12 put into action by the President?      Yes      No

**Chapter 9:**

28. The most important concept of the Wildfire installation was that it would consist of:
- a. above ground, very different levels
  - b. underground, similar levels
  - c. each level more sterile than the one before
  - d. both b and c
29. At the installation, Biochemistry, Pathology, and Microbiology were types of:
- a. doctors
  - b. laboratories
  - c. sterilization
  - d. libraries
30. Project Wildfire installation was located in which state?
- a. California
  - b. Arizona
  - c. Nevada
  - d. Montana

**Chapter 10:**

31. The color of Level V, the most sterile level was:
- a. red
  - b. blue
  - c. white
  - d. green

32. The device that was installed that had been a major stumbling block in the early plans was:
- a hot line to Washington
  - a limousine
  - an atomic self-destruct device
  - a bacterial spectroscope
33. In order to disarm the device, Hall was given a:
- key
  - reactor
  - special tool
  - hypothesis
34. Who had the highest index of effectiveness in making the right decision (the odd man hypothesis)?
- Burton
  - Hall
  - Stone
  - Leavitt

### **Chapter 11:**

35. Why were the old man and the baby in the lab?
- They were living clues to the problem.
  - People felt sorry for them.
  - They didn't know where they lived.
  - All of the above.
36. What did Delta sector on Level 1 contain?
- all communications facilities
  - the laboratories
  - the decontamination center
  - security headquarters
37. What was the main job of the man in Delta section?
- security guard
  - lab assistant
  - to report any computer dysfunction
  - to oversee decontamination procedures

### **Chapter 12:**

38. Vector Three considered a crucial question:
- Are all scientists blind?
  - Are there 48 or 46 chromosomes?
  - Where would invading bacteria come from?
  - Who is Rudolph Karp?

39. Which is given as the most likely source of contamination for the earth?
- another planet
  - another galaxy
  - the earth itself
  - spores
40. The Wildfire team ignored the fact that:
- Space could affect the reproduction and growth of bacteria.
  - Bacteria had been found in Egyptian tombs.
  - Bacteria could have stayed on the surface of the earth.
  - Bacteria could live in the ocean.

### **Chapter 13:**

41. How large was the space capsule?
- one foot long
  - one yard long
  - ten feet long
  - ten yards long
42. The black Norwegian rat was:
- white
  - genetically uniform
  - a “pure animal”
  - all of the above
43. The rhesus monkey was:
- a primate
  - close biologically to man
  - hard to work with
  - all of the above

### **Chapter 14:**

44. How did Hall examine Jackson and the baby?
- by using a sealed body suit
  - by using the computer’s help to analyze data
  - both a and b
  - by performing surgery

### **Chapter 15:**

45. What did Stone and Leavitt find on the capsule?
- a small rock
  - a miniature planet
  - green patches
  - both a and c

46. When the green turned to purple and back again, what did they think that this meant?
- The lighting was bad.
  - The green was growing.
  - It was not alive.
  - It was an optical illusion.

### **Chapter 16:**

47. Burton's experiments proved that:
- The disease was transmitted in the air.
  - The disease was caused by something the size of a cell.
  - Dead animals were not infectious
  - All of the above.
48. Which is true of bacteria?
- There are very few bacteria on humans.
  - Men and bacteria try to kill each other off.
  - All bacteria that kills its host is a failure.
  - All of the above
49. The bug found by Burton
- could kill men
  - could not be transmitted by a corpse
  - died with hits hot
  - all of the above
50. Burton's first mistake was that he:
- thought clotting started in the lungs
  - believed there were five quarts of blood
  - lost interest in the brain
  - used a monkey in the experiment
51. Burton's second mistake was that he did not:
- try the experiment a second time
  - autopsy the dead rats
  - give a massive dose of heparin
  - use a monkey in the experiment

### **Chapter 17**

52. What medical problem did Jackson have?
- cancer
  - ulcers
  - heart problems
  - emphysema

53. What was Jackson taking that made his blood so acid?
- tomato juice
  - blood transfusions
  - aspirin
  - vinegar
54. As the result of a piece of tin foil, the Wildfire facility could not receive:
- lab results
  - priority messages
  - telephone calls
  - all of the above

### **Chapter 18:**

55. The green organism turned purple when it:
- colonized
  - died
  - moved
  - divided (reproduced)
56. Microsurgery is the ability to perform surgery on:
- a monkey
  - a white rat
  - a single cell
  - a large mass
57. What happened to the green area when Stone chipped at the rock?
- It broke into fragments.
  - It turned purple.
  - It disappeared.
  - It exploded.

### **Chapter 19**

58. The reason Manchek was notified about the crash of a routine training plane was:
- The plane had flown over Piedmont.
  - An important scientist was aboard.
  - It had flown over the Wildfire laboratory.
  - Manchek was the duty officer.
59. Just before the plane crashed, the pilot stated that:
- He was unable to see.
  - His instruments had gone down.
  - All of the rubber was dissolving.
  - His controls had jammed.

**Chapter 20:**

60. Burton placed a sample of the meteor in the spectrometer which would tell him the rock's:
- origin
  - chemical make-up
  - color
  - vaporization rate
61. As Dr. Stone worked, he believed that there was no problem at Piedmont since:
- The organism was dead.
  - No one was near Piedmont.
  - All of the organisms were at Wildfire.
  - The bomb had been dropped.
62. If an organism escaped at the Wildfire lab, the lab would:
- stay the same
  - seal off with air-tight doors
  - be bombed from above
  - call the President
63. What was happening to Leavitt?
- He was unable to account for missing time.
  - He was losing interest in the project.
  - He was becoming the best informed of the group.
  - He was getting headaches.

**Chapter 21:**

64. What was the "Andromeda Strain?"
- The name of a scientific instrument.
  - The name of the project.
  - The name of the meteor.
  - The code name for the organism they had isolated.

**Chapter 22:**

65. The black rock and green spot both contain:
- hydrogen
  - carbon
  - nitrogen
  - all of the above

66. The black rock was similar to:
- oil
  - plastic
  - gasoline
  - cement
67. What did the green spot lack that all life on earth has?
- proteins and amino acids
  - cells
  - chlorophyll
  - oxygen
68. As a result of seeing the organism in the electron microscope, Stone and Leavitt concluded its life was based:
- on its crystalline structure
  - on octagons
  - on a different type of protein
  - on its living elements
69. What did Leavitt and Stone consider the green crystal might be?
- a messenger
  - part of a larger organism
  - an alien culture
  - all of the above
70. Who did Jackson say drove through Piedmont the night they found the capsule?
- several tourists
  - an Air Force General
  - Willis, the Highway Patrolman
  - No one

**Chapter 23:**

71. What did the biophysicist show Manchek?
- a plane instrument
  - plastic that had been broken down
  - an alien organism
  - a protein
72. The Andromeda Strain preferred to destroy the blood vessels in:
- the liver
  - the brain
  - the lungs
  - the heart

### **Chapter 24:**

73. Waste products of the organism were:
- a. oxygen
  - b. water
  - c. not given off
  - d. carbon dioxide
74. The organism converted matter to energy and was therefore a small:
- a. nuclear reactor
  - b. plant
  - c. animal
  - d. virus
75. Leavitt's electro-encephalogram (brainwave study):
- a. didn't matter
  - b. was never done
  - c. was normal
  - d. was atypical (not normal)

### **Chapter 25:**

76. Officer Willis had a history of:
- a. ulcers
  - b. diabetes
  - c. headaches
  - d. drinking to excess
77. The three people who had been exposed to the Andromeda Strain, but had lived all had related:
- a. insulin shock
  - b. heart problems
  - c. acidosis
  - d. liver problems

### **Chapter 26:**

78. The blinking light caused Leavitt to have a:
- a. seizure
  - b. heart attack
  - c. stroke
  - d. solution to the problem
79. The Autopsy room where Burton was had been:
- a. sealed off
  - b. contaminated
  - c. both a and b
  - d. opened

80. Hall's idea was that growth of the Andromeda Strain took place:
- a. only in acid conditions
  - b. only in basic solutions
  - c. only when neither too acid or too basic
  - d. only in oxygen

**Chapter 28:**

81. Why didn't Burton die?
- a. He made his blood acidic.
  - b. The organism had mutated (changed).
  - c. He was immune to the organism.
  - d. The lab sealed off.
82. What was going to happen to the lab?
- a. Nothing, the virus was dead.
  - b. The computers would shut down.
  - c. New scientists were arriving.
  - d. An atomic bomb was going to blow it up.

**Chapter 29:**

83. Why was it difficult to climb through the central core?
- a. There was no ladder.
  - b. There were poison darts and gas in it.
  - c. There was no oxygen.
  - d. There were armed soldiers.

**Chapter 30:**

84. Who saved the project and proved the "odd man hypothesis?"
- a. Hall
  - b. Leavitt
  - c. Stone
  - d. Burton