

Name _____

Date _____

***Siddhartha*: “With the Samanas” (chpt. 2) - Reading / Study Guide**

I. Vocabulary: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel. Also, be prepared to be quizzed on these words.

chasm: large gap

fatigue: physical or mental exhaustion

onerous: difficult and troublesome

palliate: to make less severe or intense (in text, it is *palliative*)

folly: foolishness

austere: strict; rigorously self-disciplined

II. Background

Nirvana: enlightenment; place or state characterized by freedom of pain and suffering

III. Questions: answer the following questions while you read to check your comprehension.

1. What did Siddhartha do with his clothes?
2. How did Siddhartha’s eating habits change?
3. What was Siddhartha’s single goal?
4. What are some of the experiences that Siddhartha has during his meditation sessions?
5. What purpose did Siddhartha and Govinda sometimes go into the villages?
6. Where does Siddhartha tell Govinda he could have learned his lessons faster?

7. In his disappointment over the results of meditation and self-denial, what does Siddhartha compare the results of meditation to?
8. What does Siddhartha believe the Samanas will never be able to do?
9. When talking to Govinda, what does Siddhartha say is something he has spent a long time learning?
10. After being with the Samanas for three years, what rumor does Siddhartha hear about?
11. What does wearing a yellow cloak indicate?
12. What does Govinda say he wishes for Siddhartha and himself to be able do?
13. What does Siddhartha say he has become distrustful of?
14. What does Siddhartha say is possibly the best “fruit” of Gotama?
15. What was the eldest Samana’s response to Siddhartha’s news?
16. What art does Siddhartha demonstrate he learned from the Samanas?