

**"The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" by James Thurber**

**Open-Book Test**

**Short Answer** Write your responses to the questions in this section on the lines provided.

1. Reread the conversation between Mitty and his wife in the third paragraph of "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty." Based on this conversation, how does Mrs. Mitty view her husband? Explain.

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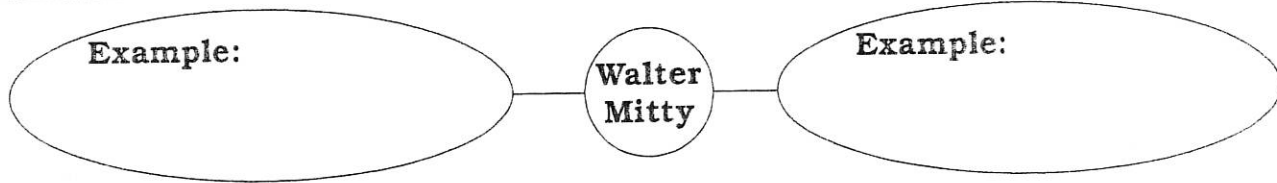
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2. Fill in the diagram with one of Walter Mitty's faults and one of his strengths. Give an example of each.

**Fault:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Strength:** \_\_\_\_\_



3. In "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," how do the characters in Mitty's dreams treat him? Give two examples from the story.

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4. In "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Mrs. Mitty is irritated by her husband's absentmindedness. Cite two pieces of evidence from the story that show this.

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5. A round character shows many different traits, while a flat character shows a single trait. Would you describe Mrs. Mitty as a round or a flat character? Support your response with an example from "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

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6. Reread the paragraph in which Walter Mitty remembers taking the chains off his tires. In your opinion, what is the author's purpose for including this memory?

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7. Cite a moment in "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" when Mitty feels **distraught**. Base your answer on the definition of *distraught*.

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8. What kind of man is Walter Mitty? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.

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9. In your view, does "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" end on a comic or a tragic note? Explain, using examples from the story.

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10. In your view, is Walter Mitty **inscrutable**? Explain your answer on the basis of the meaning of *inscrutable*.

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### Essay

Write an extended response to the question of your choice or to the question or questions your teacher assigns you.

11. Walter Mitty is treated very differently in his real life than in his imaginary life. In an essay, describe this difference, and explain why you think it exists. Are Mitty's two lives totally separate, or are they related in some way?