Purple Aibiscus Study Guide

Name		 	

I. Characters, Setting, and Plot (Matching and Multiple Choice)

Please review the following characters, settings, and how they contribute to the plot. Please also review who each character is, notable behaviors and roles in the text, their methods of speaking and communicating, and their influence on others. There will be multiple choice questions relevant to the characters roles and actions in the text as well as the setting and how each location is significant. You will also read direct quotes from the text and match the quote to the character who said it.

Characters:

Settings:	Enugu	Nsukka	a Abba	
Papa Nnukwu			Obiora	
Amaka		Yewande Coker		
Kevin / Sisi			Ade Coker	
Papa Eugene			Mama Beatrice	
Jaja			Chima	
Father Benedict			Kambili	
Aunty Ifeoma			Father Amadi	

II. Close Reading and Annotation

In this section, you will read a passage from *Purple Hibiscus*. Next, you will annotate the text. Your annotations should identify Adichie's craft; her ability to use literary and storytelling techniques, themes, rhetorical devices and use of persuasion, text structure. Your annotations should also make connections between the text and other texts, stories, and events. Finally, your annotations should ask and answer layered questions, demonstrating that you can engage thoughtfully with the text. To prepare for this annotation, please review literary and persuasive elements, especially as they appear in *Purple Hibiscus*. Prepare to both identify techniques and comment on how they enhance or emphasize meaning. Some of the elements that are particularly relevant in Adichie's work are:

Allusion	Characterization
Dialect	Flashback / Flashforward
Simile	Metaphor
Personification	Motif
Foreshadowing	Imagery
Irony	Point of View
Repetition	Symbolism
Juxtaposition	Setting
Theme	Tone
Climax	Rhetorical Questions

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III. Writing about Motif

Please be prepared to select one motif and explore and discuss that motif carefully. See the class handouts and be able to identify how that motif functions and what message(s) Adichie highlights by using the motif in *Purple Hibiscus*. Please review and be familiar with at least one message that each of the following motifs reveals in the story.

- Insect / Bugs
- Code Switching
- Silence
- Flowers / Purple Hibiscus

IV. Writing about Theme

Please be prepared to write about a larger theme or message that arises in the text. Think back to Chimamanda Adichie's Ted Talk "The Danger of a Single Story" and consider what messages her text Purple Hibiscus reveals that counter the stereotypical views of Africa, its people, and its culture. To prepare for this section of the exam, brainstorm themes / messages that address the depth of Kambili and her growth, the situation in Nigeria, and her family's story:

Possible Theme / Message:

Possible Theme / Message:

Possible Theme / Message:

Possible Theme / Message:

On the Day of the Exam:

Please bring your copy of *Purple Hibiscus*. While you will not be permitted to use it during the objective portion of the exam, you will be allowed to use it during the essay. You will need to pull direct evidence and quotations from the text, so be prepared with the text and any handouts on motif and theme.