

Fences Act II Comprehension Questions (30 pts) **Name** _____

Act II, Scene i (p. 59-72)

1. What do you think Bono means when he says “Some people build fences to keep people out and other people build fences to keep people in”? Which character thinks of fences the first way? How about the second way? (p. 61)
2. On p. 62, what is Bono warning Troy about? Why do you think he cares?
3. What has happened to Gabriel? Why? What does Rose think should be done about him? How does Troy disagree?
4. What does Troy tell Rose on p. 66? How does Rose react? Find a quote that illustrates how she feels about this.
5. On p. 69, how does Troy explain why he cheats? Describe the baseball metaphor used on p. 69-70.
6. Rose has a monologue on p. 70-71 that relates to the theme of “deferred dreams.” What did she used to dream of in life? What metaphor does she use to explain how she held on to a dream even when it seemed like it would never come true?

7. How does the scene end? Predict what will happen next.

Act II, Scene ii (pages 73-77)-SIX MONTHS LATER

8. What has changed between Rose and Troy? Give 2 examples.

9. What has Troy done to his brother Gabe? Why?

10. On p. 76, what happens to Troy?

11. What does Troy say to Death at the end of the scene?

Act II, Scene iii (p. 78-79)

12. What does Troy ask Rose to do for him? In your opinion, is this too much to ask?

20. How did Troy die? (p. 95-96) What does Cory tell Rose about the funeral?
21. How does Rose respond to Cory?
22. On p. 98, what mistake does Rose admit making in her marriage?
23. What do you think is the significance of the lyrics to the song “Old Blue” (p. 99) that Raynell and Cory sing together?
24. What final decision does Cory make? What does it reveal about him in terms of character growth?
25. What is the mood (attitude) of the end of the play? What do you think is the purpose of Gabriel’s final dance?

BIG QUESTIONS:

Explain the significance of the title, *Fences*. How does August Wilson fences as a symbol in the play?

Why is it important that Troy uses baseball as a metaphor for his dreams and Rose uses plants and flowers?