Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**American Realism Background Reading Study Guide**

**Holt Textbook pgs. 442-461**

1. What was the primary cause of the Civil War? What do historians note as other causes of the war?

2. How did intellectual leaders, such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau and Nathaniel Hawthorne, respond to the war?

3. What were conditions like for wounded soldiers?

4. How is the Civil War reflected in Herman Melville and Walt Whitman’s writing?

5. Define Realism.

6. Define the realistic novel.

7. Why were works of literature rare during the Civil War?

8. What piece of literature is considered to be the great novel of the war?

9. Who were the “Realists?” What was their primary goal?

10. What were the subjects of the Realists?

11. How did Realism unfold in Europe?

12. What emerging sciences did the Realists often rely upon?

13. Define regionalism.

14. What authors are noted as the early regionalists?

15. Which writer is the best-known example of a regional writer? Why?

16. Define Naturalism.

17. What are 5 characteristics of Naturalism?

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

18. What are 5 characteristics of Realism?

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

19. Define ironist.

20. How did America transform between the end of the Civil War and the outbreak of World War I?

21. What effect did World War I have on the world?

22. Define modernists.