The Count of Monte Cristo

***The Count of Monte Cristo* SparkNotes Summary**

At the age of nineteen, Edmond Dantès seems to have the perfect life. He is about to become the captain of a ship, he is engaged to a beautiful and kind young woman, Mercédès, and he is well liked by almost everyone who knows him. This perfect life, however, stirs up dangerous jealousy among some of Dantès's so-called friends. Danglars, the treasurer of Dantès's ship, envies Dantès's early career success; Fernand Mondego is in love with Dantès's fiancée and so covets his amorous success; his neighbor Caderousse is simply envious that Dantès is so much luckier in life than he is.

Together, these three men draft a letter accusing Dantès of treason. There is some truth to their accusations: as a favor to his recently deceased captain, Dantès is carrying a letter from Napoleon to a group of Bonapartist sympathizers in Paris. Though Dantès himself has no political leanings, the undertaking is enough to implicate him for treason. On the day of his wedding, Dantès is arrested for his alleged crimes.

The deputy public prosecutor, Villefort, sees through the plot to frame Dantès and is prepared to set him free. At the last moment, though, Dantès jeopardizes his freedom by revealing the name of the man to whom he is supposed to deliver Napoleon's letter. The man, Noirtier, is Villefort's father. Terrified that any public knowledge of his father's treasonous activities will thwart his own ambitions, Villefort decides to send Dantès to prison for life. Despite the entreaties of Monsieur Morrel, Dantès's kind and honest boss, Dantès is sent to the infamous Château d'If, where the most dangerous political prisoners are kept.

While in prison, Dantès meets Abbé Faria, an Italian priest and intellectual, who has been jailed for his political views. Faria teaches Dantès history, science, philosophy, and languages, turning him into a well-educated man. Faria also bequeaths to Dantès a large treasure hidden on the island of Monte Cristo, and he tells him how to find it should he ever escape. When Faria dies, Dantès hides himself in the abbé's shroud, thinking that he will be buried and then dig his way out. Instead, Dantès is thrown into the sea, and is able to cut himself loose and swim to freedom.

Dantès travels to Monte Cristo and finds Faria's enormous treasure. He considers his fortune a gift from God, given to him for the sole purpose of rewarding those who have tried to help him and, more important, punishing those who have hurt him. Disguising himself as an Italian priest who answers to the name of Abbé Busoni, he travels back to Marseilles and visits Caderousse, who is now struggling to make a living as an innkeeper. From Caderousse he learns the details of the plot to frame him. In addition, Dantès learns that his father has died of grief in his absence and that Mercédès has married Fernand Mondego. Most frustrating, he learns that both Danglars and Mondego have become rich and powerful and are living happily in Paris. As a reward for this information, and for Caderousse's apparent regret over the part he played in Dantès's downfall, Dantès gives Caderousse a valuable diamond. Before leaving Marseilles, Dantès anonymously saves Morrel from financial ruin.

Ten years later, Dantès emerges in Rome, calling himself the Count of Monte Cristo. He seems to be all knowing and unstoppable. In Rome Dantès ingratiates himself to Albert de Morcerf, son of Fernand Mondego and Mercédès, by saving him from bandits. In return for the favor, Albert introduces Dantès to Parisian society. None of his old cohorts recognize the mysterious count as Edmond Dantès, though Mercédès does. Dantès is thus able to insinuate himself effortlessly into the lives of Danglars, Mondego, and Villefort. Armed with damning knowledge about each of them that he has gathered over the past decade, Dantès sets an elaborate scheme of revenge into motion.

Mondego, now known as the Count de Morcerf, is the first to be punished. Dantès exposes Morcerf's darkest secret: Morcerf made his fortune by betraying his former patron, the Greek vizier Ali Pacha, and he then sold Ali Pacha's wife and daughter into slavery. Ali Pacha's daughter, Haydée, who

has lived with Dantès ever since he bought her freedom seven years earlier, testifies against Morcerf in front of the senate, irreversibly ruining his good name. Ashamed by Morcerf's treachery, Albert and Mercédès flee, leaving their tainted fortune behind. Morcerf commits suicide.

Villefort's punishment comes slowly and in several stages. Dantès first takes advantage of Madame de Villefort's murderous intent, subtly tutoring her in the uses of poison. As Madame de Villefort wreaks her havoc, killing off each member of the household in turn, Dantès plants the seeds for yet another public exposé. In court, it is revealed that Villefort is guilty of attempted infanticide, as he tried to bury his illegitimate baby while it was still alive. Believing that everyone he loves is dead and knowing that he will soon have to answer severe criminal charges, Villefort goes insane.

For his revenge on Danglars, Dantès simply plays upon his enemy's greed. He opens various false credit accounts with Danglars that cost him vast amounts of money. He also manipulates Danglars's unfaithful and dishonest wife, costing Danglars more money, and helps Danglars's daughter, Eugénie, run away with her female companion. Finally, when Danglars is nearly broke and about to flee without paying any of his creditors, Dantès has the Italian bandit Luigi Vampa kidnap him and relieve him of his remaining money. Dantès spares Danglars's life, but leaves him penniless.

Meanwhile, as these acts of vengeance play out, Dantès also tries to complete one more act of goodness. Dantès wishes to help the brave and honorable Maximilian Morrel, the son of the kind shipowner, so he hatches an elaborate plot to save Maximilian's fiancée, Valentine Villefort, from her murderous stepmother, to ensure that the couple will be truly happy forever. Dantès gives Valentine a pill that makes her appear dead and then carries her off to the island of Monte Cristo. For a month Dantès allows Maximilian to believe that Valentine is dead, which causes Maximilian to long for death himself. Dantès then reveals that Valentine is alive. Having known the depths of despair, Maximilian is now able to experience the heights of ecstasy. Dantès too ultimately finds happiness, when he allows himself to fall in love with the adoring and beautiful Haydée.

Alexandre Dumas
1802-1870

Happiness is like those palaces in fairy tales whose gates are guarded by dragons: we must fight in order to conquer it.

Pure love and suspicion cannot dwell together: at the door where the latter enters, the former makes its exit.

The Count of Monte Cristo

A person who doubts himself is like a man who would enlist in the ranks of his enemies and bear arms against himself. He makes his failure certain by himself being the first person to be convinced of it.

Only a man who has felt ultimate despair is capable of feeling ultimate bliss.

All human wisdom is summed up in two words; wait and hope.

All for one, one for all, that is our device.

All generalizations are dangerous, even this one.

About the author

* Alexandre Dumas is especially famous for his _____ *The Three Musketeers, The Count of Monte Cristo,* and *The Man in the Iron Mask.* His father was somewhat of an adventurer-soldier, a _____, and was not a favorite of Napoleon because of his staunch republicanism. Therefore, on his father's death in 1806, when Alexandre was only four, the family was left in rather severe _____ straits.
* The young boy's formal _____ was scanty, most of it provided by a _____. However, he was an avid reader, and his elegant _____ got him a position as clerk to a lawyer.
* Later, as a young man, Dumas went to _____ and secured a position as a clerk to the Duc d'Orleans; this was a marvelous stroke of good fortune, for the Duc would soon become _____ (King louis-Philippe), and Dumas would write a superb *Memoir* about his many and varied mishaps while he was employed by the future _____.
* Dumas soon turned his attention to literary pursuits. He started out writing _____--dramas replete with love, treachery, and death. The Duc was so fond of one of Dumas's plays that he appointed Dumas the _____ of the Palais Royal.
* Despite his success as a playwright, Dumas found his true love with the birth of the _____ novel. His gripping adventures, with their rambling _____ and moments of suspense, were ideally suited to serialization in newspapers. *The Three Musketeers* was serialized in 1843 and published in 1844; its success made Dumas the _____ of the genre. *The Three Musketeers* was followed by two _____ *Twenty Years After* and *Ten Years Later* (divided into three novels, including *The Man in the Iron Mask*). Dumas also published *The Count of Monte Cristo* in 1844.
* In fact, Dumas, with the aid of _____, turned out so much fiction and miscellaneous writing that it has been remarked that "No one has ever read the whole of Dumas, not even himself." We know now, however, that Dumas' assistants only provided him with rough _____ and suggested incidents to him. He himself filled in the outlines, and all of his novels' manuscripts are in his _____.
* His most notable collaborator was Auguste Maque who helped Dumas write _____ *The Three Musketeers* and *The Count of Monte Cristo*.
* Like so many creative and productive men, Dumas' life ended in a series of personal and _____ tragedies. He built a strangely beautiful and impressive French Gothic, English Renaissance hybrid mansion (called _____ _____) and filled it with a multitude of scavenger-friends; both home and hangers-on were tremendous drains on his purse, as

was the construction and upkeep of his own theater, the Theatre Historique, built specifically for the performance of his _____ plays.

* In 1851, Dumas moved to Brussels, as much for his political advantage as it was to escape creditors — despite the _____ volumes which bore his name. He died shortly afterward while staying at his son's villa.
* Dumas fathered three (perhaps four) illegitimate children but _____married. One his children was also named Alexandre Dumas.

General Information about *The Count of Monte Cristo*

* Full title- *Le Comte de Monte-Cristo*
* Originally written in _____
* _____- adventure, romance, moralistic tale, gothic novel
* Originally published _____ from August 1844 until January 1846
* The novel is narrated by an _____ voice. The narrator speaks in the _____ person, focusing almost entirely on outward _____ and behavior rather than delving into the psychological realities of the characters.
* The narrator is _____ from the story, relating the events as they happen.
* _____- The novel takes place during the years following the fall of _____'s empire. The story begins in 1815 and ends in 1844. Though most of the action takes place in _____, key scenes are also set in Marseilles, Rome, Monte Cristo, Greece, and Constantinople.

Characters

* Edmond Dantès - The _____ of the novel, Dantès is an intelligent, honest, and loving man who turns bitter and vengeful after he is framed for a crime he does _____ commit. When Dantès finds himself free and enormously wealthy, he takes it upon himself to act as the agent of Providence, rewarding those who have helped him in his plight and _____ those responsible for his years of agony.
  - The Count of Monte Cristo - The _____ Dantès assumes when he emerges from prison and inherits his vast fortune, As a result, the Count of Monte Cristo is usually associated with a coldness and _____ that comes from an existence based solely on vengeance.
  - Lord Wilmore - The identity of an eccentric English nobleman that Dantès assumes when committing acts of random _____. Lord Wilmore contrasts sharply with Monte Cristo, who is associated with Dantès's acts of bitterness and cruelty. Appropriately, Monte Cristo cites Lord Wilmore as one of his _____.
  - Abbé Busoni - Another of Dantès's false personas, The disguise of Abbé Busoni, an Italian _____, helps Dantès gain the trust of the people whom the count wants to manipulate because the name connotes _____ authority.
  - Sinbad the Sailor - The name Dantès uses as the signature for his anonymous _____ to Morrel. Sinbad the Sailor is also the persona Dantès adopts during his time in Italy.
* Mercédès - Dantès's beautiful and good _____, Though Mercédès marries another man, Fernand Mondego, while Dantès is in prison, she _____stops loving Dantès. Mercédès is one of the few whom Dantès _____ punishes (for her disloyalty) and rewards (for her enduring love and underlying goodness).
* Abbé Faria - A _____ and brilliant thinker whom Dantès meets in prison, Abbé Faria

becomes Dantès's intellectual father: during their many years as prisoners, he _____ Dantès history, science, art, and many languages. He then bequeaths to Dantès his vast hidden _____. Abbé Faria is the most important _____ in Dantès's transformation into the vengeful Count of Monte Cristo.

* Fernand Mondego - Dantès's rival for Mercédès's affections, Mondego helps in framing Dantès for treason and then _____ Mercédès himself when Dantès is imprisoned. Through acts of treachery Mondego becomes a wealthy and powerful man and takes on the name of the Count de Morcerf. He is the _____ victim of Dantès's vengeance.
* Baron Danglars - A greedy, envious cohort of Mondego, Danglars hatches the plot to frame Dantès for treason. Like Mondego, he becomes _____ and powerful, but loses everything when Monte Cristo takes his revenge. Danglars's obsession with the accumulation of wealth makes him an easy target for Monte Cristo, who has seemingly limitless wealth on hand to exact his _____.
* Caderousse - A lazy, _____, and greedy man, Caderousse is present when the plot to frame Dantès is hatched, but he does not take an active part in the crime. Unlike Danglars and Mondego, Caderousse never finds his fortune, instead making his living through petty _____ and the occasional murder.
* Gérard de Villefort - The blindly ambitious public prosecutor responsible for _____ Dantès to life in prison, Like the others, Villefort eventually receives punishment from Dantès. Villefort stands out as Monte Cristo's _____ opposition, as he employs his own power to judge people and mete out punishments.
* Monsieur Morrel - The kind, honest shipowner who was once Dantès's boss, Morrel does everything in his power to _____ Dantès from prison and tries to save Dantès's father from death. When Dantès emerges from prison, he discovers that Morrel is about to descend into financial ruin, so he carries out an elaborate plot to _____ his one true friend.
* Louis Dantès - Dantès's father, Grief-stricken, Louis Dantès _____ himself to death when Dantès is imprisoned. It is primarily for his father's death that Dantès seeks vengeance.
* Maximilian Morrel - The son of Monsieur Morrel, Brave and _____ like his father, Maximilian becomes Dantès's primary beneficiary. Maximilian and his love, Valentine, survive to the end of the story as two _____ and happy people, personally unaffected by the vices of power, wealth, and position.
* Albert de Morcerf - The son of _____ Mondego and Mercédès, Unlike his father, Albert is brave, honest, and kind. Mercédès's devotion to both Albert and Dantès allows Monte Cristo to realize her unchanging love for him and causes him to think more deeply about his _____ desire for revenge.
* Valentine Villefort - Villefort's saintly and beautiful daughter, Like Maximilian Morrel, her true _____, she falls under Dantès's protection.
* Noirtier - Villefort's _____, Once a powerful French revolutionary, Noirtier is brilliant and willful, even when paralyzed by a stroke. He proves a worthy opponent to his son's selfish ambitions.
* Haydée - The _____ of Ali Pacha, the vizier of the Greek state of Yanina, Haydée is sold into slavery after her father is _____ by Mondego and murdered. Dantès purchases Haydée's freedom and watches her grow into adulthood, eventually falling in love with her.
* Signor Bertuccio - Dantès's _____,Though Bertuccio is loyal and adept, Dantès chooses him as his steward not for his personal qualities but because of his vendetta against

Villefort.

* Benedetto - The illegitimate _____ of Villefort and Madame Danglars, Though raised lovingly by Bertuccio and Bertuccio's widowed sister-in-law, Benedetto nonetheless turns to a life of brutality and crime. Handsome, charming, and a wonderful _____, Benedetto plays the part of Andrea Cavalcanti in one of Dantès's elaborate revenge schemes.
* Madame d'Villefort - Villefort's murderous wife, Devoted wholly to her son _____, Madame d'Villefort turns to crime in order to ensure his fortune.
* Julie Herbaut - The daughter of Monsieur Morrel and sister of Maximilian, Angelically good and blissfully in _____, Julie and her husband, Emmanuel, prove to Monte Cristo that it is possible to be truly satisfied with one's life.
* Emmanuel Herbaut - Julie's husband, Emmanuel is just as noble and perpetually happy as his _____, Julie.
* Madame Danglars - Danglars's wife, Greedy, conniving, and disloyal, Madame Danglars engages in a never-ending string of love _____ that help bring her husband to the brink of financial ruin.
* Eugénie Danglars - The Danglars' _____, A brilliant musician, Eugénie longs for her independence and despises men. On the eve of her wedding, she flees for Italy with her true love, Louise d'Armilly.
* Louise d'Armilly - Eugénie Danglars's music teacher and constant companion.
* Lucien Debray - The secretary to the French minister of the interior, Debray illegally leaks government _____ to his lover, Madame Danglars, so that she can invest wisely with her husband's money.
* Ali - Dantès's mute Nubian _____, Ali is amazingly adept with all sorts of weapons.
* Luigi Vampa - A famous Roman _____, Vampa is indebted to Dantès for once setting him free, and he puts himself at the service of Dantès's vengeful ends.
* Major Cavalcanti - A poor and crooked man whom Dantès resurrects as a phony Italian nobleman.
* Edward d'Villefort - The Villeforts' spoiled son. Edward is an _____ victim of Dantès's elaborate revenge scheme.
* Beauchamp - A well-known journalist and good friend to Albert de Morcerf
* Franz d'Epinay - Another good _____ to Albert de Morcerf, D'Epinay is the unwanted fiancé of Valentine Villefort.
* Marquis of Saint-Méran - The father of Villefort's first wife, who dies shortly after her wedding day.
* Marquise of Saint-Méran - The wife of the Marquis of Saint-Méran.
* Jacopo - A _____ who helps Dantès win his freedom. When Jacopo proves his selfless loyalty, Dantès rewards him by buying the poor man his own ship and crew.
* Ali Pacha - A Greek nationalist leader whom Mondego _____, This betrayal leads to Ali Pacha's murder at the hands of the Turks and the seizure of his kingdom. Ali Pacha's wife and his daughter, Haydée, are sold into slavery.
* Baron of Château-Renaud - An aristocrat and diplomat. Château-Renaud is nearly killed in battle in Constantinople, but Maximilian Morrel _____ him at the last second. Château-Renaud introduces Maximilian into Parisian society, which leads to Maximilian and Dantès crossing paths.
* Peppino - An Italian shepherd who has been arrested and sentenced to death for the crime of being an accomplice to _____, when he merely provided them with food. Monte Cristo buys Peppino his freedom.
* Countess G— - A beautiful Italian aristocrat who suspects that Monte Cristo is a _____.

The Count of Monte Cristo

***The Count of Monte Cristo* Part 1**

* The greatness and the enduring _____ of *The Count of Monte Cristo* is mainly accounted for by the narrative force of the novel. In very simple terms, the novel tells an exciting story in an engaging and straightforward narrative — a narrative that grasps and involves the reader in the _____. The novel focuses on _____. This novel is, in literary terms, a "well-made Romantic adventure story." By "well-made," we mean that very early in the novel, Dumas sets up his characters, even though they are one-dimensional and predictable, and places them in situations where their actions are such that the reader will _____ to them with sympathy or with revulsion and dislike. Thus, in the opening scenes, Danglars is presented as a troublemaker, a _____ and envious person for no other reason than pure jealousy and spite. He makes all sorts of false insinuations against Dantès in order to disgustingly ingratiate himself before the _____ of the ship, Monsieur Morrel.
* In contrast to Danglars' sniveling behavior, Dantès is open and aboveboard in all his dealings. He immediately evokes _____ in everyone except the envious Danglars, and it is Dantès' excellent qualities which win the complete confidence of the shipowner Morrel; in fact, as we learn later, Dantès has won the _____ allegiance of Monsieur Morrel, for he will risk his business in order to _____ for the imprisoned Dantès.
* In the "well-made novel," we are immediately attracted to the hero and are likewise _____ by people like Danglars and his cohort, Caderousse, the dishonorable neighbor who forced Dantès' old father into virtual _____ by demanding the return of a loan which Caderousse had made to Dantès. Early in the novel, therefore, the forces of good are aligned _____ the forces of evil and destruction. And in this alignment, Mercédès' friend Fernand becomes a willing partner in the conspiracy to frame Dantès (Fernand _____ the accusatory letter), and, consequently, in these first six chapters, we have met all four enemies (Danglars, Caderousse, Fernand, and Villefort), against whom Dantès will ultimately seek _____ for his fourteen years of imprisonment.
* Dumas clearly portrays Danglars as the _____ villainous of Dantès's three enemies, the only one who acts on a premeditated plan and the only one who acts rationally and coolly toward his designs.
* By the term "Romantic," we mean a novel that is filled with high _____, one in which the hero possesses the most noble of qualities and where he is often put to various tests and survives these tests superbly. It is a novel that does _____ focus on intricate character analysis, but emphasizes, instead, the narrative _____ element, and the success of this type of novel is measured by how much it engages or captures the reader's interest in the adventures set forth.
* In the first six chapters, Dumas has created his main character, or _____, has shown his superb qualities and capabilities, has presented him as a loyal friend to the late captain and as an honorable man of his _____. Dumas has involved his character innocently in a political intrigue about which Dantès knows nothing. Furthermore, he is exposed to an overly ambitious official, Monsieur Villefort, who "would sacrifice anything to his ambitions, even his own father"; in addition, Villefort marries a woman whom he _____ love in order to advance his financial and political future, and Villefort also uses Dantès as another instrument to further his career when he lies to the king that Dantès is a dangerous _____ involved in a treasonous plot against the king. These false accusations and political concerns cause Dantès to be sentenced to _____ imprisonment in the infamous Chateau d'If, a fortress legendary for its

severe punishment and for its impossibility of escape. Until the time of this story, _____ prisoner had ever successfully escaped from this fortress, therefore making Dantès' escape a feat of great daring and magnitude.

* The reader, of course, responds _____ to Dantès' plight. While we do not now know who the author of the note is, we can assume that the jealous and spiteful _____ is the perpetrator since he is the only person to know about the letter which Dantès was to deliver to Monsieur Noirtier. And ironically, if the letter had not been addressed to Villefort's _____, an avid Bonapartist, then Villefort, a royalist, would not have used Dantès so badly, but Villefort's ambitions force him to remove anyone who might influence his desperate desire to rise to power. If Dantès knows the contents of the letter, or even the name of the addressee, then Villefort knows that he will be "ruined, ruined forever." Therefore, it is absolutely _____ to do away with Dantès forever, and thus by the end of the sixth chapter, the noble Dantès is falsely imprisoned with no hope of escape and no _____ of making contact with anyone in the outer world. In a rather catatonic state, he argues with a guard in the prison, and as a result, he is placed in a dungeon. These first six chapters, then, have shown the hero to be a person of potential greatness and honor being _____ to a hopeless prisoner with no _____ for release and no contact with the outer world.
* Chapters 7 and 8 are concerned with establishing the greed and the _____ of Villefort, and second, the experiences of Edmond Dantès as a prisoner in the dungeon of the Chateau d'If. Clearly, Villefort's _____ are largely responsible for Dantès' imprisonment, and here, we also see additional evidence that "he [Villefort] would sacrifice anything to his ambition, even his own father." Villefort's ambitions *also* lead him to _____ his marriage to the daughter of the Marquis de Saint-Méran — if Napoleon regains power; if that happens, he will marry someone whom his father would know since his father is one of the most prominent Bonapartists in Paris; otherwise, Villefort will marry the royalist Saint-Méran's daughter — if Napoleon is again exiled. Villefort's ambition caused him to imprison Dantès, and later, because of Dantès' sense of "justice," his _____ will be his downfall.
* During the early years of Dantès' imprisonment, Dantès suffers almost every stage of human _____ that can be imagined. He begins his term of imprisonment with pride and hope, being fully conscious of his innocence, but then his pride and hope are replaced by _____, which is followed by fervent prayers to God. Then his soul becomes dark, and his despondency turns into wrath. In utter despair, Dantès finally decides upon _____ by starvation.
* The greatness of a novel is often related to the _____ appeal of that novel. For example, Dumas creates very vividly here the idea of a trapped animal which wishes desperately to escape, and we, the readers, _____ completely to Dantès' desperate plight and his determination to escape because it is a basic aspect of human nature to sympathize with a trapped animal, whether it is a dog tied on a leash or a human being chained to a chain gang. Correlated with this _____ idea is another scene that is now famous to almost everyone in the Western world — that is, in imprisoned solitude, one hears the faint beginnings of _____ with another person.
* After six years of virtual _____ in prison, Dantès finally hears an unusual and curious noise, the constant and continual scraping sounds of a prisoner trying to escape. The ray of hope that escape is possible _____ Dantès to life.
* His contact with the Abbé Faria will be the _____ important contact that Dantès will ever make. For eight years, he will be a constant companion with a man who possesses one of the

_____ minds of that time; this is an immense stroke of good fortune for Dantès, who is himself a quick student with many natural endowments, a prodigious _____, a keen intellect, a mathematical turn of mind, the poetic strain which is in every sailor, and the ability to quickly master _____. Within a year, in addition to the French, Greek, and Italian which Dantès already knows, he adds Spanish, English, and German. Also, Dantès quickly learns history, sciences, and basic human _____, all of which will serve him perfectly in times to come. For example, Dantès observes the psychological and analytical mind of the Abbé when, by simply questioning Dantès the _____ is able to identify the persons of Danglars, Caderousse, and Fernand as the people who betrayed Dantès; the Abbé is also able to determine the _____ between Villefort and Monsieur Noirtier, Villefort's father, fully explaining the motivations which prompted Villefort to have Dantès imprisoned.

* The _____ of the plan to escape and the completion of the plan come at a time when both men could have escaped except that the Abbé has one of his rare cataleptic _____. His life is saved by some miraculous drops which he has, but he is so weakened that he is no longer able to carry through with his plans for escape. Thus, he sends Dantès on to escape by _____, but Dantès refuses. The point of this narration is to test Dantès' _____ — that is, the loyalty of the hero. Dantès' refusal to escape, his refusal to desert his beloved friend (or father figure) shows him to be a person essentially _____ of heart and worthy of the secret which the Abbé will now share with him. In works of Romantic fiction, the hero is tried and tested and must be proven to be _____ and dependable. Dantès easily passes these tests; had he not been found to be true and loyal and noble, he would have escaped empty-handed, but now that he has proven himself to be noble-hearted and devoted, the Abbé will reveal the _____ of the hidden treasure to him.
* In a realistic novel or in real life, such virtue is _____ necessarily rewarded. However, in a Romantic novel, virtue is always rewarded and vice is _____ punished. Consequently, once Edmond Dantès has proved himself to be loyal, faithful, and trustworthy to the Abbé, he is given the history of the Spada family and the secret of the immense treasure which is _____ on the island of Monte Cristo. (One should note that the method which Abbé Faria used to discover the treasure — that is, a document written in invisible ink which becomes legible under heat — is a literary device that has now become _____ since this novel was published.)
* When Dantès escapes, he will use his immense fortune for both purposes — to _____ his friends, and to punish his enemies.
* Dantès' escape from the Chateau d'If is perhaps the most daring and the most _____ escape scene in all of literature. The imagination, the fortitude, and the ingenuity of the escape is equaled only by the courage and desperation that it would take to _____ places with a dead man, concealing oneself in a heavy canvas bag, not knowing if you were going to be buried alive, burned, or otherwise done away with. Few people could be so _____ that they would be willing to face such unknown terrors without resorting to utter panic. Dantès' calmness in the face of such terror and adversity is the very stuff of which Romantic _____ are made. And the difficulty of the escape is correlated with the pleasure that the reader has when that escape has been effected.
* Dantès' _____ years of imprisonment represent a major portion of his life. Now thirty-three, the age at which _____ rose from the dead, Dantès' escapes from prison, and he figuratively "rises from the _____" as he cuts through the burial shrouds and emerges naked into a new world as a reborn man.

* Even the most elemental reader will recognize the _____ technique of having the hero escape during a storm — the cliché, of course, is that the storm outside is correlated with the storm raging in the breast of the hero (_____ _____). Here too, the noise of the storm ironically masks Edmond Dantès' cry for freedom, and it is also ironic that Dantès is rescued by smugglers and that the young _____ Jacopo will ultimately become the captain of the yacht of the Count of Monte Cristo, another indication that the Count is always generous with those who have been kind to him.
* Edmond Dantès has changed _____. Because of the tutelage of Abbé Faria, he has received an education and understood the treacherous plot against him. Certainly, he is no longer the trusting and _____ young man that he was at the beginning of his imprisonment fourteen years ago.
* Dumas appeals to a very basic instinct in _____ nature by having Edmond Dantès discover a secret treasure of untold value. The universality invoked is that most people have, at some time or other in their lives, harbored a _____ of discovering a buried treasure, or else they have dreamed that they might, in some way, become the sudden recipient of untold wealth. The search for buried treasure is one of the many _____ that Dumas uses to involve his reader in his exciting adventure story.
* In order to stay on the island of Monte Cristo, Dantès has to create an ingenious ruse to persuade the smugglers to leave him there. But Dantès' plan almost _____ because Jacopo wants to stay with him — even though that would mean that Jacopo would _____ his rather significant share in the smuggling profits. Thus, this particularly unselfish act is a correlation to Dantès' resolve to remain with the ailing Abbé Faria, and in a lesser way, Jacopo will also be _____ for his unselfishness and for his devotion to Dantès; he will become the trusted servant and friend that Edmond Dantès needs so badly at this time in his life.
* All of Dantès' enemies have _____ and are now among the most powerful and the most wealthy men of France. But, to use the common cliché, "the bigger they are, the harder they _____." Dantès, of course, will finally be able to topple the most powerful, the most wealthy, and the most influential men of France by using slow and _____ subterfuges. If readers are ever tempted to sympathize with the victims, they should always keep foremost in mind how Edmond Dantès _____ in prison for fourteen long and miserable years as the result of their treachery.
* Dantès has now used his wealth to perform all sorts of _____ deeds — to reinstate Monsieur Morrel and to re-establish the Morrel family name. The rest of the novel will show how Dantès (now about to assume the _____ of the Count of Monte Cristo) effects his revenue upon his enemies. As Dantès himself expresses it: "And now _____ to kindness, humanity, and gratitude. Farewell to all sentiments that gladden the heart. I have substituted myself for Providence in rewarding the good. May the God of Vengeance now yield me _____ place to punish the _____!"
* Of all the names Dantès uses, _____ the Sailor bears its own original significance, as it is a recognizable name. _____ the Sailor is a character in a famous Middle Eastern folktale about a merchant who goes on _____ dangerous and fantastical journeys, ultimately ending up enormously wealthy. There are many reasons why Dantès might have chosen this _____ name as one of his aliases. There is the obvious fact that Dantès himself was a _____ during the happy years of his life. Likewise, there is a clear _____ between Sinbad's seven dangerous voyages leading up to his ultimate wealth and Dantès's own dangerous journey through prison before the discovery of his

_____.

* The red silk _____, which holds Dantès's gift to Morrel, serves as a physical _____ of the connection between good deed and reward. First used by Morrel to help save Louis Dantès, the purse is now used to _____ Morrel in turn, demonstrating that his kindness and generosity toward Louis are being _____. However, Dantès's use of the purse actually taints an otherwise pure act of altruism. By using the purse, Dantès reveals that on some level he wants Morrel to _____ him as the savior. We see the purse not merely as a simple _____ of the connection between reward and punishment but as a more complex embodiment of Dantès's various motives in acting as a benefactor. Dantès has selfless _____ for Morrel's kindness but also a _____ desire to be recognized as the author of Morrel's financial salvation.
* The episode in Italy evidences a _____: Edmond Dantès now totally metamorphosed into the noble, distinguished, and very rich _____ of Monte Cristo.
* In this section also, we discover Monte Cristo's philosophy of _____ and death. Since the Count could obviously hire an assassin, or in other ways bring about the _____ death of his enemies, we should note that he does _____ believe in a quick and easy death for a person who has made others suffer for a long and extended period of time. As he says, "If a man has tortured and killed your father, your mother, your sweetheart, one of those beings who leave an eternal emptiness and a perpetually bleeding wound when they are torn from your heart . . . do you think society has given you sufficient reparation because the man who made you undergo long years of mental and emotional suffering has undergone a few seconds of physical pain?" In other words, Monte Cristo does _____ want quick revenge — he wants slow and deliberate vengeance: "For slow, profound, infinite, and eternal suffering, I'd try to avenge myself by inflicting similar suffering — an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." Thus, Monte Cristo will bring _____ upon his enemies slowly and very deliberately, making those who made him suffer, suffer in turn, for a very long time.
* Dantès emerges from these ten mysterious years as an almost _____ being: he comes across as omniscient and omnipotent, possesses seemingly all possible human knowledge and superhuman physical strength, and maintains a level of cunning that gives him a nearly _____ aura. Even Dantès's appearance is supernatural, sometimes compared to that of a corpse and other times to that of a _____. His flesh too is described as oddly inhuman, causing Franz to shudder when he touches it.
* Countess G—'s suspicion that Monte Cristo is a _____ connects the novel to yet another staple of Romanticism: a fascination with horror stories in general and _____ in particular. Countess G— repeatedly calls Monte Cristo by the name "Lord Ruthven," referring to the main character in a popular 1816 story entitled "The Vampyre." Though "The Vampyre" was actually written by Dr. John William Polidari, it was widely misattributed to the famous Romantic poet Lord Byron, which gave it enormous _____. Charles Nodier wrote a drama based on the saga of Lord Ruthven, and Dumas wrote another Lord Ruthven play soon thereafter. The Romantic interest in _____ continued throughout the nineteenth century, culminating in the publication of Bram Stoker's _____ in 1897. Like a vampire, Monte Cristo is a man partly of this world and partly of another world, simultaneously _____ and terrifying.
* Monte Cristo is an odd juxtaposition of intriguing characteristics. He lives a lifestyle that seems to be aimed at maximizing _____: he surrounds himself with excellent food, beautiful women, drugs, and every imaginable physical luxury. Yet Monte Cristo does _____ actually

appear to enjoy the pleasures that surround him. He barely eats any of the food he has prepared. All of his thoughts, instead, are occupied by pain, death, and _____. Dumas may also have intended his depiction of Monte Cristo's sumptuous lifestyle merely as a _____ for his nineteenth-century audience, which had a taste for books about the _____.

* Dumas portrays _____ as a frivolous child who naïvely courts danger and adventure. When he first hears of the existence of the notorious Luigi Vampa, he wants to take off immediately to _____ the bandit chief. Albert is also desperate to have numerous _____ adventures while in Italy. His silliness, though, is presented as a natural aspect of his youth, **not** an essential defect of character. In fact, Albert's uninquiring gratitude toward Monte Cristo and his bravery in Vampa's lair demonstrate that he has the makings of a _____ adult. Aside from Monte Cristo, Albert is one of the few characters in the novel to undergo psychological _____ as the story progresses.
* When Villefort himself comes to express his appreciation to the Count for having saved the lives of his wife and their son, the Count is once again able to express his views concerning _____ and punishments. The Count maintains that if he were, like _____, offered anything in the world which he could choose, he would reply: "I have always heard of Providence, yet I have never seen it or anything resembling it, which makes me think it does _____ exist. I want to _____ Providence, for the greatest, the most beautiful and the most sublime thing I know of in this world is to reward and _____."
* As we see later, Dantès's conviction that God is using him as an _____ to carry out divine will continues to buoy his determination throughout the novel. Given Dantès's religious interpretation of his mission, it is significant that the _____ where he finds his treasure is called "Monte Cristo," which in Italian means "the mountain of _____." This religious conception of his mission and Dantès's certainty about its _____ allow him to overlook the "terrible" aspect of his discovery and bask in its "joyous" aspect.
* When Villefort is reintroduced, he is portrayed as a _____ and inflexible "statue of the law," exacting a form of _____ that, according to Monte Cristo, is really no justice at all. Villefort is obsessed with laws and rules, and he lives for the prosecution of criminals. He cares _____ for human beings or for anything humanistic, such as art or entertainment; indeed, he is known as the "least curious man in Paris." In Villefort we find an embodiment of all that is _____ with the state of societal justice at Dumas's time. First, Villefort's merciless application of the law parallels modern society's own mercilessness to its citizens—particularly its poor citizens. In addition, Villefort is hypocritical, brazenly _____ the very laws he upholds, first by sentencing an innocent man to prison and then by attempting to kill his _____ newborn son. According to Monte Cristo, modern societies are only thinly disguised tyrannies, oppressing the _____ man and refusing him his rights as an individual and his equal protection under the law. Villefort, then, is the living embodiment of—as well as the agent of—this _____.
* The introduction of _____ as a model of sumptuous, sensual Orientalism highlights Dumas's Romantic perspective and _____ sharply with the rigidity of other characters such as Villefort and Danglars. Haydée's apartments, filled with silk cushions and diaphanous curtains, are decorated like something out of the collection of _____ folktales known as *The Arabian Nights.* The Romantic obsession with the _____ particularly favored such trappings of the Orient, a region considered incomparably mysterious. In addition, Haydée's exotic nature rubs off on Monte Cristo, bolstering his own _____. Not only does Monte Cristo boast Haydée as a member of his household, but his grotto on the island

of Monte Cristo is decorated in Oriental style, and he often claims to consider himself more _____ than Western. Haydée, with her dazzlingly unfamiliar beauty and her foreign way of life, typifies this Romantic notion of the _____.

* _____ emotions, rather than vengeance and hatred, rattle the Count in the way that negative emotions would rattle most people. For Monte Cristo, the possibility of _____ feelings bothers him most. Faced with the prospect of visiting the Morrel family, an experience he knows will be fraught with _____ feeling, he prepares himself by visiting Haydée. Indeed, when he is with the Morrels his perfect, almost frightening composure _____ him for the first time. Confronted with the depth of the Morrels' gratitude, he becomes "pale as death, pressing one hand to his heart to still its throbbings." In the face of true _____, Monte Cristo experiences the strong physical reaction that most people experience upon encountering something particularly gruesome or dark. His obsession with vengeance has completely _____ his nature.
* The Morrel family has an enormous influence on Monte Cristo's estimation of _____ as a whole. Prior to meeting the Morrels, Monte Cristo believes that **no** human being is capable of feeling pure and true gratitude. He pessimistically announces to Franz and Albert that "man is an ungrateful and egotistical _____." Seeing the sincere and heartfelt thankfulness of the Morrels, however, Monte Cristo admits that Lord _____ would appreciate this gratitude and be "reconciled to mankind." Lord Wilmore is, of course, just another of Monte Cristo's _____, and this statement is really an admission of Monte Cristo's own change of heart. It is Monte Cristo who is "reconciled to mankind" after he sees the Morrels provide such incontrovertible proof of humankind's capacity for _____.
* Equally moving to Monte Cristo is the Morrels' complete _____ with their lives. Monte Cristo is shocked to see people so perfectly content in their daily existence, and he takes the Morrels as proof that happiness is determined more by _____ than by absolute circumstances. In their gratitude and satisfaction, the Morrels demonstrate humanity's capacity for goodness, which _____ Monte Cristo's condemnation of mankind as an "ungrateful" and generally vile species.
* Monte Cristo then visits the Villefort residence, and he is received as the "savior" of Villefort's wife and son. Madame Villefort wants some of Monte Cristo's "medicine" (_____ in high doses) for her own use. At the end of their conversation, the Count acknowledges that he's convinced that "the seed I have sown has not fallen on barren ground." This is a part of his plan for _____ revenge. Significantly, Madame de Villefort will prove to be the ultimate _____ of this novel; she will deliberately poison three people and will attempt to poison even her own stepdaughter.
* We also learn that Maximilien Morrel, the son of the Count's first employer, and Valentine de Villefort, the daughter of the Count's worst _____, are in love with each other. And furthermore, we discover that while Maximilien feels that the Count is especially _____ in his cause, Valentine, on the contrary, feels a _____ for the Count because she senses that he has completely ignored her and her plans in order to use her in some way. Both feelings are indeed true. The Count will take _____ interest in Valentine until he discovers that Maximilien is deeply in _____ with her, and then he will leave no stone uncovered to help her.
* Unlike the downfalls of Fernand and Villefort, which occur in brilliant _____ of spectacle, Danglars's downfall is slow and dull. Since Danglars cares about nothing but his _____, it is his wealth that Monte Cristo attacks, causing repeated losses that

destroy Danglars's credit.

* Though Monte Cristo seems quite comfortable in the company of Bertuccio and Haydée, it is misleading to speak of him as having any _____ relationship—platonic or romantic—with another human being. Monte Cristo has willfully _____ himself from human society. He isolates himself to an extreme, living _____ the law, without a homeland, and without any emotional attachments. Monte Cristo describes himself to Villefort as "being of **no** country, asking no protection from any government, acknowledging no man as my brother." His refusal to acknowledge himself as a _____ of any country, society, or fraternity indicates that he has rejected membership in every conceivable community. _____ of these communities, Monte Cristo implies here and elsewhere, live up to his strict standards of justice and propriety. As a solitary being, unable to find a spiritual _____ anywhere in the modern world, Monte Cristo is a familiar type of _____ hero. The theme of spiritual exile from the modern world was a popular one in the Romantic era, and famous nonconformists like _____—the mythical Greek hero who stole fire from the gods to give to humans—frequently turn up as characters in Romantic prose and poetry. Monte Cristo, like other popular Romantic heroes, is the inveterate renegade, both rejecting and rejected by _____.
* With his vast resources and hidden identities, Monte Cristo is a plausible forerunner of the modern _____, using his enormous gifts to fight crime and help the innocent. Additionally, he is able to go incognito instantly and effortlessly, merely by donning a simple _____. Dressed as an Italian priest or an Englishman, no one recognizes him as the Count of Monte Cristo. Bertuccio, for instance, _____ figures out that Monte Cristo and Abbé Busoni are the same person.
* Monte Cristo can also be seen as a precursor to another popular modern figure, the _____. Monte Cristo meticulously assembles his enemies' histories, collecting _____ and evidence by slyly questioning his suspects and those close to them, wheedling out of them any information they can give. He cleverly _____ those around him, pressuring his enemies to their breaking point—tempting Danglars into betrothing his daughter to Cavalcanti, for instance, and _____ influencing Madame de Villefort to begin her campaign of murders.
* Danglars is ultimately punished for his cruel _____ opportunism, Fernand Mondego for his _____ of Ali Pacha, and Villefort for his merciless and hypocritical wielding of the _____. Seen in this light, it is not Monte Cristo who is the undoing of these men; it is rather their own criminal or selfish actions that are their own _____. This distinction raises Monte Cristo's scheme from the level of petty revenge to the level of _____ Providence. As we later see, he appeals to his enemies' particular weaknesses in tempting them into ruin. Destroying each villain with his _____ weaknesses and his own crimes, Monte Cristo truly sets himself up as the dispenser of _____ rather than just a petty man getting back at old enemies.
* The death of Caderousse marks Monte Cristo's _____ tangible success in exacting vengeance and delivering justice. The rest of his triumphs now come in quick succession. Danglars is _____ his fortune quickly, as many of his previously reliable creditors continue to _____ on their debt. Danglars is also about to fall into the _____ Monte Cristo has set in the form of Andrea Cavalcanti, the disgraceful suitor of his daughter, Eugénie. Fernand Mondego's history is now known by at least a few people in France, and it is only a matter of time before it becomes widespread _____ knowledge. Villefort's home is beset by

_____, and his illegitimate son, whom he has tried to kill, is loose somewhere in Parisian society.

* While, as we see earlier in the novel, Julie and Emmanuel Herbaut are living _____ that human beings can be truly satisfied with their lives, Caderousse embodies human dissatisfaction. With his persistent dissatisfaction, Caderousse is the unfortunate _____ to Julie and Emmanuel.
* Albert's reaction to the revelation of his father's shameful past consists entirely of undirected _____ and an overwhelming desire for violence. He makes it clear that he wants to kill someone and that he does _____ particularly care whom he kills. Initially, Albert is even willing to kill his _____ friend, Beauchamp, for the simple reason that Beauchamp is associated with the newspaper in which the defaming article first appears. Finally, when confronted with the fact that Monte Cristo is his true enemy, Albert remarks, "I only fear one thing, namely to find a man who will not fight." Albert's reaction, though _____ and irrational, fits well with the rugged individualism heralded in the novel. Albert desires to act because he does not want to be a _____ of fate or of any other powerful, unfriendly forces. His overwhelming desire is not so much to kill but rather to avoid passivity: he will act simply for the sake of _____, even if there is no rational reason to do so. In this strong drive to assert himself against the forces of fate that are attempting to oppress him, Albert _____ Monte Cristo.
* When Albert reveals his strong _____ to Mercédès, Monte Cristo seems irritated by the presence of such a _____ sentiment in Albert. Monte Cristo is forced to acknowledge that Albert is a good man and should not be viewed merely through the lens of his _____'s sins.
* Mercédès demonstrates that she remains _____ from the young woman she was in Marseilles, proving to Monte Cristo that he has been misjudging her all along. When Mercédès initially approaches Monte Cristo to _____ for her son's life, she tries to win his sympathy by reminding him that she is still the same woman he once loved. With his response that "Mercédès is dead," Monte Cristo means to suggest that the _____ and good woman whom he once loved does not exist now as the wife of Fernand Mondego and perhaps never existed. Yet Mercédès proves wrong Monte Cristo's estimation of her, revealing her monumental strength of character when she tells Albert about his father's _____ against Dantès. Her act requires incredible strength and courage, as it ensures that any last vestige of respect and love Albert bears his father will be _____. It would be understandable for Mercédès to allow Monte Cristo to die rather than harm her son's psyche any further, yet she unselfishly chooses to _____ Monte Cristo's life.
* Mercédès is often portrayed as the most _____ character in the novel. Dumas notes that she is renowned all over Paris for her intelligence, and she is the only character able to unravel the _____ of Monte Cristo's identity immediately. When Mercédès saves Monte Cristo's life, she also proves herself the most _____ character, the only one capable of forgiving those who may have done her wrong. She evokes even more sympathy by abandoning her _____ and comfortable life, refusing to live off of a fortune tainted by evil deeds. Convinced of Mercédès's enduring goodness and innocence, Monte Cristo _____ her completely and attempts to amend for the fact that he is effectively depriving her of her husband and her wealth.
* The initial exchange between Monte Cristo and Mercédès highlights an important motif in the novel: the significance of _____. Upon entering Monte Cristo's room, Mercédès addresses

him as "Edmond," causing him to stumble in alarm. She then insists that he call her "_____" and not "Madame de Morcerf," boldly defying Monte Cristo's assertion that Mercédès is dead. What they actually argue about here is whether they _____, on any level, the good and innocent people that they once were. In calling Monte Cristo "Edmond," Mercédès is proclaiming her belief that the kind and decent sailor she once knew still _____ somewhere within the vengeful and mysterious Monte Cristo. By insisting that "Mercédès" is still alive, she is also trying to persuade Dantès that she remains the good woman whom he once _____—that despite his opinion, she has not become a greedy, haughty, and disloyal aristocrat.

* The argument between Mercédès and Monte Cristo takes on an added layer of meaning when we consider the fact that their old names are the names of _____ while their new names are aristocratic titles. This detail links goodness with poverty and _____, as Dumas highlights a contrast between sincere, good, common folk and aristocrats who have become corrupted by wealth and power. Ultimately, both prove their enduring goodness: Monte Cristo by offering to _____ for Albert's sake, and Mercédès by saving Monte Cristo's life. They are both worthy of the identities that their _____ names connote. At their next meeting, they address each other by these names, reinforcing their essential goodness.
* The news of Maximilian's _____ for Valentine has a profound effect on Monte Cristo, setting the scene for an emotional rebirth that is completed several chapters later. In response to Maximilian's admission, Monte Cristo "close[s] his eyes, as if dazzled by internal light." This reference to an "internal light" suggests a sudden epiphany. Maximilian's _____ for Valentine opens up a possibility that Monte Cristo has never bothered to consider—that Valentine is innocent and does not deserve to die for her father's crimes. He is now forced to acknowledge that she is an independent, _____ person, bound up in her own life and in the lives of other good people. Though at this point Monte Cristo is still a firm believer in the _____ of his cause, this episode is the first indication that he might not have quite enough knowledge to pull off his scheme perfectly. We see that he does _____ know everything about the people who will be affected by his actions.
* In contrast to the conniving Danglars and Benedetto, Valentine is so guileless that she is incapable of grasping _____ motives. When faced with the fact that her stepmother is trying to kill her, she cannot even begin to figure out _____. Monte Cristo is forced to remind her that if she dies, all of her inheritance would go to Edward. Valentine's confusion signals her complete and trusting innocence and is reminiscent of Dantès's initial inability to understand how or why is imprisoned. However, whereas Dantès becomes vengeful when he discovers that he has enemies, Valentine does _____. In fact, she so lacks a desire for revenge that she cannot even find it within herself to denounce the woman trying to murder her. Unlike Dantès's innocence, which passes quickly, Valentine's seems almost indestructible. Her _____ is not merely a function of youth and inexperience but an essential character trait that she simply cannot overcome. This trait, presumably, is one reason Valentine is consistently referred to as an "_____."
* Just as Eugénie and Valentine act as _____ for each other, accentuating each other's characteristics, Madame Danglars and Mercédès also cut a striking _____. There are obvious similarities between their situations, as both are now husbandless and publicly humiliated. Yet their attitudes could not be more different. Though Madame Danglars has actually played a large part in her husband's ruin, she feels as if she has been treated _____ by fate. On the other hand, Mercédès, who has had no part in her husband's ruin, does not wallow in self-

pity, although she *does* have a right to feel that fate has treated her unfairly. Rather than feel victimized, Mercédès feels that she has more wealth and luxury than she deserves. Despite her _____, she ultimately abandons her vast fortune out of commitment to her personal honor. Lucien Debray notes this contrast between Madame Danglars and Mercédès, reflecting that "the same house had contained two women, one of whom, justly dishonored, had left it _____ with 1,500,000 francs under her cloak, while the other, unjustly stricken, but sublime in her misfortune, was yet rich with a few deniers." Though Debray astutely notices the contrast, his focus is a bit off: what really differentiates the two women is not how rich they consider themselves, but how they _____ to their lowered status.

* Monte Cristo finally begins to _____ whether he is justified in taking the place of Providence. With _____'s death, the seeds of discomfort that are sown in Chapter 95—when Monte Cristo realizes that he could easily have caused the death of the innocent _____—now bloom into full-fledged torment. Understanding that he has indirectly caused the end of an innocent life, Monte Cristo no longer feels that his actions are in total alignment with _____'s will. Having buoyed himself all along with the belief that his mission is ordained by _____, this blow to his confidence is enormous. Some versions of the novel include a scene in which Monte Cristo _____ to the Château d'If, looking for a sign that his mission of vengeance was justified. He finds this sign in the form of the Abbé Faria's manuscript, which begins with the biblical quote "Thou shalt tear out the teeth of the dragon and trample the lion's underfoot, thus saith the Lord." With this scene omitted, the justification for Monte Cristo's mission is never confirmed, leaving Monte Cristo hovering in _____ as to the morality of his mission.
* The last act Monte Cristo makes before plunging headlong into _____ is his attempt to revive Edward using his elixir. This potion, with its seemingly magical ability to heal, is a symbol for Monte Cristo's _____—his prideful belief that he, like his elixir, is capable of any feat. His hubris reaches its height in this scene, culminating in the assertion that his elixir actually gives him the _____ to bring a boy back to life. Of course, Monte Cristo is incapable of granting life, and his seemingly unassailable confidence in himself and his elixir is finally _____.
* _____, a common motif of the novel as well as of Romantic literature in general, is presented as an obvious response to abandonment by a beloved. Even before Valentine falls ill, Maximilian has prepared to take his own life in the event that she ever marries Franz d'Epinay. As we see in the last chapter of the novel, _____ proves her sincere affection for Monte Cristo by declaring that she will take her life if he leaves her. Yet the act of suicide—the most dramatic means of giving up the fight against _____—seems to fly in the face of Monte Cristo's stance against passive resignation. Maximilian provides a possible insight into this seeming inconsistency, as he explains that he wants to take his own life because "all [his] hopes are blighted." Monte Cristo considers _____ the only thing that makes life worth living.
* Finally, Monte Cristo reveals himself to _____: "I am the man you betrayed and dishonored, the man whose fiancée you prostituted, the man on whom you trod on the way to fortune, the man whose father you caused to die of hunger, the man you condemned to die of hunger but who now forgives you because he himself needs to be _____. I am Edmond Dantès."
* Monte Cristo's timely _____ of Danglars, just before he starves to death, can be seen as an indication that Monte Cristo has finally recognized his _____ as an agent of Providence. Realizing that he is _____ a substitute for God on earth, Monte Cristo appears to

have decided that it is not his right to take away another man's life or sanity, neither of which can ever be regained. Though Danglars is left impoverished, he still has his _____ and his sanity, unlike Fernand and Villefort. This punishment is the _____ severe of the three, as it is possible to enjoy life without wealth and also possible to gain one's wealth back. In addition, by allowing Danglars to remain alive and sane, Monte Cristo is giving his enemy the chance to _____ and be forgiven by God, an opportunity he does not give Villefort or Fernand. However, it could be argued that Monte Cristo has been planning to spare Danglars's life all along: although Danglars's punishment is less severe than those of Fernand and Villefort, it nonetheless perfectly _____ his sins of greed.

* Regardless of whether each punishment is precisely what Monte Cristo has intended, each is a _____ match for the nature of the crime it is intended to punish. Danglars betrays Dantès out of pure _____, motivated by his desire for the lucrative position as captain of the *Pharaon.* In the years succeeding Dantès's imprisonment, Danglars continues to live a life guided by such avarice. Money is the sole object of his desire and the cause of all his misdeeds, and so it is _____ of which he is ultimately deprived. Villefort, on the other hand, sentences Dantès to a life in prison because of his raw _____ and his mercilessness, so Monte Cristo leaves him without the coldly rational mind that earlier allows him to impose the law so brutally. Fernand, conversely, wants to ruin Dantès in order to win Mercédès for himself, and he is punished with the loss of the _____ and respect of his family, without which Fernand sees no reason to live and thus kills himself. Whether intended or coincidental, the perfect fit between crime and punishment in each case emphasizes how close Dantès comes to approximating Providence.
* Dantès has barely seemed _____ ever since his discovery of the treasure on Monte Cristo and his embarkation on his voyage of revenge. He has taken **no** joy in life, and his emotions have been limited to gratitude and vengeful hatred. With Haydée's unexpected avowal of her love, however, Monte Cristo suddenly sees his chance to _____ the human world. Overcome with emotion, he tells Haydée, "through you I again connect myself with life, through you I shall suffer, through you rejoice." We see clearly that Monte Cristo's ability to reconnect with life requires that he feel love once again. With his father and Abbé Faria dead and Mercédès married to another man, Monte Cristo has lived without love for years. He has felt affection for Morrel, Maximilian, and Julie, but these feelings are more fondness and respect than any deep, meaningful connection. Without _____, and thus without an intimate connection to any human being, Monte Cristo has been disconnected from humanity. Now, with his _____ for Haydée requited, he can regain his full humanity and learn to "suffer" and "rejoice" again.
* We may interpret Monte Cristo's final words about waiting and hoping as his _____ renunciation of his revenge project, an acknowledgment that only God can act with the authority of Providence, leaving human beings to wait and hope that _____ ultimately punishes the evil and rewards the good. He is giving up the belief that one has the right to step in for _____ and irrevocably shape the destiny of others.
* Almost every nineteenth-century novel of this period had a final chapter that brought the story to a very _____ ending, tidying up all the loose narrative strands. In this final chapter, Monte Cristo puts his beloved young friend Maximilien to a final test to see whether or not his suicide intent is superficial or whether there is indeed the deep love that he suspects. He has held Maximilien in suspense concerning the supposed _____ of Valentine because "there is neither happiness nor unhappiness in this world; there is only the comparison of one state

with another. Only a man who has felt ultimate despair is capable of feeling ultimate bliss." Since Monte Cristo himself felt ultimate _____, we must happily conclude that with his realization of his love for _____ and Haydée's love for him, that he has at last found "ultimate bliss."

***The Count of Monte Cristo* Themes and Motifs**

* Justice and vengeance- How does Dumas get the reader to want the Count to wreak havoc on everyone else?

  - Justice: Is Dantes's judgment on others right or wrong? Does he meet out the right punishment?

    + _____, Dantes becomes exactly what he sought to punish, an angry, vengeance-driven power figure. Monte Cristo compares himself at the end to _____, who believed that he could become like God. Like Satan's, the Count's revenge was fueled by his ability to manipulate his victims.
  - Vengeance:

* Forgiveness- Does Dumas present the sense of forgiveness as weak or powerful?

* Relative vs. true happiness-

  - Envelop structure:

* Love vs. Alienation-

The Count of Monte Cristo

Motifs

* Names:
    - Edmond Dante's names:
    - Villefort:
    - Fernand Mondego:
    - Mercedes
    - Benedetto
* Suicide: