

Name: _____

Date: _____

Gladiator – A Viewer's Guide

Day 1:

1) Who are the Romans fighting against in the opening scene? Why?

2) What type of weapons do they use in the battle?

3) Why does Marcus Aurelius choose Maximus to be emperor?

4) Why does Commodus think he should be emperor?

Day 2:

5) What is tattooed on Maximus' arm?

6) What is the city of Rome like? Describe.

7) What does Commodus decide to do in order to honor his father?

8) What do the senators think about the games?

Day 3:

9) Why is Commodus so "vexed" that Maximus is alive?

10) What is the difference between a man of the people and a man for the people?

11) What is thrown out into the crowds before the gladiator contest begins?

12) What does Maximus want to do when he has taken over Rome?

Important Quotes from Gladiator



DIRECTIONS: In complete sentences explain the meaning of each of the following quotations.

Quote #1:

Gracchus(Senator): I don't pretend to be a man of the people. But I do try to be a man for the people.

Quote #2:

Lucilla(Commodus' Sister): Today I saw a slave become more powerful than the Emperor of Rome.

Quote #3:

Maximus: Ancestors, I ask you for your guidance. Blessed mother, come to me with the Gods' desire for my future. Blessed father, watch over my wife and son with a ready sword. Whisper to them that I live only to hold them again, for all else is dust and air. Ancestors, I honor you and will try to live with the dignity that you have taught me.

Quote #4:

Gracchus: Fear and wonder, a powerful combination.

Falco: You really think people are going to be seduced by that?

Gracchus: I think he knows what Rome is. Rome is the mob. Conjure magic for them and they'll be distracted. Take away their freedom and still they'll roar. The beating heart of Rome is not the marble of the senate, it's the sand of the coliseum. He'll bring them death - and they will love him for it.

Quote #5:

Marcus Aurelius: Tell me again, Maximus, why are we here?

Maximus: For the glory of the Empire, sire.