

Group Members: _____

1

Group Work on Cantos 9-14

Please back up your answers with specific line numbers from the text when necessary.

Canto 9

How does the Pilgrim describe the “fear-shocked souls / in flight” (79-80)? What are they fleeing from?

What specific details does the Pilgrim give to describe the angel? Back up your answer.

Canto 10

Why does Virgil warn the Pilgrim to choose his words with care when speaking to the shades in the tombs (line 39)?

Why can the shades see the future but not the present?

What do lines 130-2 mean?

Canto 11

What sin does God hate most? Why?

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2

What overall sin is punished in circle 7? Name two sins that are punished in circle 8?

Why are usurers so offensive to God? (Hint: lines 106-11)

Canto 12

Who guides Virgil and the Pilgrim along the moat of boiling blood? What is he?

Canto 13

How are the suicides punished? Back up your answer.

Canto 14

Finish this simile: "And over all that sandland, a fall of slowly / raining broad flakes of fire showered steadily / (a mountain snowstorm on a windless day), / like ..."

What is the name of the wasteland that lies in the middle of the sea?