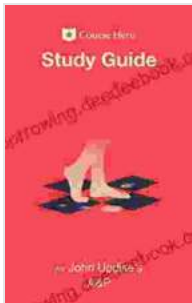


# Study Guide For John Updike Course Hero Study Guides

John Updike is one of the most celebrated American writers of the 20th century. His work is known for its lyrical prose, complex characters, and incisive social commentary. This study guide will provide you with an overview of Updike's life and work, as well as some helpful tips for studying his writing.

## Life and Career

John Updike was born in Shillington, Pennsylvania, in 1932. He graduated from Harvard University in 1954 and began his writing career as a staff writer for *The New Yorker*. In 1959, he published his first novel, *The Poorhouse Fair*.



## Study Guide for John Updike's A&P (Course Hero Study Guides) by Course Hero

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 961 KB

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Print length : 30 pages

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Updike went on to publish more than 20 novels, as well as short stories, essays, and poems. His work has been translated into more than 30

languages and has won numerous awards, including the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, and the National Medal of Arts.

Updike died in 2009 at the age of 76. He is considered one of the most important American writers of his generation.

## **Major Works**

Some of Updike's most famous works include:

\* *The Poorhouse Fair* (1959) \* *Rabbit, Run* (1960) \* *The Centaur* (1963) \* *Couples* (1968) \* *Rabbit Redux* (1971) \* *A Month of Sundays* (1975) \* *The Witches of Eastwick* (1984) \* *Rabbit at Rest* (1990) \* *Toward the End of Time* (1997) \* *Seek My Face* (2002)

## **Themes and Style**

Updike's work is often characterized by the following themes:

\* The search for meaning and purpose in life \* The tension between the sacred and the profane \* The power of sex and love \* The fragility of human relationships \* The destructive effects of sin

Updike's writing is known for its lyrical prose, complex characters, and incisive social commentary. He is a master of the English language, and his work is full of beautiful and memorable passages.

## **Study Tips**

Here are some tips for studying John Updike's writing:

\* **Read closely.** Pay attention to the details of Updike's writing, including his use of language, imagery, and symbolism. \* **Take notes.** As you read, jot down your thoughts and observations about the text. \* **Identify the main themes and ideas.** What is Updike trying to say about the human condition? \* **Analyze the characters.** What are their motivations and desires? How do they change and develop over the course of the story? \* **Consider the social and historical context.** How does Updike's work reflect the time and place in which it was written?

John Updike is a complex and challenging writer, but his work is also deeply rewarding. By studying his writing, you can gain a deeper understanding of the human condition and the power of language.

## Additional Resources

\* The John Updike Society \* The John Updike Archive \* The John Updike Reader



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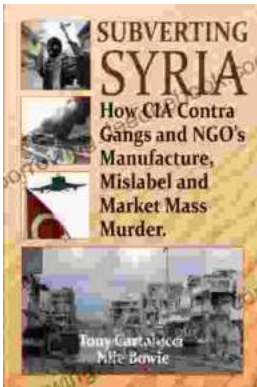
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