**BALLADS** Study Guide Name:

Date:

Period:

***Barbara Allan***

1. Summarize what is happening in the first two verses of the poem.

2. What does the following verse suggest about Barbara Allan?

O slowly, slowly rase she up,

To the place where he was lyin’,

And when she drew the curtain by:

“Young man, I think you’re dyin’.”

3. What does Barbara Allan mean when she tells Graeme “O the better for me ye sal never be”?

4. Why is Barbara Allan mad at John Graeme?

5. What can the reader infer about John Graeme based on his final request?

6. What does it mean that Barbara Allan heard the death bell cry “Woe to Barbara Allan!”

7. What is it the reader understands about Barbara Allan based on the last verse? Also, what is significant about the bed she asks her mother to prepare?

“O mother, mother, make my bed,

O make it soft and narrow:

Since my love died for me today,

I’ll die for him tomorrow.”

***Robin Hood and the Three Squires***

1. Who is the first person Robin Hood meets on his way to Nottingham and why is she crying?

2. What questions does Robin Hood ask the woman, and what can the reader infer based on what he asks?

3. What crime did the squires actually commit?

4. Who is the second person Robin Hood encounters, and what of significance happened and why?

5. Name the third person Robin Hood encounters and describe their conversation.

6. What events sum up the ending of the poem?

7. How do Robin Hood’s actions tie in to what he historically represented?

***Get up and Bar the Door***

1. What situation does the reader discover as the poem begins?

2. What is the pact the couple makes?

3. What happens to complicate the pact that the couple makes?

4. Who speaks first and why?

5. What does the wife say at the end of the poem, and why is it ironic?

***Analysis***

1. What do *Barbara Allan* and *Get up and Bar the Door* have in common, and how do they differ?

2. What qualities of these three poems indicate that they are songs?

3. What is the tone of the Robin Hood ballad?