Name:                                                                                                                       Date:

Directions:  Answer all questions in complete sentences.

**The Call of the Wild Background Questions**

**Part I:  “Klondike Gold Rush”**

1. What was the Klondike Gold Rush, which was also known as the Yukon Gold Rush, the Alaska Gold Rush, and the Last Great Gold Rush?

2. When was gold discovered in the Klondike region of the Yukon?

3. How many managed to “arrive” after traveling through rough terrain while carrying heavy loads?

4. Of those who arrived, how many managed to strike gold?

5. Why did many prospectors leave the Klondike in 1899?

**Part II:  “Meet Jack London”**

6. How did Jack London end up in Canada during the 1890s?

7. How did London both fail and “profit” from his trip to the goldfields?

8. How did London train himself as a writer?

9. When was London’s novel, *The Call of the Wild*, published?

10. How old was London when he died, and what is the most likely cause of his death?

**Part III:  “Introducing the Novel”**

11. How did London create the “rich” detail in his novel?

12. Read the section “The Time and Place” found in the “Introducing the Novel” section. Write a one-sentence summary of each paragraph in “The Time and Place” section capturing the main idea of the paragraph in your own words.

**Part IV:  “Sled Dogs:  An Alaskan Epic”**

13. What criteria is used to determine how dogs are selected for Alaska’s Iditarod dog race?

14. Based on this information, infer how a dog might be chosen to pull a sled in The Call of the Wild.

15. How many calories does a sled dog require?