**Sir Launcelot du Lake – Short Answer Quiz**

**Directions: Read the following excerpt from “Launcelot du Lake*.”* You may underline details in excerpt. Then answer the question that follows in complete sentences referring to specific details in the excerpt.**

At the first charge the backs of the horses were broken and both knights stunned. But they soon recovered and set to with their swords, and both stuck so lustily that neither shield nor armor could resist, and within two hours they were cutting each other's flesh, from which the blood flowed liberally. Finally they paused for a moment, resting on their shields.

“You are the most powerful knight I have fought yet, but I fear you may be the one whom in the whole world I most hate. If you are not, for the love of you I will release all my prisoners and swear eternal friendship.”

“What is the name of the knight you hate above all others?”

“Sir Launcelot du Lake; for it was he who slew my brother, Sir Carados of the Dolorous Tower, and it is because of him that I have killed a hundred knights and maimed as many more, apart from the sixty-four I still hold prisoner. And so, if you are Sir Launcelot, speak up, for we must then fight to the death.”

“Sir, I see now that I might go in peace and good fellowship or otherwise fight to the death; but being the knight I am I must tell you: I am Sir Launcelot du Lake, son of King Ban of Benwick, of Arthur's court, and a knight of the Round Table. So defend yourself.”

“Ah! This is most welcome.”

Now the two knights hurled themselves at each other like two wild bulls; swords and shields clashed together, and often their swords drove into the flesh. Then sometimes one, sometimes the other, would stagger and fall, only to recover immediately and resume the contest. At last,however, Sir Tarquine grew faint and unwittingly lowered his shield. Sir Launcelot was swift to follow up his advantage and, dragging the other down to his knees, unlaced his helmet and beheaded him.

**Question: In this excerpt, Sir Thomas Mallory, the author, uses exaggeration and larger than life details. This technique is often used in medieval romances. Identify at least two examples of exaggeration or larger than life details in the above excerpt. What is the purpose of using exaggeration and larger than life details?**