*Into Thin Air*

Final Exam: If you choose to take the exam, it must be uploaded by midnight on Friday, May 15th to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com). This means it must be typed. If it is not uploaded, you cannot receive a grade.

Choose 3 of the following questions about *Into Thin Air*. Each answer must be a minimum of six sentences in length.

1. Jon Krakauer describes any attempt to climb Mt. Everest as “an intrinsically irrational act”? Do you agree with this statement? Why? Why not? Alternately, what are some legitimate reasons for attempting such a feat?

2. Who should (if anyone) decide if someone is fit to climb Everest? The individual, the guides, the tour companies, the government of Nepal? In the abstract, how free should we be to make decisions that may involve or endanger others or affect the environment around us?

3. What role do the Sherpas play in the commercialization of Everest? What is their responsibility to their mountain? To their community? To their family? To their clients? What is the responsibility of the climbers or the tour companies to them?

4. What does *Into Thin Air* suggest about the importance of leadership and teamwork in comparison to individual achievement?

5. What does *Into Thin Air* suggest about communication? Honesty? Ambition?

6. Who is responsible for the deaths documented in the book? Ultimately, is a person responsible for others? Is self-preservation the bottom line here?