AN00461_[2]**Chapter One**

1. What are the circumstances under which these boys have been stranded?
2. What has happened to the place where the boys are from?
3. What purpose does the conch serve?
4. Find an example of direct characterization concerning the leadership qualities of Ralph, Piggy, and Jack. *Be sure to add page numbers.*
5. Find an example of indirect characterization concerning the leadership qualities of Ralph, Piggy, and Jack. *Be sure to add page numbers.*
6. In what two ways does Ralph show sensitivity to others after he has been chosen as leader?
7. The word “scar” is mentioned at least 9 times in Chapter One. How does this imagery contribute to the personification of the island?
8. What can the reader infer about Jack’s decision to *not* kill the pig? What are his feelings afterward?

*Predictions:*

Jack says that “next time” he will kill a pig. Will there be a next time?

What are their chances of being rescued? How long will it take?

**Chapter Two**

*Pre-reading*: Why is the chapter named “Fire on the Mountain”?

1. What rules does Ralph establish at the assembly?
2. What is the concern or fear of the boy with the birthmark? How does his imagination affect other boys?
3. What does Ralph tell the boys that they must do to facilitate rescue?
4. Summarize the events involving fire. What is significant about fire?
5. What does the boys’ reaction to the fire show about them? *Prediction*: What could this be foreshadowing?
6. Why does Jack (and the choir boys) accept the responsibility for tending the fire?
7. Why does Golding choose the boy with the birthmark to disappear in the fire?

**Chapter Three**

1. How does Golding indicate that time has passed? Infer how much time has passed.
2. What is Jack’s new “compulsion”? Based on the text, what is the meaning of “compulsion”? What is the denotation of the word “compulsion”?
3. Summarize the events involving the building of the huts.
4. How does the building of the huts affect the group dynamics?
5. Golding says, in comparing Jack and Ralph, “They walked along, two continents of experience and feeling, unable to communicate.” What literary element is being used here? Explain Golding’s purpose of this description.
6. Assuming this novel is a political allegory, analyze Golding’s message about dictatorship and democracy.

**Lord of the Flies Character Chart – Chapters 1-3**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Character Name** | **Physical Description** | **Personality Traits** | **Alliances and Conflicts** |
| **Ralph** |  |  |  |
| **Piggy** |  |  |  |
| **Jack** |  |  |  |
| **Simon** |  |  |  |
| **Roger** |  |  |  |
| **“little ‘uns”** |  |  |  |

**Symbols in Lord of the Flies**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Symbol** | **Main Purpose** | **Quotations** | **Changes in Symbol** |
| **The Island/**  **Scar** |  |  |  |
| **Conch** |  |  |  |
| **Piggy’s glasses** |  |  |  |
| **Fire** |  |  |  |
| **The Beast** |  |  |  |
| **The Mask** |  |  |  |

**Chapter Four**

*Pre-reading*: What does the title “Painted Faces and Long Hair” mean?

1. Chapter Four opens with a description of the morning. What does Golding mean by “[they] accepted the pleasures of morning…as a time when play was good and life so full that hope was not necessary and therefore forgotten”?
2. Describe the little ‘uns. What does this description say about how long they’ve been there and who they are becoming?
3. Chapter One describes Roger as a “slight, furtive boy.” Chapter Four gives us a better look at Roger. What is the denotative meaning of “furtive”? What can we infer about who he actually is at heart? Give examples from the text to support your idea(s).
4. Describe the events of Jack and the use of camouflage, the mask.
5. What does the statement “[the] mask compelled them” mean?
6. Golding says that “Piggy saw the smile [from Ralph] and misinterpreted it as friendliness.” How does Ralph feel about Piggy? Support your answer with evidence from the text.
7. What is the purpose of the passing ship?
8. When the hunting party comes back after the ship on the horizon is gone, Golding says that “Simon looked…from Ralph to Jack, as he had looked from Ralph to the horizon, and what he saw seemed to make him afraid.” Of what is Simon most likely fearful?
9. How is the hunters’ chant appropriate for the scene of the first dead pig?
10. When Ralph first tells Jack that “[he] let the fire go out,” Jack was “irritated by this irrelevance.” How is this description of Jack an accurate statement? How did Golding foreshadow this irritation?
11. The cliché says “actions speak louder than words.” How is this cliché an accurate statement when comparing Ralph and Jack to the thematic idea savagery and civilization in chapter four?
12. Twice in the scene with Ralph addressing Jack and the hunters in their mistakenly letting the fire go out while hunting, Golding has Ralph repeat two phrases exactly: “There was a ship” and “That was a dirty trick.” What impact, if any, does this have on the moment?
13. Explain how Ralph “asserted his chieftainship” when he told them to light the fire again. What was the significance of the new location in relation to Jack and Ralph?
14. Unlike Ralph and Simon who also didn’t hunt, why doesn’t Jack want to feed Piggy meat?
15. Explain how the hunters killed the pig. What, if anything, is savage and how?
16. Maurice, not with the hunters during the killing, pretends to be a pig and some of the hunters re-enact the hunting and killing of the pig. What might this tell us about Maurice?
17. Ralph was “envious and resentful” as he watched the re-enactment of the hunting and killing. Why?
18. If plotting the story up to this point on Freytag’s Pyramid, the plot line, what could the inciting incident be?

*Thinking Ahead*: What might Ralph say at the meeting that he calls at the end of the chapter?

**THEMATIC IDEAS IN LORD OF THE FLIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Thematic Ideas:** | **Chapters 1 - 3** | **Chapters 4 – 7** |
| Civilization vs. Savagery |  |  |
| Power/ Leadership Styles |  |  |
| Human Nature  (Duality of Man, Nature vs. Nurture, and Good vs. Evil) |  |  |
| Survival |  |  |
| Loss of Innocence |  |  |

**CHARACTER “GROWTH” CHART**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Character | Summary Before (chpts. 1-3) | Current Character (chpts. 4-7) | Hypothesis of continual change |
| Ralph |  |  |  |
| Piggy |  |  |  |
| Jack |  |  |  |
| Little ‘uns |  |  |  |
| Roger |  |  |  |
| Sam’nEric |  |  |  |
| Maurice |  |  |  |
| Simon |  |  |  |

**Chapter Five**

1. In what ways does Golding show that Ralph is maturing? Use evidence from the text to support your answers.
2. Golding describes the initial discovery of the platform in Chapter One. Now he spends an entire paragraph describing the layout. Why might Golding do this now?
3. How does Golding allow Ralph to “recognize” Piggy for the first time?
4. Golding specifically says “Piggy. . .stood outside of the triangle. . .as a gesture of disapproval.” Of what does Piggy most likely disapprove?
5. While this is only the third meeting that Golding has allowed us to attend, how does Golding form Ralph differently in this meeting?
6. What six things does Ralph bring to the attention of the boys that has not gone as well as they might have initially plan and followed through with? What could this be foreshadowing?
7. d.
8. e.
9. f.
10. Why does Golding interrupt the action of the meeting with Ralph’s memories of the first day?
11. What is Jack’s reaction to the talk of the beast? How might this contradict what he said in chapter two?
12. Discuss Simon’s role in the idea of the beast (include his theory). How do the others react to these revelations? If Simon is correct, how has the reader seen evidence of this?
13. Cite evidence of deteriorations in the group’s dynamics.
14. Which is the most important point of deterioration? Why?
15. What does Ralph consider doing? What is the argument against it?

**Chapter Six**

*Prereading:* Chapter five’s “Beast from the Water” was discounted and, much to Piggy’s distaste, voted on as a ghost. What could the “Beast from Air” be?

1. Explain the circumstances of the sign which comes “down from the world of the grown-ups”? How is it ironic?
2. *Opinion*: Might the world of the grown-ups noticed the island if Sam’nEric hadn’t allowed the fire to die out?

Why?

1. When Sam’nEric return to the beach for help, why did they go to Ralph instead of Jack, the hunter and protector?
2. At the end of chapter 5, the meeting ends in apparent collapse of their “society.” What makes Ralph think that the boys, big ’uns and little ’uns, will respond to the request for a meeting?
3. Why didn’t Ralph blow the conch for the early morning assembly? How did he instead “call” the assembly?
4. How do the others react to this exaggerated account?
5. How do they exaggerate what they saw? Why exaggerate? What physical evidence is there to support the account?
6. *Opinion*: Does it hurt Ralph’s leadership position when he admits that he is frightened of the possibility of the beast on the mountain? Why?
7. What is the confrontation which takes place between Ralph and Jack?
8. Why does Golding have Jack to “[remain] standing” and say “’[this] is a hunter’s job’” after Ralph specifically told Jack to sit down and stop talking since Jack didn’t have the conch and said “’[we] don’t need the conch anymore’”?
9. Ralph reminds the boys of their need to relight the fire in order to be rescued. Golding then states “[yes,] they wanted to be rescued, there was no doubt about that; and with a violent swing to Ralph’s side, the crisis passed.” What was the crisis, and from whence or whom did it swing?
10. When exploring the island with Jack and the biguns, why does Ralph give Jack the lead? *Opinion*: Should Ralph have given Jack power? Why or why not?
11. In chapter four, Simon says that humans are the beast. Discuss Simon’s continued beliefs about this topic as developed by Golding.
12. After the boys left the beach moving toward the castle, Golding says “Ralph dismissed Simon and returned to his personal hell.” What does this mean?
13. According to Golding’s imagery, what tone is most appropriate in describing the “castle” or fort that the kids found on their search for the beast? Specifically cite words that support the chosen tone.
14. While on the search for the beast, how does Jack almost lose any control that he might have gained since chapter one? How does he try to regain his role as a leader at the “castle”?
15. Why does Ralph become angry with Jack and his followers?

*Thinking Ahead*: With the time spent describing the “castle” and the naming of the area as a “fort” as well as the overwhelming desire of the kids to stay and play instead of going to the mountain to build another fire, what role could this new location on the island play later in the novel?

**Chapter Seven**

*Prereading*: How does the title “Shadows and Tall Trees” indicate what might occur?

1. Describe the physical conditions of the boys as they hike along the shore. What is their opinion of themselves? How does it differ from Ralph?
2. Why do we bite our fingernails? What does this habit say about Ralph and his concern that he’ll “be sucking [his] thumb next”?
3. Why do you think Simon says, “You’ll get back all right”? What does he seem to be implying about his own future? Does Ralph find it odd that Simon thinks he can see into the future?
4. What is the purpose of Ralph daydreaming? What do we learn about Ralph’s childhood? How is it important?
5. Describe the hunt which takes place.
6. Describe Ralph’s reaction to his first hunt?
7. What “game” do the boys then play? How does it turn “sour”? Could it be foreshadowing anything?
8. Why does Simon go off alone? Who else volunteers to follow Simon? Why?
9. With what question does Ralph confront Jack? What was Ralph’s inspiration for asking the question?
10. What challenge does Ralph offer Jack? (Think of the previous chapter and what Ralph might have done to upstage Jack.) What might this say about Ralph?
11. What word did Golding deem “too good, too bitter, too successfully daunting to be repeated”? What was so special about that word?
12. Who climbs the mountain to view the beast? What is their reaction? How is it appropriate?

**Chapter Eight**

*Prereading*: What is the importance of fear?

1. Who blows the signal for the assembly? Why?
2. How do the others respond to Jack’s suggestion that Ralph be replaced?
3. What point does Ralph make at this point?
4. What does Simon suggest? How do the others react?
5. What is done about the fire?
6. How do the boys react to Jack’s departure?
7. What does Jack tell his band of followers?
8. How does the ensuing hunt differ from the previous ones?
9. What did they do with its head? Why is it called “Lord of the Flies”?
10. Who is Jack described as at this point?
11. What is the gist of the imaginary dialogue between Simon and the “Lord of the Flies”?

**Chapter Nine**

*Prereading*: What will Simon do about the beast and the “Lord of the Flies”?

1. Where does Simon go after he leave the “Lord of the Flies”?
2. Where does he then go?
3. Why do Ralph and Piggy decide to attend Jack’s feast? How are they received at the feast?
4. What happens when Jack asks Ralph’s followers to join with him?
5. What elements contribute to the tragic mistake?
6. What seems to have been Simon’s function in the novel?

*Post-reading*: Based on these recent events, hypothesize the remainder of the novel.

**Chapter Ten**

*Pre-reading:* How do you think Ralph and Piggy will react the morning after the event at the feast?

1. Who remains with Ralph? Where has everyone gone?
2. In what further way does Piggy reveal himself to be superior to Ralph?
3. How does Jack handle those who disobey his rules and regulations? What does Jack seem to use to control his followers?
4. Contrast the two types of government as represented by Jack and Ralph.
5. How does Jack explain to his followers the event surrounding Simon?
6. Describe the encounter between the two groups over the fire.
7. What is the importance of what was taken?

**Chapter Eleven**

*Pre-reading:* What do you think will happen next?

1. Why do Ralph and Piggy decide to visit Jack?
2. Do you think Piggy is fully aware of the extent of the degeneration of Jack and his followers? Why?
3. What happens to convince them that Jack is no longer playing games?
4. Why does Piggy feel that he has a right be heard?
5. What happens to Piggy? What is Roger’s role?
6. How is the occurrence with Piggy like that of the earlier slaughter of the pig?
7. What is Jack’s reaction to what happens to Piggy?
8. What is Ralph’s action at the end of the chapter?

*Post Reading:* What do you think will happen to Sam and Eric? Ralph?

**Chapter Twelve**

1. How does Ralph deal what has happened?
2. How does Ralph seem to be preparing himself? For what is he preparing himself?
3. Why does he go back to Castle Rock?
4. How do Sam and Eric feel about Jack?
5. Where does Ralph hide and how is he discovered?
6. Describe the final scene.
7. How do the savages act in the presence of the naval officer? What is his reaction to them?
8. What are Ralph’s final thoughts?
9. Golding has the officer preoccupied at the end of the novel. Why? What do you think his reaction should be?