AN00461_[2]**Chapter One**

1. What are the circumstances under which these boys have been stranded?

No adults, no supplies, no communication, no shelter

1. What has happened to the place where the boys are from?

Bombed

1. What purpose does the conch serve?

It gathers the boys together, acts as a symbol of authority

1. Find an example of direct characterization concerning the leadership qualities of Ralph, Piggy, and Jack. *Be sure to add page numbers.*

*Piggy – “We got to find the others. We got to do something” pg. 14*

*Jack – “Then we’ll have to look after ourselves.” Pg. 21*

*Ralph – “Seems to me we ought to have a chief to decide things.” Pg. 22*

*Jack – “I ought to be chief…because I’m chapter chorister and head boy. I can sing C sharp.” Pg. 22*

1. Find an example of indirect characterization concerning the leadership qualities of Ralph, Piggy, and Jack. *Be sure to add page numbers.*

Jack – “…eyes, frustrated now, and turning, or ready to turn, to anger.” Pg. 20

Ralph – “But there was a stillness about Ralph as he sat that marked him out…” pg. 22

Ralph – “Ralph, looking with more understanding at Piggy, saw that he was hurt and crushed. He hovered between the two courses of apology or further insult.” Pg. 25

1. In what two ways does Ralph show sensitivity to others after he has been chosen as leader?

He grants Jack leadership over the choir. He apologizes to Piggy upon seeing the hurt caused by revealing his “name”.

1. The word “scar” is mentioned at least 9 times in Chapter One. How does this imagery contribute to the personification of the island?

Many terms contribute to the overall “creepy” feeling of the island – scar, witch-like, creepers…The “scar” is a permanent mark on the island, heralding their arrival and the upheaval of their lives.

1. What can the reader infer about Jack’s decision to *not* kill the pig? What are his feelings afterward?

There is a fear, a weakness at killing another living thing and what that would entail (blood, regret, evil). Perhaps Jack is from a well-to-do family, never incurring an incident where necessity for meat was dealt with in the first person. However, the vehemence of his reaction afterward – “Next time!” proves that Jack is not one to allow others to see a weakness in him. He is committed to proving that he can complete the act of killing.

*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?

Very slim from Piggy’s analysis – “No one knows where we are…They are all dead.” Could be weeks or years.

**Chapter Two**

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

1. What rules does Ralph establish at the assembly? Everyone should raise their hand to speak and that whomever holds the conch has the right to speak their mind.
2. What is the concern or fear of the boy with the birthmark? How does his imagination affect other boys?

He believes that he saw a “Beastie” (snake-thing), large and in the trees. His fear spreads among the other boys despite Ralph’s logical argument that there is no such animal.

1. What does Ralph tell the boys that they must do to facilitate rescue?

Build a fire so that the smoke can be seen from far away.

1. Summarize the events involving fire. What is significant about fire?

The boys build a fire with any vegetation nearby and ignite the flame with Piggy’s glasses. The fire burns brightly then subsides, then bursts uncontrollably through the trees. The lack of organization or forethought given to building/controlling the fire speaks of the immaturity of the boys.

1. What does the boys’ reaction to the fire show about them? *Prediction*: What could this be foreshadowing?

The boys react with excitement to the fire, despite the potential danger. The thrill at the violence of the fire showcases their lust for savagery.

1. Why does Jack (and the choir boys) accept the responsibility for tending the fire?

It is a heavy responsibility, to be in charge of the source of their rescue. Jack takes up this task to prove his worth to the group.

1. Why does Golding choose the boy with the birthmark to disappear in the fire?

To emphasize the potential threat of the “beastie”.

**Chapter Three**

1. How does Golding indicate that time has passed? Infer how much time has passed.

Chp. 3 begins in the middle of Jack hunting. Ralph speaks of his attempts to build the huts, the children crying in their sleep – “Remember when we went exploring?” – as if it were a time ago. A week?

1. What is Jack’s new “compulsion”? Based on the text, what is the meaning of “compulsion”? What is the denotation of the word “compulsion”?

Jack is obsessed with the need to kill. Compulsion=obsession.

1. Summarize the events involving the building of the huts.

Ralph lays out his expectations that everyone help to build the huts, however everyone soon wanders off and only he and Simon remain.

1. How does the building of the huts affect the group dynamics?

Ralph is exasperated and frustrated at the lack of discipline and responsibility the other boys feel. A power play between Ralph and Jack develops when Ralph demands that Jack help in the endeavor.

1. 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.

Metaphor is being applied to describe the vast ocean of needs that separate the two characters. Neither boy can assimilate the feelings the other is having nor do they have the maturity/experience to express these thoughts orally.

1. Assuming this novel is a political allegory, analyze Golding’s message about dictatorship and democracy.

Golding expresses the exasperation at “meetings” through Ralph – *“Meetings. Don’t we love meetings?” Every day. Twice a day. We talk…When the meeting was over they’d work for five minutes, then wander off or go hunting.”* Pg. 51

It appears as if Golding gives more credit to the effectiveness of dictatorship.

**Symbols in Lord of the Flies**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Symbol** | **Main Purpose** | **Quotations** | **Changes in Symbol** |
| **The Island/**  **Scar** | * Personifies the island * Isolation from civilization * Island seen as savage |  |  |
| **Conch** | * Brings together the boys * Gives voice to the boys * Represents order, civilization |  |  |
| **Piggy’s glasses** | * “clarity” from adult perspective * A way to light the fire – source of rescue/hope |  |  |
| **Fire** | * Warmth * Rescue * Food/cooking * Point of contention |  |  |
| **The Beast** | * “beasties” – personify the island, fear factor * Mysterious quality * Fear of the unknown |  |  |
| **The Mask** | * Allows you to hide behind * Allows true self to show w/o recognition * Allows you to be stealthy |  |  |

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”? **(pg. 58)**

The rhythm of life became so expected that the children lived life routinely and perhaps forgot the absence of home and necessity of rescue. They replaced their desire to be rescued with the routine of island life and play.

1. Describe the little ‘uns. What does this description say about how long they’ve been there and who they are becoming? **(59-60)**

The littluns are about six years old, live an independently of the older boys, eat and play all day, and had stomachaches & diarrhea. At night, they have nightmares and huddle restlessly in the shelters, but didn’t cry much for their mommies. They obey the conch, but otherwise they have gained independence in the time they’ve been on the island. Percival is the exception and is acting batty – cries often and plays little.

1. 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). **(60-62)**

Furtive – secretive in an underhanded way. Roger kicks sandcastles w/o care or remorse; follows Henry at a distance – “stalking”(?), watches Henry and considers throwing coconuts at him. Roger knows that hitting him with coconuts would be crossing a line. He is conscious of other frowning on actions; he hides from others while throwing rocks in Henry’s immediate vicinity. Evil and plotting - “a darker shadow crept beneath the swarthiness of his skin” (62)

1. Describe the events of Jack and the use of camouflage, the mask. **(62-64)**

Jack figures it out – the pigs can see him (63) – smears on clay and doesn’t like it. He calculates what he wants to look like “planned his new face” – repaints face (63). Finds delight in mask – “looked in astonishment, no longer at himself but at an awesome stranger” (63). Changed his persona – they were “appalled” (64). “He began to dance and his laughter became a bloodthirsty snarling” (64). It “was a thing on its own” (64). He was “liberated from shame and self-consciousness” (64).

1. What does the statement “[the] mask compelled them” mean? **(64)**

“the mask was a thing on its own” (64) – a life of its own

Jack’s voice was behind the mask but they were drawn to go w/ him – beyond their control. It took a hold of Jack, changed him, liberated him. Is Jack part of “them” or is it just Sam’nEric and Roger that are compelled to go with Jack?

1. 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. **(65)**

\*can’t depend on Piggy – chpt. 3 – didn’t help build huts

Tolerates Piggy – “a bore,” “dull,” “always a little pleasure [in] pulling his leg” (65)

He smiled at him “involuntarily” – manners took over. At the beginning of the novel, he didn’t want to make it obvious that he didn’t like him (8)

1. What is the purpose of the passing ship?

Offers hope to boys – shows the reality of the situation and reality of it happening – “so close yet so far away”. The situation is out of their control. Shows a collapse in their social system – delinquency in Jack’s group to follow through – failure to follow through. Allows Ralph to gain control and Jack to falter.

1. 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?

Simon seems to have a good understanding of people. Perhaps for the first time someone other than Ralph sees the necessity of control, order, and expectation. Simon may understand that Jack doesn’t support that ideal. Under Jack they would probably have little order and lots of meat but would they get rescued? Under Ralph, they have the possibility of all of their necessities.

1. How is the hunters’ chant appropriate for the scene of the first dead pig? **(68-75)**

“Kill the pig. Cut her throat. Spill her blood.” (69)

1. “the gutted carcass of a pig swung from the stake. . . the pig’s head hung down with gaping neck” - cut her throat (69)
2. “the circle could close in and beat and beat” – kill the pig (69)
3. “there was lashings of blood” – spill her blood (69)

\*\*crossover into savagery?

1. 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?

**Irritation** - Jack wanted the glory of killing the pig and Ralph is worried about the ship passing. Ralph doesn’t acknowledge jack’s accomplishment instead he berates Jack for failing to keep the fire going. This is irritating to Jack.

**Irrelevant** - Jack never thought it very important; Chpt. 3 – argument about the importance of fire vs. meat (and even shelter) – pgs. 53-54

1. 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?

**Jack** – covered in blood, laughs (69), hacking away at pig (71), punching Piggy (71) – no words used on action – SAVAGERY

**Ralph** – not standing up to Jack for Piggy – SAVAGERY(?); calls for civilization w/ building huts, tending fire, use of conch – CIVILIZATION

Jack’s actions are much louder than Ralph’s desire for civilization – the children follow strength in Jack (68-75)

1. 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?

**Ship (70-71)** – 1st – Jack was embarrassed **Dirty Trick** **(72)** – after punching Piggy

2nd – little ‘un’s realization of lost hope Ralph feels guilty for not protecting Piggy(?)

\*\*Ralph wins points

**Repetition is used for emphasis** – used it to shed light on truth of the situation

1. 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? **(pgs. 72-73)**

Ralph tells them to light fire and REFUSES TO MOVE- he displays a “you’ll move around me” attitude. They have to move the spot of the fire to adhere to Ralph’s expectations – This Ralph’s fire not Jack’s (the first fire was Jack’s fire). “Jack was powerless and raged without knowing why” (73). Jack and Ralph were on opposite sides of the fire after its completion (73).

1. Unlike Ralph and Simon who also didn’t hunt, why doesn’t Jack want to feed Piggy meat?

Jack hates Piggy – “Jack had meant to leave him in doubt, as an assertion of power; but Piggy by advertising [Jack’s] omission made more cruelty necessary” (73-74)

1. Explain how the hunters killed the pig. What, if anything, is savage and how?
2. Made a circle
3. Threw spears –fell out
4. Jack on all fours like pig
5. Pig tried to run
6. Ran back into circle
7. Circle closed in
8. Beat the pig w/ hands (hit head “nob”)
9. Jack slit throat

\*\*Savagery – beating a pig w/ hands – how long did that take? Why not sit on pig and slit throat? Why beating?

1. 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? (pgs. 74-75)

* Follower of Roger, destructive, feels the unease of wrong doing (60)

Perhaps he wants to hunt, to express his primal side but is afraid of what he might feel (74-75)

1. Ralph was “envious and resentful” as he watched the re-enactment of the hunting and killing. Why?

**Envious** – pg. 54 – Jack likes to hunt, Ralph has to build huts but doesn’t want to – perhaps he’d rather do the more interesting “hunting,” a man’s job – not “Suzy Homemaker” that he is currently playing – Ralph wanted to hunt but wasn’t “allowed” to hunt w/ Jack

**Resentful** – pg. 73 - didn’t want to eat the meat, the product of the fire going out, but he needed to eat meat; frustrated w/ himself and his desires for meat – guilty of wanting more meat from the very thing that sacrificed their rescue

1. If plotting the story up to this point on Freytag’s Pyramid, the plot line, what could the inciting incident be?

The passing of the ship – loss of hope of rescue – no fire on the mountain pgs. 64-72

\*\*The ultimate clash of needs – fire vs. meat

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

* Savage behavior of killing pig – have some humanity in killing
* Keeping the fire going
* Respect for one another – bullying Piggy
* Is he on a power trip from his earlier success over Jack, since he “asserted his chieftainship”? (72-73)

**THEMATIC IDEAS IN LORD OF THE FLIES**

\*\*the number after each entry is the chapter in which the thematic idea can be found

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Thematic Ideas:** | **Chapters 1 - 3** | **Chapters 4 – 7** |
| Civilization vs. Savagery | * Taking off clothes – S * Establishing government – C * Race to mountain for fire – S * Stealing Piggy’s specs – S * Dancing around fire – S * Scaring island (plane, rock, fire) – S * Regular meetings – C * Buildings huts – C * Hunters, fire watchers – C * Not working together – S | Living in harmony – 4 – C  Mask takes over Jack – 4 – S  Killing the pig – 4 – S  Bullying Piggy – 4 – S  Ralph takes control, rebuilds fire – 4 – C  Recreation of killing the pig – 4 – S  Restructure of civilization – 5 – C  Kill the beast! – 5 – S  Destruction of “castle” – 6 – S |
| Power/ Leadership Styles | Dictatorship – Jack   1. I should be chief! 2. Leader of the choir 3. Doesn’t want to do the less adventurous things   Democracy – Ralph   1. Let’s vote! 2. Conch, raised hands 3. Works along side, contributes to society | Dictatorship – Jack   1. Overthrow Ralph – end of 5 2. Ralph demands respect that has not been given – 4, 6   Democracy – Ralph   1. Restructure for efficiency – 5 2. Ralph leads to the “castle” – 6 |
| Human Nature  (Duality of Man, Nature vs. Nurture, and Good vs. Evil) | Ralph friendly/rude to Piggy – Duality – 1  Life on island changing boys – N vs. N – 2, 3  Ralph vs. Jack – Good vs. Evil – 3  Jack becoming primal – N vs. N, Duality – 3  Simon – Duality – 3 | Roger – Duality – 4  Maurice – Duality – 4  Sam’nEric – N vs. N – 4  Jack – N vs. N – 4  Jack vs. Piggy, vs. Ralph – Good vs. Evil – 4, 5  Boys vs. “beast” – Good vs. Evil – 5, 6 |
| Survival | Eating whatever – 1  Must have fire, smoke signal – 2, 3  Jack hunting like animal – 3  Build shelters – 3 | “hope was forgotten” – 4  Fire went out – 4, relight fire – 4  Kill pig for meat – 4  Reorganize – 5  Fight beast – 5  Best leader discussion – 5  Find/fight beast – 6 |
| Loss of Innocence | Children dancing wildly at fire – 2  Uncontrollable fire causing the death of Birthmark boy – 2  Jack lost to compulsion – 3 | Kill pig, slit throat, beat pig – 4  Jack lost to mask – 4  Jack hates Piggy and gives him no food – 4  Roger, Sam’nEric follow Jack to hunt – 4  Jack overthrows gov’t – 5  Simon, the beast? – 5 |

**CHARACTER “GROWTH” CHART**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Character | Summary Before (chpts. 1-3) | Current Character (chpts. 4-7) | Hypothesis of continual change |
| Ralph | Leader of the boys  Wants to build shelters and keep fire going  Concerned about comfort and well-being of all  “Democratic” leader/worker | Adamant about fire – 4  “asserts chieftainship” (72-73) – 4  Lays out faults of group – 5  Calls for unity – 5  Wants to quit leadership role – 5  Fearless leader – 6  Reasonable – 6 |  |
| Piggy | “Parent” of little’uns  Intellectually superior  Easily frustrated w/ others  Supports Ralph, conch  Fearful of Jack | Weak – asthma (6), eyesight – 4  Frustrated w/ Jack – 4  Victim of Jack – 4  Reasonable about beast – 5  Supportive of Ralph – 5  Lover of conch – 5  Protector of little’uns – 6 |  |
| Jack | Mean, unforgiving  Hunter – compulsion  Likes, craves adventure  Wants to be a leader  Underhanded  One track-minded – MEAT! | Hunter, killer, provider – 4  Mean, unapologetic – 4  Irreverent – 4  Anarchist/revolter – 5  Hunter of beast – scared – 6 |  |
| Little ‘uns | Want “Mommy”  Eat anything to satisfy needs  Ignorant to reason  Nightmares  Easily sidetracked  Birthmark boy – DEAD | Adjusting to life – 4  Upset by passing ship – 4  Follower of Jack – 5  Scared of beast – 5, 6 |  |
| Roger | Quiet  “furtive”  Wants democracy/vote  Choir boy – follower of Jack | Secretive, dangerous? – 4  Hunter/follower of Jack – 4, 5  Explorer, hunter of beast – 6 |  |
| Sam’nEric | Twins – little’uns  Intelligent  Workers  Silly boys | Followers of Jack – 4  Hunters w/ Jack – 4  Silly boys – 5  Watchers of fire (left post to follow Jack hunting) – 6  Reporters of beast – 6 |  |
| Maurice | Choir boy | Follower of Roger – 4  Follows conscience – good vs. evil – 4  Wants to live dangerously – scared – 4  Debater – 5  Discounts Jack’s view of beast – 5 |  |
| Simon | Fainter  Explorer  Has secret hiding place  Opposite of Jack in adapting to  island/tranquil | Supports Ralph – 4  Feeds Piggy – 4  “beast” – wanders at night – 5  Says Ralph can’t quit – 5  Explorer – 6 |  |

**Chapter Five**

1. In what ways does Golding show that Ralph is maturing? Use evidence from the text to support your answers.

"He found himself understanding the wearisomeness of this life, where every path was an improvisation" (76); "There must be no mistake about this assembly, no chasing imaginary..." (76); "the meeting needed to be business" (76); Ralph notices how dirty he is (76-77); acknowledges that Piggy is smart (78); understands that wisdom was necessary (78)

1. 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?

pg. 77 - the time of the meeting/evening - casts different shadows giving an eerie feeling; location of boys in relation to Ralph - he knows where potential distractions/problems may come; can see why meeting might have been irreverent

1. How does Golding allow Ralph to “recognize” Piggy for the first time?

pg. 78 - sees him as a thinker - "Piggy could think . . had brains" - not the make of a chief; Ralph sees Piggy for his true value not as simply the fat whiny kid

1. Golding specifically says “Piggy. . .stood outside of the triangle. . .as a gesture of disapproval.” Of what does Piggy most likely disapprove?

pg. 78 - events of chapter 4 create the frustration in Piggy to make him stand outside, he disapproves of the overall attitude of everyone, may be even Ralph - the fire going out, savage killing of pig, refusal of food; Piggy rejoins the group on pg. 79 after Ralph has stated expectations, has thoughtful words which Piggy approves

1. While this is only the third meeting that Golding has allowed us to attend, how does Golding form Ralph differently in this meeting?

a.  he has thought through the points he wants to make

b.  insistent on order, no funny stuff

c.  understands that he must follow through with his authority - won't let others talk

d.  firmly speaking to kids, Jack, Piggy

1. 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?

a. water supply

b.  shelters

c.  lavatory/toilets

d.  fire/smoke sign

e.  fire on the mountain ONLY

f.  fear - nothing to be afraid of

Foreshadowing - Golding might be delineating the things that will continue to go wrong or at least continue to cause problems.  It also just reminds the reader that these are children and they will make mistakes.  Those mistakes might get bigger, the foreshadowed idea here.

1. Why does Golding interrupt the action of the meeting with Ralph’s memories of the first day?

pg. 76, 82 - Golding wants to flashback to "the good ole days" of childhood - Perhaps Ralph has forgotten he is a child, perhaps he sees his childhood quickly vanishing w/ the adult situation of the island.  Golding might just want to remind the reader that the boys are kids.

1. What is Jack’s reaction to the talk of the beast? How might this contradict what he said in chapter two?

pgs. 82-83 - the littleuns are "sissies" - get over it!  The beast is NOT REAL - this completely contradicts chpt. 2 when he left the option of the beast oen to his protection, his attempt to gain control.  He also blames Ralph for metioning the beast as an animal, turning the kids on Ralph to cheer for Jack.

1. 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?

Simon goes to his special place at night.  One child sees him and thinks he is a monster.  Simon offers the idea that we are the beast.  The others laugh, blaming it on a ghost.  Jack, Roger, Ralph - these three respresent our tendenacies to cross over into "the dark side"

1. Cite evidence of deteriorations in the group’s dynamics.

a.  ignoring the conch

b.  talking out of turn

c.  Ralph doesn't follow through with maintaining order

d.  Jack screaming at the littluns

e.  applauding Jack's rant and "booing" Ralph's control

f.  screaming at each other

g. blaming each other

h.  Jack takes over - shuts Ralph down

i.  Ralph considers quitting role of chie

1. Which is the most important point of deterioration? Why?

ignorance of the conch - symbolic of civilization, order, respect, etc. - the conch is slowly deteriorating much like the society the boys created that first day; could be foreshadowing the eventual destruction of the conch, civilization, order, respect

1. What does Ralph consider doing? What is the argument against it?

giving up his "chieftainship;" Piggy and Simon warn that if he does "we're lost."  Piggy is concerned for himself.  Simon says they must keep the fire going.  Both rattle off a list of horrible things that could happen if Ralph quits.

**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? Bird, airplane, meteor, ghost

1. Explain the circumstances of the sign which comes “down from the world of the grown-ups”? How is it ironic? Pgs.95-96

*Battle in the atmosphere above the island – parachutist falls to the island. Ralph asked the grown up world to send a sign – the sign was a dead man, evidence of chaos and destruction, certainly not the sign of hope he wanted*

1. *Opinion*: Might the world of the grown-ups noticed the island if Sam’nEric hadn’t allowed the fire to die out?

Why? Pg. 96

*Probably not – 10 miles in the air above the island, which is not even a dot – probably would see their small fire*

1. When Sam’nEric return to the beach for help, why did they go to Ralph instead of Jack, the hunter and protector? Pg. 100

*Ralph was leader regardless of the end of chpt. 5 – Jack was fun to follow but Ralph is reliable*

1. 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? Pgs. 100-101

*Ralph can only hope that they will respond – he has lost control over the kids, urgency of the matter makes a meeting important*

1. Why didn’t Ralph blow the conch for the early morning assembly? How did he instead “call” the assembly? Pg. 100

*Conch holds “unspeakable” powers; afraid he would summon a beast to their location*

*Ralph holds the conch in the air for the boys to see and follow*

1. How do the others react to this exaggerated account? Pg. 100

*They shrank away in horror, frightened of the account of the beast*

1. How do they exaggerate what they saw? Why exaggerate? What physical evidence is there to support the account? Pg. 100

*“teeth”, “Claws,””the beast followed,” “slinking behind the trees,” “nearly touched me”; gives purpose to their fright, allows them to be scared; Eric is “striped w/ scars,” bleeding*

1. *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? Pg. 101

*Yes – make him weak in the eyes of Jack, and easy target*

*No – makes him realistic and “human”*

1. What is the confrontation which takes place between Ralph and Jack? Pg. 101-102

*Ralph tells Jack to sit down and respect others – Jack refuses and Ralph has to “buck up” to Jack and be a leader*

1. 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’”? pg. 102

*This allows Jack to stand up defiantly against Ralph – alpha male; Ralph is given the chance to regain control lost in Chpt. 5 – allows us to see Jack’s view of the conch – foreshadowing?*

1. 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? Pgs. 103

*Crisis – Jack taking charge, Ralph losing complete control to Jack*

*Jack had control at the end of chpt. 5 but when Ralph has the new meeting re-establishes order and a plan, he regains control*

1. 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? Pg. 103

*Ralph is tired. He has recognized that being a good leader takes thought and energy. He is trying to make the best decisions and that takes lots of thought and physical strength. He might be experiencing exhaustion and he wants to let someone else take control for a bit. At the same time, he knows that Jack knows the forest much better than he, Ralph, does. Giving Jack power is a catch-22: if Ralph takes the lead, he will probably mislead the boys and lose respect BUT if he gives Jack the lead then Ralph is enabling Jack’s desire for control and allows the boys to follow Jack’s desire instead of Ralph’s – a delicate line to toe*

1. In chapter four, Simon says that humans are the beast. Discuss Simon’s continued beliefs about this topic as developed by Golding. Pg. 103, 105

*He doesn’t believe in Sam’nEric idea of the beast, maintains the idea that humans are the beast – doesn’t seem possible, tells Ralph that he still doesn’t believe*

1. 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? Pg. 104

*Possible “hellish” elements of Ralph’s life: stranded on an island, Jack, responsibility of little’uns, protecting Piggy, survival*

1. 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? Pg. 105

*Fortified -*

1. 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”? pgs. 104 – end

*Ralph has to go in for Jack, he is too scared. Ralph takes the leadership role and goes first. Jack then will join Ralph on the “castle” and push over big rocks to show his strength.*

1. Why does Ralph become angry with Jack and his followers? Pgs. 107-108

*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?