

Name _____

Lord of the Flies
Summer Reading Guide
Honors English 10

Imagine being left with a group of your classmates on a deserted tropical island with no adults to supervise or provide for you. Is the image in your mind one of paradise or pain? Well that is exactly the scenario for William Golding's Lord of the Flies, a novel that traces the adventures of a group of young boys stranded on a coral island following a plane crash. The novel, published in 1955, explores the inner nature of man through the actions of these survivors. While some struggle to create rules and an orderly society, others surrender to the darker more ominous side of man. As a post war novel, the text carries undercurrents of the warlike state outside the boys' little world. It is also rich in imagery and symbolism that is especially meaningful to us as Christians. Be willing to immerse yourselves in Lord of the Flies and, at the same time, to evaluate Golding's brooding view of mankind.

William Golding was the recipient of the 1983 Nobel prize for literature for "for his novels which, with the perspicuity of realistic narrative art and the diversity and universality of myth, illuminate the human condition in the world of today."

Vocabulary: Define the following

Effulgence

Enmity

Diaphragm

Suffusion

Virtuous

Canopy

Contemptuously

Conspiratorial

Derisive

Tacitly

Incrimination

Gesticulating

Diffidently

Guano

Imperious

Indignant

Assimilating

Tendrils

Anonymity

Mimical

Ululation

Choose any five of the above words and use them in a short paragraph that correctly illustrates their meaning.

Chapters 1-5

1. List several quotes that describe the setting of the novel. Describe the tone of the first chapter.

2. How does the arrival of the pig at the end of chapter one affect the mood of the chapter? List a text that best illustrates the change in tone.

3. Write a paragraph describing each of these characters: Piggy, Ralph, and Jack. In the paragraph describe each one's appearance, habits, speech, clothing, family background, and values and beliefs. Which is the best leader? Why

4. What do you feel is the climax of this section of the book? What causes the characters to change? Why?

Give three details about each of the following. Explain why each person or thing is important to the ideas of the book.

The conch:

The fire:

The Beast:

The little "un" with the mulberry marked face:

Piggy's specs:

The scar in the mountain:

Chapters 5-9

1. Choose a text that best summarizes the killing of the sow in Chapter 8. How has the hunt changed the boys? Why?

2. Describe the Lord of the Flies. Why does Simon experience "an ancient, inescapable recognition"? What does the Lord of the Flies represent? Give details from the novel to explain why you feel this way.

3. Describe Simon. Why is he different from the other boys? Why does the Lord of the Flies believe he is "not wanted" on the island?

4. What does Simon discover the beast is in actuality? Describe the scene in which he tries to tell the others. What does this scene tell you about human nature? Why?

Give three details about each of the following. Explain why each person or thing is important to the ideas of the book.

Percival Wemys Madison:

The "game" where Robert pretends to be a hunted pig:

Bathing/water images:

Chapters 10-12

1. How does Piggy plan to convince Jack to return his glasses? Will this be effective? Why or Why not?

2. Describe the island at the end of the novel. What do you feel the island has come to represent as the boys themselves have transformed? Why?

Give three details about each of the following. Explain why each person or thing is important to the ideas of the book.

Samneric:

Roger:

The officer in the closing paragraphs:

Final thoughts

What are three insights the book shares about human nature and the human heart? As a Christian, how do you feel about each? Explain your response.