

## Contemporary Classics Study Questions

### Chapter One

1. Why is the chapter entitled "The Sound of the Shell"?

The chapter is entitled "The sound of the shell" because Ralph finds a conch shell.

2. What is Ralph's attitude toward Piggy in the first chapter?

Ralph thought Piggy was fat.

3. What is the significance of Piggy's plea to join the expedition?

He's smarter and wiser than the rest of them.

4. Why is Ralph elected chief?

Ralph has the conch shell.

5. What is the "scar" that is repeatedly mentioned?

6. Why is Jack unable to kill the pig?

It got away before he could stab it.

7. What do Piggy, Simon, and the littlun with the birthmark have in common?

8. How is Jack presented to the reader?

9. Why did Golding use British school boys?

10. How is Piggy revealed as most closely tied to the world of adults?

He is more mature and smarter.

11. How is Piggy indirectly responsible for the blowing of the conch?

He found the conch but Ralph blew it making everyone think he was the leader

## Chapter Two

1. What question does the littlun with the birthmark raise?

"How do we deal with the beast?"

2. How do Ralph and Jack answer the question about the beast?

They say it's just a bad dream.

3. What is the significance of the chapter's title, "Fire on the Mountain"?

4. How do they start the fire?

The use Piggy's glasses to burn sticks

## Chapter Three

1. What is the significance of the title, "Huts on the Beach"?

2. Why does Ralph reproach Jack?

3. What two groups with differing goals are emerging?

4. Why does Simon go to his bower?

## Chapter Four

1. What is the significance of the title "Painted Faces and Long Hair"?

They paint their faces with pig blood

2. Why does Roger, throwing stones at the littluns, aim just to miss?

3. What definite stand does Ralph make?

He decides to make his own group of hunters.

4. Why does Jack refuse to give Piggy meat?

## Chapter Five

1. What is the significance of the title "Beast from Water"?

2. What is the paradox of the boys' attitude toward the beast?

The boys think the beast is fake

3. Why does Ralph call a meeting?

He wants to talk about the beast

4. Why does Piggy dissuade Ralph from giving up his position as chief?

## Chapter Six

1. What is the irony of the dead parachutist landing on the mountain?
2. Why is Simon the only one to doubt the existence of a beast?
3. Why do Ralph and Jack both insist on going after the beast?
4. Why does Jack say that they don't need the conch any longer?

## Chapter Seven

1. Why does Simon tell Ralph that "you" will get back all right?
2. What happens when Ralph wounds the boar?

All the kids eat the boar

3. What does Ralph ask Jack?

"Why does he ~~at~~ hate him?"

4. Why do the boys run from the dead chutist?

## Chapter Eight

1. Why do the boys refuse to vote for Jack as chief but slip off to join him later?

2. What does Jack tell his new tribe?
3. Why is the killing of the sow discussed in such detail?
4. What does the Lord of the Flies tell Simon?

## Chapter Nine

1. What reason does Ralph give for the boys' defection to Jack?
2. What kind of leader is Jack?
3. How does Jack propose to rule without the conch?
4. Why do Ralph and Piggy join the dance?
5. Why is Simon's dead body carried out to sea in terms of glorification?

## Chapter Ten

1. What is the significance of the title "The Shell and the Glasses"?

2. Why do Ralph, Piggy, and Samneric lie about their part in Simon's death, or the darkness as an excuse?

3. How is Wilfred punished?

4. How does Jack account for the death of Simon?

## **Chapter Eleven**

1. Why do Ralph and Piggy decide to visit Jack's camp?

2. What is the reaction of Jack's tribe to Ralph's talk of rescue?

3. What happens when Piggy holds up the conch and tries to talk?

4. Why does Roger shove his way past Jack, only just managing not to edge him aside?

## **Chapter Twelve**

1. How does Ralph learn of Jack's plans for him?



***Lord of the Flies***  
**William Golding**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. What does Ralph say to the twins when they refuse to help him?

3. Does Ralph understand why he must be killed?

4. What is the irony of Samneric's behavior?

5. How does the author describe Ralph's flight across the island?

6. What is the irony of the fire?

7. Why is Percival unable to remember his name and address?

8. Why is Piggy's fall emphasized?

9. Why does Ralph say that he is in charge on the island?

10. What comparison is implied at the end of the novel?