Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *Lord of the flies*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter 1 Discussion

Directions: Read chapter 1 and then answer the questions below to come to a conclusion about the opening to our novel.

GOAL: How effective is chapter 1 of *Lord of the Flies* at introducing the characters, concerns and language of the novel?

**CHARACTERS**

1. Discuss how Golding presents the characters introduced in this chapter. Include the following aspects of the characters.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Aspect | Character #1 | Character #2 | Character #3 | Character #4 |
| Background and lifestyle before island (if revealed) |  |  |  |  |
| How was the character introduced? |  |  |  |  |
| Appearance and physical qualities |  |  |  |  |
| Other characteristics (leadership, etc.) |  |  |  |  |
| Relationships with other characters (contrasts too) |  |  |  |  |
| What is suggested about how characters will develop and roles in the novel? |  |  |  |  |

**LIFE ON THE ISLAND**

1. How do the boys respond to being on the island?

2. How do they decide to organize themselves?

3. How do they feel about being stranded and how do they spend their time?

4. What does the contest for leadership reveal about the characters and possible themes of the novel?

**SIGNS NOT ALL IS WELL ON THE ISLAND AND HINTS THERE WILL BE PROBLEMS AHEAD**

There are many ominous (disturbing) signs as early as the first page of the novel. Consider language and actions described.

1. How does Golding hint that life on the island is going to deteriorate?

2. Is the sense of order that the boys try to establish under threat from the beginning? If so, from what?

**THEMES**

What themes emerge in the opening chapter that will remain important in the rest of the novel?

**SETTING**

Why do you think that Golding chose to strand the boys on an island? Is there anything significant about the shape and geography of the island and the way it’s described?

CONCLUSION

How do you feel (mood) at the end of chapter 1? What questions do you still have?