

Comprehension Check: Chapters 4-6

As you read and take notes using the note-taking technique described on page 11, use the Comprehension Check questions below to help guide your understanding of all aspects of the novel. After reading the given chapters, answer the questions on a separate sheet of paper.

Chapter Four

1. Name several things the "littluns" do on the island, either together or on their own.
2. As Roger and Maurice are on their way to go swimming, they kick over some of the littluns' castles. Why does Maurice hurry away afterwards?
3. Similarly, Roger throws stones in a circle around Henry. Explain why he does not dare to hit him with the rocks.
4. Why is Ralph so upset that the boys let the fire go out? Conversely, why is Jack so seemingly unconcerned about it?
5. Piggy is beginning to be seen as an outcast. Cite details that illustrate this.

Chapter Five

1. Write a brief description of the assembly area.
2. Identify several of the important points Ralph talks about at the assembly.
3. When Ralph says, "We've got to make smoke up there—or die," he means it in two different ways. Explain.
4. Finally, Ralph says, "Things are breaking up... We began well; we were happy. And then—" What are some of the signs that the boys are "breaking up"?
5. As the assembly comes to an end, what is the general atmosphere among the boys?
6. Why do you think Percival Wemys Madison, when spoken to, chants his address?

Chapter Six

1. "So as the stars moved across the sky, the figure sat on the mountain-top and bowed and sank and bowed again." To what is this sentence referring? Who are the first boys to see it?
2. Where do the biguns go? Who is left in charge of the littluns and why?
3. What does Simon think about the beast? What do the others think of Simon's opinion?
4. Why is Ralph so angry about the boys rolling rocks?
5. What is very different about Ralph's way of looking at things as opposed to the way the other boys look at things? How is this difference important?