The Pearl

Chapters Three and Four

Literature Focus: Supporting Inferences with Textual Evidence RL.9-10.1, RL.11-12.1

When making an inference (a logical conclusion) about a piece of fictional text, it is crucial that textual evidence be available to support your claim. Without specific evidence, your assumption can be questioned. Look at the example below. In the rectangles, you will find quotes from the novella. Within the circle is an inference that can be made using the quotes as support.

"Kino stood in the door, filling it, and hatred raged and flamed in back of his eyes, and fear too, for the hundreds of years of subjugation were cut deep in him." (30)

"But Kino was suspicious, and he could not take his eyes from the doctor's open bag, and from the bottle of white powder there." (35)

"...Kino came to her, and he lifted the shawl and stared at the baby. He moved his hand to look under the eyelid..." (32)

Kino does not trust the doctor's treatment of Coyotito, suspecting that he may have intentionally made Coyotito sick.

"...for his mind was hard and suspicious and he was remembering the white powder." (33)

Part A

Directions: First, carefully read the list of direct quotes from Chapters Three and Four of the text below. Then, make a reasonable inference based upon those quotes.

"Thus Kino's future was real, but having set it up, other forces were set up to destroy it, and this he knew, so that he had to prepare to meet the attack." (29) "But Kino's brain burned, even during his sleep, and he dreamed that Coyotito could read, that one of his own people could tell him the truth of things." (37)

"And in the incandescence of the pearl the pictures formed of the things Kino's mind had considered in the past and had given up as impossible." (24)

"This is our chance...
our son must go to
school. He must break
out of the pot that
holds us in." (38-39)

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Part B

Directions: Now, carefully read the inference stated below. Return to the novella and find four direct quotes with page numbers to support the inference.

Juana is a good wife and mother who cares deeply for her family.		