Lord of the Flies Study Questions

**Chapter 2: Fire on the Mountain**

1. In the first paragraph of Chapter two, Golding writes, “The choir, noticeably less of a group, had discarded their cloaks.” What does this statement convey?

2. What decisions are made at the meeting held the first evening?

3. The little boy with the mulberry-colored birthmark comes forward to speak of what?

4. Why does Ralph repeat the statement, “there isn’t a beastie” five times?

5. Golding writes, “The shameful knowledge grew in them and they did not know how to begin confession.” What is the shameful knowledge? How is confession made? (hint: about the fire)

6. “The sun in the wwest was a drop of burning gold that slid nearer and nearer the sill of the world. All at once they were aware of the evening as the end of light and warmth.” The first statement is what type of rhetorical device? What did the group realize?

7. In what ways is Piggy the voice of reason?

8. How does Jack and Ralph’s relationship develop during the building of the fire?

9. Does Piggy’s place in this society seem to be any different from his place in England? Why is it hard for the boys to hear Piggy?

10. What part of society does Piggy symbolically represent?

11. On what ominous note does Chapter 2 end? (what is being foreshadowed)

**Chapter 3: Huts on the Beach**

1. How does Golding indicate the passage of time?

2. The term “insects” in the first sentence on page 49 is ambiguous. What two meanings can be applied?

3. How does Golding create a feeling of verisimilitude (truth/reality) in the description of Jack’s hunting adventure?

4. In addition to the hutson the beach being a shelter from the weather, in what symbolic way does Ralph think that the shelters are important?

5. What is causing the friction between Ralph and Jack?

6. When Jack is hunting or talking about hunting, what kind of look does he have? What does this signify?

7. What effect does Simon’s comment, “As if it wasn’t a good island” have on Ralph? On the reader?

8. What is Jack’s response to Simon’s statement?

9. What has Ralph come to realize about society on the island?

10. What is Goldin’gs purpose in introducing the scene of the little ones playin gin the sand and in the pool?

11. What literary device is used in the statement “They walked along, two continents of experience and feeling, unable to communicate”?

12. How does the narrator describe the relationship between Ralph and Jack?

13. How does Golding convey to the reader that Simon is not unfamiliar with the terrain?

14. How is Simon different from Ralph and Jack?

15. What societal archetypes do Ralph, Jack, and Simon seem to represent?

16. In what ways does the author create a Christ-likeness about Simon?

17. One of the foundations of a civilization is a unified language. How is that aspect of society developed in the microcosm (model) of the island?

18. What does the simile, “the creepers dropped their ropes, like the rigging of foundered ship” add?

19. In Chapter 3, the personal conflict between Ralph and Jack mirrors the thematic conflict of the novel. What is the thematic conflict?

20. From what point of view is “Lord of the Flies” told?