***Lord of the Flies* – Chapter 12 - Reflective Critical Thinking Questions**

**TOTALPOINTS**

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**30**

**Points per ?:**

**3pnts**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**1pnt**

**A symbol is any noun (person, place, thing, or event) that represents an idea or a concept. We figure out what certain objects symbolize by looking at how the objects are used and how characters react to those objects.**

1. Think about the first chapters of the book. How have the boys changed from the first two chapters of the book to now. Specifically explain at least 3 ways in which they have changed.
2. William Golding describes Ralph in the 1st two paragraphs of chapter 12. Explain how Ralph is doing physically and mentally.
3. Ralph thinks about Simon, Piggy, and the conch in retrospect. What does the death and destruction of these characters and object symbolize? Explain your answers.

Simon’s death:

Piggy’s death:

Destroying the Conch:

1. Ralph comes across the original Lord of the Flies when he is running from the hunters in the jungle. What does Ralph do the skull on the stick? What does Ralph’s action symbolize? Explain your answer.
2. How does Ralph find out that he’s to be hunted?
3. What does “sharpen a stick at both ends” symbolize? (Hint: Think about what they use the stick for. What does this mean for Ralph?)

**2pnts**

**1pnt**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**2pnts**

**4pnts**

1. What is Jack’s fire intended to do?
2. Explain how the fire’s symbolism has changed in this chapter compared to the last 10 chapters. (Hint: think about how the fire was used before and what they use it for in chapter 12.)

**Situational Irony is when something happens in a story or in life that is the opposite of what you would expect to happen.**

1. Why is it ironic that a ship shows up to rescue the boys while they are hunting Ralph? (Hint: Think about why the ship stops at the island.)
2. Describe how the boys change the moment they see the Naval officer.
3. How does William Golding imply a change in the boys by the way he describes them? What are the two different ways Golding describes boys in chapter 12?
4. What is the adult most surprised about when he is talking to Ralph?
5. In the last paragraph of chapter 12 Golding writes “Ralph wept for the end of innocence, the darkness of man’s heart.” What is the end of innocence? What is the darkness of man’s heart? Explain your answers.