Chapter One

Terms: efflorescence (12), enmity (14), decorous (15), chorister (22),  bastion (29), hiatus (31)

Questions:

1. Explain what the following passage reveals about Ralph’s feelings about  his situation:

Page 11 “Ralph danced out into the hot air of the beach and then returned  as a fighter-plane, with wings swept back, and machine-gunned Piggy.”

2. Discuss the importance of the conch.

3. On page 30, Ralph, Jack, and Simon discuss the bushes around them.  What does each boy say about them? What do their individual comments  suggest about them?

4. Four key characters are met in this chapter: Ralph, Jack, Simon, Piggy

Start character pages for each; notes on what they are like; point form with page references.

Chapter Two

Terms: ebullience (38), recrimination (43), tumult (43), tirade (45)

Questions:

1. What does the conch symbolize?

2. Add any new details to your character profiles of: Ralph, Jack,  Simon, Piggy

3. Page 33. Ralph asks the boys to put their hands up when they  want to talk. How secure is this rule? On what is it based?

4. Page 35. One of the littluns claims to have seen something.  What is it? What was the reaction of the group?

5. Page 38. Piggy states that the boys are acting ‘Like a crowd of  kids-‘ Is Piggy right? What is the evidence?

6. Who is to blame for the child’s death?

Chapter 3

Terms: oppressive (49), inscrutable (49), vicissitudes (49), declivities (54), rapt (54), tacit (55)

Questions:

1. What do the huts symbolize? Why is their collapsing  significant?

2. Page 52 Explain the significance of the following quote:

“If it rains like when we dropped in we’ll need shelters all  right. And then another thing. We need shelters because of the--- “

He paused for a moment and they both pushed their anger  away. Then he went on with the safe, changed subject.

3. What is Jack’s feelings on the idea of the beastie? (page 53)

4. Page 53 Explain the significance of the following quote:

Jack had to think for a moment before he could remember what  rescue was.

5. In this chapter, the different attitudes to life on the island for  Ralph, Jack, and Simon are clarified much more deeply. Discuss  how each boy feels.

6. Add to character profiles.

Chapter 4

Terms: blatant (58), taboo (62), sinewy (64), malevolently (71)

1. a) The destruction of the sand castles is significant. Maurice feels a  little uneasy about the destruction and forms ‘the uncertain outlines of  an excuse’. Explain.

b)What is significant about Johnny’s behaviour?

2. Page 64. Why do you think Jack’s painted face ‘liberated (him)  from shame and self-consciousness’?

3. Jack claims that the boys ‘need’ meat. Do you think this is his real  reason for hunting?

4. Why is the bond snapped between Ralph and Jack, and strengthened  between Ralph and Piggy?

5. Add to character profiles. Begin a profile for Roger.

Chapter 5

Terms: lamentably (77), ludicrous (78), ineffectual (79), jeer (84),  inarticulate (89)

1. (Page 76) Ralph ‘…stopped, facing the strip; and remembering that  first enthusiastic exploration as though it were part of a brighter  childhood…’ Discuss.

2. When Simon is asked about the beast, he responds ‘…maybe it’s  only us.’ (Page 89) What does he mean?

3. Ralph asks Piggy about ghosts. (Page 92). Piggy responds that  there are no ghosts or beasts. Why?

4. Why does Jack agree that there might be a beast?

5. Page 94. “Grown-ups know things….the majesty of adult life.”  Remembering what brought the boys to the island, is Piggy right? Are  the boys only failing because they aren’t grown-ups?

6. Add to character profiles.

Chapter Six

Terms: leviathan (105), clamor (108), mutinously (108)

Questions:

1. Page 106 Compare Jack’s thinking from the last time they  came across a balanced rock. (page 27)

2. Page 107 Discuss the following:

“Smoke.”

A strange thing happened in his head. Something flittered  there in front of his mind like a bat’s wing, obscuring his idea.

“Smoke.”

At once the ideas were back, and the anger.

3.What happens that makes the dead parachutist appear to be a  living creature? Explain.

4. Ralph and Jack as leaders. List strengths and weaknesses for  both.

5. Add to character profiles.

Chapter 7

Terms: crestfallen (117), impervious (121), enterprise (122)

Questions:

1. Page 110-111 What is the difference in Ralph’s view of  themselves and of the sea? Why does it  produce such strain on him?

2. Page 111 “…you’ll get back.” What does this tell us  about Simon?

3. Page 112 Ralph has a memory of life before the island.  What is it? Why is it significant that it appears here in the text?  What does it tell us about Ralph?

4. Page 114-115 The dance involving Robert is described as a  frenzy. How is this ritual dance different from others?

5. In this chapter, Ralph for the first time enters the world of the  hunter. This should bring him closer to Jack, but it doesn’t.  Why? Why does Jack hate Ralph?

Chapter 8

Terms: glowered (127), rebuke (128), demure (133), fervor  (133)

Questions:

1. At this point in the novel, Jack has become a tyrant. What does  this mean? Be specific.

2. The killing of the pig is very graphic. (pages 133-136).  Describe the scene by quoting lines that shows the savagery and  frenzy of the attack.

3. Why do the hunters leave the sow’s head in the jungle?

4. (Page 137-138, Page 143-144). Describe Simon’s encounter  with the Lord of the Flies. Explain what the Beast meant when it  said, “You knew, didn’t you? I’m part of you? Close, close, close!  I’m the reason why it’s no go? Why they are what they are?”

5. Lord of the Flies is a literal translation of the word Beelzebub  (the name of the devil in the Bible. Matthew 12 24-29/Luke 11  15-22) Keeping this in mind and knowing what you know of his  character, discuss Simon as a Christ figure. (A Christ figure is a literary technique that authors use to draw allusions between their characters and the biblical Jesus Christ. More loosely, the Christ Figure is a spiritual or prophetic character who parallels Jesus, or other spiritual or prophetic figures. )

Desert Island Discs is a long-running BBC Radio 4 program. It was first broadcast on 29 January 1942 and  is said by the Guinness Book of Records to be the longest- running music program in the history of radio.

Guests are invited to imagine themselves cast away on a  desert island, and to choose eight pieces of music  (originally gramophone records) to take with them;  discussion of their choices permits a review of their life.  Excerpts from their choices are played (or in the case of  short pieces, the whole work).

At the end of the program they choose the one piece they  regard most highly, and are asked to choose one book to  take.

They also choose one luxury item, which must be inanimate  and of no use in escaping the island or allowing  communication from outside.

Your assignment:

If you were on Desert Island Discs what would you answer  for the following categories:

three pieces of music (cds) to take

one book to take

one luxury item to take

You must provide reasons for each of your answers.

Due Wednesday. 25 marks