

Lord of the Flies Test Study Guide

Piggy

Realistic Character

- He is the short and fat boy with glasses. – he was set off from the other boys because of his appearance
- He lived with his auntie – shows that even his family viewed him as an outsider
- He wanted to take care of the little kids
- **At the beginning he is the voice of order** – he finds the conch holds the meeting
- His reason for obesity is that he eats so much – his aunt owned a candy store
- Attached to glasses, cleans them – are important to his character
 - Glasses were used for the fire and taken away
- Ralph was compared to Piggy, which was an insult
- Could tell time – others thought it was a stupid idea_ “I got the conch... like a pack of kids”
←ironic because they are kids
- **Voice of the adult world**

Allegorical Character

- Excluded – excluded all intellectual knowledge?
 - **Order and reason pushed away**
- Breaking of his glasses foreshadows his eventual cracking under the rock
 - **Beginning of destruction of order**
 - “One side of his glasses break.”
 - “My specs”
- Images of Piggy
 - glasses – intellectual side

- conch –represents order
- **In allegorical realm he is reason, order, adult voice, and civilization**
- Later on Jack steals his glasses – **symbolizes death of civilization and rise or barbarism (=absence of civilization)**
- **Know that Piggy is not pulled into insanity/savagery because _____**
 - His hair does not grow and clothes stay on
- Fire symbolizes death and hope/rescue (before death)
- He says its is better to live an organized life
- “Twitched like a pig” – Jack killed pigs, pigs are killed savagely
- Shattering of conch – no hope for any type of civilization on island
- Piggy is biggest impediment(obstacle) for Jack
- Piggy is destroyed in Jack’s world because of who Jack is (savage)

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- He has asthma, his dad had died
 - He was called Piggy but did not want to be
 - Concerned that no one knows they are there and that there are no rules
 - He is negative in his views about getting rescued
 - **Has answers and gets mad when others don’t have his grasp on reality and don’t listen to him**

Jack

First sight- first approach of Jack and choir
He has orderly lines - went from OCD and ordered to
savage and wild

"I ought to be chief, without simple arrogance"

Was angry, jealous that he was not elected leader –
his anger foreshadows him acting out as he desires to
be the leader

**Motivation is that they are hungry, need something to
eat**

Is role model – even though he isn't leader, he has a
leadership role with his hunters killing pigs

Jack responsible for Simon and Piggy's deaths – **kills
people to show his power**

War paint is sign of moral decay

Jack and Ralph friends at beginning

Allegorically

Changes allegorically after page 48

In course of two chapters discarded clothing, has
weapon(stick) in hand, and war paint shows he is
changing from civilized to not civilized.

He rules through fear of beast and protects them
against it, keeps him in power

**Face-paint allows him to be something he never was -
act out and be savage**

**** He turned the group more savage – symbolizes loss
of innocence and that people are really evil when put
to the test**

He represents negative connotation of fire

**Responsible for lord of the flies - supposed to be
offering for beast - worshipping Beelzebub**

Pagan religion

Cutting head off keeps beast at bay

Jack angry "Not going to play with you any longer" with Ralph and Piggy'

Is little boy acting like a big guy, thinks it is all a game

Jack forgets why he is there – "What is rescued?"

****Steals fire and spectacles – symbolizes savagery takes over any chance of democracy, order, civilization**

Fire is hope at beginning then bad thing at end

Jack and Piggy are Id and Superego

Jack = Id – relies on impulses and primal instinct

Piggy = Superego – conscience, goes by social

norms

Symbol: Jack this way to castle rock – is like Jack's kingdom, rock also kills Piggy

****Jack becomes beast**

Clothing – Jack and group

At first he had a uniform

Overtime he had less and less clothes, down to underwear

Also begins to put on black war paint

Ralph

- Controlling and arrogant in beginning, took Piggy's ideas, trying to impress other/align with Jack
- Trying to gain acceptance by making fun of Piggy
- Size, appearance, charisma = obvious choice for leader
- Ralph wants to be in control and takes the glasses from Jack to start the fire
- Ralph realizes they need to have rules/order

- Grows into his role of responsibility by trying to have rules, make shelter and find food
- Clothes = civilization, he likes to have order
- Does not fully believe in the beast – shows his maturity and need for rational thought in a leader
- Does not like having his hair in his eyes
- Could have been saved, savages lost it
- He realizes that without rules they will fall apart- he wants things/them to follow rules
- He stands up for Simon
- Ralph joined the boys because he was trying to prove his leadership qualities of bravery and strength

*****Character Analysis****

- Trying to show he is the strongest one and is desperate to keep the boys under his rule so they don't become savages
- Under a lot of stress trying to keep the boys together – does not show fear
- Tries to bring the boys playing wild pig back to reality and say it's not a game
- Jack vs. Ralph – a power struggle
- Dad was in military so they moved around a lot
 - Looks back on his life and misses it, his past has been destroyed by an atomic bomb
- Ralph becomes powerless when the boys choose to go with Jack over him
 - Sad the other boys left him
- Ralph tells Piggy about his worries
- Jack says Ralph is no longer the leader
- Simon is killed, and Ralph, in the circle has the potential to be evil like Jack

- Ralph and Piggy realize they are the 2 left
 - Drowns in guilt over Simon
 - Scared of his potential evil inside and wants to go back to society
- Ralph thinks about what it would be like to get rescued and be safe, having a time to go to sleep
- The attraction to the wilderness is no longer there because he is sick of the wild
- Wants to get Piggy's glasses back – shows that they really are friends because he stands up for him
- Piggy's death is devastating for him
- Fight's Jack = good vs. evil (Jack)
- Hunters chase Ralph and they stop to find a naval office who will rescue them
- Cries in the end over the loss of innocence/Piggy and that he has no one left
- Gained knowledge that man is truly capable of evil and savagery
- Grows from child to adult – loses his innocence

Simon = to be heard

- ****Most symbolic character**
- Skinny, small, straight hair
- Shy – wanted to speak up but could not
- Wanted to make a map, but no one listened
- His fainting foreshadows the fit he has when he sees the dead pig's head
- observant – sees what is going on within men before Ralph does
- Had his own place on the island – happy place
- Helps Ralph build shelters when no one else does
- Always picking up what's going on/observant
 - Sees truth of the island and understands it

- Retreats from “society” to find his purpose on the island
- Realizes that Jack is bad – Jack forces him to eat, but he gives his food to Piggy, showing his generosity/nurturing
- Other boys don’t respect him/let him talk
- Does not believe in the beast – thinks there is a beast within all of them, not physical
- **Talks to LOTF – realizes man’s cruelty is within (all of the boys)**
- **Runs to tell the boys, but they kill him b/c they think he is the beast – they resor to savage instincts**
- **Religious - Moses and Jesus – came down form the mountain with knowledge to tell everyone**
 - **People dismiss the ideas brought/knowledge**
 - **Voice of evil says he will be destroyed**
 - **Beast – dead man caught in parachute**
- **Kind, benevolent – goes away to find purpose**
- **Realized all along evil was inside, not a beast**

Roger

- Rocks - Threw rocks around kids but ironically his “**arm that was conditioned by society**” pushed the rock to kill piggy
- Throwing rocks at beginning foreshadowed him rolling and pushing the rock to kill Piggy