

The Pearl Study Guide English 8

The Pearl Chapter 1 Comprehension/Discussion Questions

1. What are the main character's names?
2. How would you describe their economic status?
3. Why did they go to the doctor?
4. How did the doctor respond to their request?
5. What songs were described in this chapter?
6. What is Steinbeck's purpose in using the songs?
7. How would you describe Kino and Juana's relationship?
8. What symbols have we seen in this chapter?
9. A hierarchy of power has become evident in the community. Who is the most powerful? Who is the weakest?
10. What theme(s) is/are beginning to develop?

The Pearl Chapter 2 Comprehension/Discussion Questions

1. What is Kino and Juana's most prized possession? Why?
2. What does Kino do for a living?
3. What does Juana pray for? Why? What does this reveal about her?
4. What new song does Kino hear in this chapter?
5. What special object does Kino find?
6. How does it begin to change his life?
7. How does Juana respond to this discovery?
8. What does Juana pray for? Why? What does this reveal about her?
9. Prediction: How do you think this discovery will change their lives?

The Pearl Chapter 3 Comprehension/Discussion Questions

1. What does Steinbeck mean when he says "A town is a thing like a colonial animal"?
2. How does each person in the town react to Kino's discovery?
3. What does it mean that "Every man suddenly became related to Kino"?
4. What does Kino see in the pearl?
5. Why do the doctor and the priest come to visit?
6. What happens to the pearl during the night?
7. Describe the difference between Kino's and Juana's reactions to the pearl at the end of the chapter.
8. What has the pearl begun to symbolize?

The Pearl Chapter 4 Comprehension/Discussion Questions

1. How would you describe Kino's trip to town?
2. What does Juan Tomas tell Kino about their ancestors and selling pearls?
3. How do the pearl buyers plan to treat Kino?

4. What does the first pearl buyer offer Kino?
5. How does Kino respond to the pearl buyer's offer?
6. What does Kino plan to do with his pearl?
7. What happened that night?
8. How does Juana respond to the attack?
9. What does Juana and Kino's conversation at the end of the chapter reveal about his personality?

The Pearl Chapter 5 Comprehension/Discussion Questions

1. How has Kino and Juana's relationship begun to change? Why?
2. What does Juana attempt to do with the pearl?
3. How does Kino respond to Juana's actions?
4. Why does Apolonia have to lie to the others in the village?
5. What has been lost because of the pearl?
6. What is Kino and Juana's new plan?
7. What does Kino reveal to Juan Tomas regarding the pearl?

The Pearl Chapter 6 Comprehension/Discussion Questions

1. How have Kino's visions in the pearl changed? What does he see now?
2. Who finds Kino and Juana as they are trying to escape?
3. Kino seems frozen with fear. How does Juana get him to move?
4. Where do they run to?
5. Why does Kino want Juana to separate from him? How does Juana respond?
6. Where do they hide that night?
7. What happens when Kino tries to attack?
8. What tragedy strikes the family?
9. How does the village respond when Juana and Kino return?
10. What do Kino and Juana do with the pearl?