

# Focus ON READING

*Vocabulary*

READING  
COMPREHENSION

## Lord of the Flies

William Golding

**ACTIVATE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE**

**Reproducible Activities**

## *Focus Your Reading*

### *Questions to Think About*

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The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. What effect do you think constant teasing has on Piggy?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Why do you think Ralph and Jack are drawn to each other right away? Is there a likeness or difference in their personalities?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How do you think Jack feels when he fails to kill the pig that he, Ralph, and Simon encounter?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why does Ralph get so upset when the small boy with a birthmark repeatedly talks about seeing a large snake, or “beastie”?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How does the task of collecting wood for a signal fire create unity among the boys?

## Check Your Understanding

### Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. How do the boys wind up on the island?
  - a. Their boat sank.
  - b. Their plane crashed.
  - c. Their submarine was torpedoed.
2. How does each boy get a chance to speak?
  - a. by holding a conch shell
  - b. by waving his hand
  - c. by holding a spear
3. Why are Jack and his group of boys wearing black cloaks when they arrive at the meeting?
  - a. They are in their school uniforms.
  - b. They are part of a secret club.
  - c. They are part of a choir.
4. What are the twins' names?
  - a. Sam and Eric
  - b. Harold and Henry
  - c. Roger and Bill
5. How is a leader chosen?
  - a. by who can blow the conch shell the loudest
  - b. by vote
  - c. by who has the best aim with the spear
6. How is Piggy humiliated by Ralph?
  - a. Ralph trips him in front of everyone.
  - b. Ralph tells everyone his nickname is Piggy.
  - c. Ralph won't let Piggy talk at the meeting.
7. What kind of animal does the "beastie" look like?
  - a. a snake
  - b. a lion
  - c. a whale
8. Why do Ralph, Simon, and Jack go exploring?
  - a. to see if anyone else is on the island
  - b. to see what kind of wild animals there are
  - c. to see if the land that they are on is an island or not
9. Why do the boys build a fire?
  - a. to keep warm
  - b. to alert passing ships that they are there
  - c. to cook food
10. Why does Piggy get mad at the rest of the group for being careless?
  - a. A fire begins and burns their firewood.
  - b. The boys let a ship pass by.
  - c. The boys haven't gathered food yet.

## *Deepen Your Understanding*

A *theme* is an idea or a message. Friendship is a theme in this section. How does the reader know that Jack and Ralph are becoming friends? Write your ideas in a paragraph or two. Give examples from the book.

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1. How has Jack's obsessive need for meat and hunting changed him?
2. How do you think Ralph feels when no one does his assigned job?
3. Why do you think Simon is keeping the clearing he has made for himself a secret?
4. What traits does Roger have that make him seem evil?

## Check Your Understanding

### Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What is Jack hunting for in the jungle?
  - a. meat
  - b. lost littluns
  - c. firewood
2. Where is Simon's secret clearing?
  - a. by the lagoon
  - b. on top of the mountain
  - c. in the jungle
3. What do the littluns like to build?
  - a. huts
  - b. sand castles
  - c. rafts
4. What does Roger throw at Henry?
  - a. stones
  - b. coconuts
  - c. sand
5. Why is Ralph so angry that the fire went out?
  - a. A ship passed by the island.
  - b. Now they have no warmth.
  - c. Now they can't cook food.
6. What does Jack do first when he finds out what happened when the fire went out?
  - a. He begins to cry.
  - b. He walks away.
  - c. He begins to cut the pig.
7. Who does Jack start hitting out of anger?
  - a. Piggy
  - b. Ralph
  - c. Simon
8. How does Ralph feel when Jack finally apologizes?
  - a. grateful for the apology
  - b. embarrassed he had gotten so mad at Jack
  - c. resentful of Jack's verbal trick
9. Why won't Jack let Piggy have meat?
  - a. Piggy already ate so much of it.
  - b. Piggy asked for it instead of just taking it.
  - c. Jack wants more for himself.
10. What does Ralph do after the bonfire?
  - a. He calls an assembly.
  - b. He orders everyone to bed.
  - c. He makes everyone relight the signal fire.

## *Deepen Your Understanding*

In Chapter 3, Simon has a secret clearing that he visits. Imagine that you were stranded on the same island and wanted a place all to yourself. In a paragraph or two, describe what your secret hiding place would be like. Explain why you would need such a place and when you would go there.

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### *Questions to Think About*

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The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. What are Ralph's feelings about life as he walks through the jungle before calling an assembly?
2. What happens in each assembly that makes the boys break up with laughter?
3. What are the boys' reactions as Ralph makes his points in the meeting?
4. What does Jack think about the littluns' fear of the beast?
5. What does Piggy think about the possibility of ghosts on the island?
6. What are Piggy and Ralph's reactions upon hearing about the beast from the twins?
7. Why can't the boys have an "ordinary hunt" for the beast?
8. Why does Jack follow Ralph into the path to look for the beast?
9. Why doesn't Ralph want to stay on the other side of the mountain?



## Check Your Understanding

### Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What shape is the assembly place?
  - a. a circle
  - b. a triangle
  - c. a square
2. What does Ralph admit that Piggy can do better than he?
  - a. think
  - b. run a meeting
  - c. build shelters
3. What does Ralph say is the most important thing to keep in mind?
  - a. shelter
  - b. food
  - c. fire
4. What does Maurice do to make the littluns stop crying?
  - a. He makes funny faces.
  - b. He pretends to fall over.
  - c. He pretends to run into a tree.
5. What do Ralph, Piggy, and Simon hear in the night after the meeting is over?
  - a. a loud wail
  - b. laughter
  - c. a fight
6. What falls from the sky when no one is awake?
  - a. a coconut
  - b. a parachute
  - c. a plane
7. Why does Ralph think that an ordinary hunt for the beast will not work?
  - a. The beast could be very dangerous.
  - b. Not enough boys are willing to go on the hunt.
  - c. The beast does not leave tracks.
8. Who runs into a tree on the way to the “castle”?
  - a. Simon
  - b. Piggy
  - c. Jack
9. What does Jack see when he looks over to the other side of the mountain?
  - a. He sees the beast.
  - b. He sees that the fire is out.
  - c. He sees the parachute.
10. Why do the boys get angry with Ralph when he comes back from searching with Jack?
  - a. Ralph calls off the search.
  - b. Ralph orders them back to their side of the mountain.
  - c. Ralph will not let Jack be chief.

## *Deepen Your Understanding*

In Chapter 1, a bond of friendship was growing between Ralph and Jack. In what way is it now disappearing? What are the emotions between the two boys as their bond begins to fall apart? How do they deal with it?