

Applied Practice
in

Lord of the Flies
Essential Skills Version

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RESOURCE GUIDE

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Practice 1

Read the passage from Chapter 2 of *Lord of the Flies*, "Fire on the Mountain," which begins "They assented" and ends "and cradled the conch" (pp. 42-44) and choose the best answer to each question.

- 1 In the first paragraph, the author pairs the words in the phrase "holding the delicate thing carefully" with "in his sooty hands" to —**
 - A create a heroic image
 - B provide a contrast between the object and the boy
 - C highlight the similarities between the shell and the hands
 - D show the boy's indifference to the beauty of the shell

- 2 The reader can infer that the boys applaud Jack's statements (paragraphs 4 and 5) because they —**
 - A are moved by his smooth and polished way of speaking
 - B are happy that they won't have to do the work themselves
 - C think that Jack needs their encouragement
 - D feel that Ralph wanted them to applaud Jack's statements

- 3 The "little silhouette" mentioned in paragraph 9 refers to —**
 - A Jack's shadow cast by the fire
 - B the coastline of their distant homeland
 - C the sun setting on the sea's horizon
 - D the outline of a ship at sea

- 4 Which of the following words in a glossary means the same as tirade as it is used in paragraph 41?
- A **entreaty**—an earnest request or petition
 - B **panegyric**—an elaborate speech intended as a public compliment
 - C **diatribe**—a bitter and abusive criticism or condemnation
 - D **capitulation**—an acknowledgement of defeat or surrender
- 5 In paragraph 21, the author uses personification and similes to describe the fire in order to —
- A show that it has a life of its own and is out of the boys' control
 - B underline the beauty of the flames and explain why the boys are afraid
 - C provide some excitement in the plot and a break from all the dialogue
 - D reveal Piggy's poetic nature and his ability to describe scenes in nature
- 6 In paragraphs 20 and 22, the tone of Piggy's statement: "You got your small fire all right" is —
- A lightly humorous
 - B sarcastic
 - C nervous
 - D serious
- 7 In the last sentence of paragraph 21 and in the final paragraph of the passage, the author most probably chose the word "drum-roll" to describe the noise of the fire because of the word's —
- A positive association with marching bands
 - B exact description of the actual sound of the fire
 - C negative association with executions and death
 - D familiarity to his readers

- 8 From the last sentence of the passage, a reader can predict that —**
- A Ralph will give up his role as chief
 - B a passing ship will see the fire
 - C the boys will never start another fire
 - D things will probably get worse for the boys
- 9 In paragraph 21, all of the following words contain personification of the fire EXCEPT —**
- A “heart of flame”
 - B “flash”
 - C “gnaw”
 - D “scrambled”
- 10 A student is writing a report on the history of plane crashes. Which website would be the BEST place to begin researching?**
- A The *New York Times* website
 - B A website about the airline industry
 - C The American Airlines website
 - D A website about the history of plane safety
- 11 How does the author show that Piggy is something of a social outcast in the group of boys? Support your answer with evidence from the text. (short answer)**
- 12 What does the conch represent in the boys’ assembly? Support your answer with evidence from the text. (short answer)**

Use the visual representation on the next page to answer questions 13 and 14.

READING PRACTICES ANSWER KEY
[Common Core State Standards in brackets]

Practice 1

1. B provide a contrast between the object and the boy [RL 4]
2. B are happy that they won't have to do the work themselves [RL 1]
3. D the outline of a ship at sea [RL 4]
4. C **diatribe**—a bitter and abusive criticism or condemnation [L 4c]
5. A show that it has a life of its own and is out of the boys' control [L 5a]
6. B sarcastic [RL 4]
7. C negative association with executions and death [RL 4]
8. D things will probably get worse for the boys [RL 5]
9. B "flash" [L 5a]
10. D A website about the history of plane safety [W 8]
11. Answers will vary. A good answer will explain that Jack casts a look at Piggy that makes him not speak and that later Piggy says, "If I say anything, you say shut up; but if Jack or Maurice or Simon—" These things show that Piggy is an outcast, as does the fact that he is the only boy with a nickname, and that a derogatory one. [RL 2]
12. Answers will vary. A good answer will explain that the conch serves to keep order since a boy is not supposed to speak at the assemblies unless he has the shell in his hands. This is seen in "Jack held out his hands for the conch . . . then waved the conch for silence" and in "Roger took the conch . . . Ralph took back the conch." The conch represents rules and laws which maintain order in a society. [RL 1]
13. C attending this seminar will make you rich [RI 7]
14. D make more money for himself and his business [RI 7]

Practice 2

1. B the larger boys don't see the smaller boys as individual people [RL 4]
2. C temporary [L 4a]
3. D They missed their mothers very much and often cried excessively for them. [RL 2]
4. C has died in the great fire [RL 1]
5. C "In his other life Maurice had" [RL 1]
6. A "field" [RL 4]
7. A The littluns are a distinct group who tend to live separate lives from the older boys. Often, the littluns play on the beach, and one day three of the littluns are bothered by Roger and Maurice, who destroy part of the littluns' sandcastles. Only Maurice feels a little sorry for his actions; Roger is shown to be more cruel and threatening, especially when he follows Henry along the beach. [RL 2]
8. B attempts to recreate civilization [RL 3]
9. B creating a sense that Roger is a dark and potentially scary character [RL 4]
10. B innocence [RL 3]
11. Answers will vary. A good answer will include that Roger is described as having a "gloomy face" and seems "forbidding". When he follows Henry, Roger keeps hidden "beneath the palms" and pretends to "drift casually in the same direction." Thus, there is an implication that he is stalking Henry. [RL 3]