

Name:

## **LOTF SOCRATIC SEMINAR**

1. What is Golding's overall message about the meaning, place, and role of government and politics? How does Golding use specific characters and symbols to convey his ideas?
2. Trace the changes of the protagonists throughout the novel in terms of *Freudian ideas and psyche*. How does Golding utilize these ideas to add to the depth, meaning, and symbolism of each character?
3. Does Golding's novel present the idea that human beings are inherently good or evil? What *enlightenment philosopher's ideologies* do you see reflected in the novel? How are these philosophies supported or disproved by the narrative? Use evidence from LOTF, SS enlightenment readings, and other relevant texts to support your analysis.

4. "...The officer, surrounded by these noises, was moved and a little embarrassed. He turned away to give them time to pull themselves together; and waited, allowing his eyes to rest on the trim cruiser in the distance"(202).

What is ironic about this quote? Why does Golding choose to end the novel here?

5. The murder of Simon occurs at the peak of devolution for the boys. Through the characters of Ralph, Piggy and Samneric, Golding introduces the theme of mob mentality. Do you think all the children should be punished for their actions on the island or only Jack and his close followers? Keeping in mind the historical context of this novel, where do you think Golding stands on this issue of responsibility and blame?

6. "'Fancy thinking the Beast was something you could hunt and kill!' said the head. For a moment or two the forest and all the other dimly appreciated places echoed with the parody of laughter. 'You know, didn't you? I'm part of you? Close, close, close! I'm the reason why it's no go? Why things are what they are'"(143).

Discuss the symbol of the beast. What does it represent in humanity? Support your response with information from the novel as well as references to philosophers and historical figures covered in class.

7. Why is there a need for Tribalism? How can it go too far? What role did tribalism play in the course of the novel? What connections can you make between Tribalism and what you've learned in history class so far?
8. Leadership Styles: Is there ever a time when dictatorship, military rule, or absolute rule is an appropriate means of ruling? What makes an effective leader? Do situations impact the kind of leader we need? Make specific connections to LOTF & history.
9. Discuss the allegory of the Island. What arguments do you think Golding was trying to make about human nature in relation to the island?

**Outer Circle Process Notes:**

**Reflection:** Place your participation on the scale below and **explain** your assessment.

---

Too Quiet

Eloquent Participation

Too Aggressive

Explanation:

**Who was your group's MVP? Why?**

**Who was the other group's MVP? Why?**