



10th Grade Summer Reading and Questions (girls formerly in 104)

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

We ask that students please have their own copies of the books, and not use the library, so that they can have a book to use (and annotate) in class.

Directions:

Answer the following questions on a google doc as you read. You will be asked to submit this document on classroom on the first day of school. You may skip one question in each section.

A Raisin in the Sun

Act I—Scene I

1. What is the setting of the play?
2. What kind of person is Walter and what are his ambitions in life?
3. What plans for the \$10,000 does each member of the family have in mind?

Act I—Scene II

1. What is revealed about the character of Beneatha in this scene?
2. How does her African friend view American Blacks?
3. The \$10,000 check finally arrives in the mail. What impact does this event have on each member of the family?

Act II—Scene I

1. Compare the personalities of Walter and George Murchison. Identify three ways they are different.
2. Do you think Lena was right in spending the money the way she wanted to? Should she have considered the wishes of Walter? Why or why not?
3. Describe the change in Walter after he gets his hands on the money.

Act II—Scene III

1. Who is Mr. Lidner and what does he want?

Act III

1. With the loss of the money Beneatha will not be able to go to medical school. Describe her reaction to her brother and the change in her attitude toward life itself.
2. What does Walter plan to do to make up for the money he lost?
3. Why does Lena disapprove of his plan?
4. The play ends as the Younger family is leaving their old house. What kind of reception do you think is in store for them when they arrive at their new residence?

Discussion Questions for The Secret Life of Bees

Chapter 1

1. What does the narrator (Lily) seem to long for at the very start of the novel?
2. Who is Rosaleen?
3. Who is T Ray?
4. How old was Lily when her mother died?
5. How did Lily's mother die?
6. Describe the setting of the story.
7. Describe the relationship between Lily and Rosaleen.
8. Why did Rosaleen go into town on the 4th of July?
9. Why did Rosaleen get arrested?

Chapter 2

1. Who caused Rosaleen's head injury and why?
2. Where does Lily plan to go once she and Rosaleen leave the hospital?

Chapter 3

1. What problem do Lily and Rosaleen confront when trying to figure out food and lodging?
2. What on the honey jar gets Lily's attention?
3. Who is August Boatwright?

Chapter 4

1. Describe June Boatwright.
2. What appears odd about May's behavior?
3. What reason does Lily give August for running away?
4. Describe the stone wall.

Chapter 5

1. Why does May sing "Oh Susanna?"
2. What did Lily overhear June and August talk about one night on the back porch?
3. How and why did April die?
4. What does Lily put in the wall?

Chapter 6

1. Who is Neil?
2. Who are the Daughters of Mary?

Chapter 7

1. Who is Zach Taylor?
2. Why does Lily break down crying with Zach?
3. What are Neil and June fighting about?
4. What gift does Zach bring Lily?

Chapter 8

1. Explain the title of the book as it applies to the story lines.
2. What event surrounded the arrival of Jack Palance?
3. What upset Lily about the Father's Day card she made him when she was nine?

Chapter 9

1. What playful event broke the tension between June and Lily?
2. What event made Lily believe even stronger that her mother may have been in the pink house?
3. How did May learn about Zach's arrest?

Chapter 10

1. What request does Lily make of May?
2. What does August explain is the reason for rituals?
3. Why is June afraid to marry Neil?

Chapter 11

1. How had Zach changed since his arrest?

Chapter 12

1. Explain the quote, "August chewed more than she bit off." (244)
2. Who is Tica Tee?

Chapter 13

1. What question about her mother torments Lily?
2. What one item that August shares, helps heal Lily's broken heart?

Chapter 14

1. What new venture was Zach undertaking in the fall?
2. From whom does August say Lily can get her strength, consolation, and rescue?
3. What is the only purpose grand enough for human life?
4. How did T Ray find Lily?
5. What item on Lily caught T Ray's attention and why?
6. What finally made T Ray decide to leave Lily with the women?
7. Who is the wall keeper and why?