

Lesson Name : 13

Lesson Title : Lord of the Flies Chapter 3, Section 2

Course Name : English 2 Part 2 [Honors]

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Read William Golding's [\*Lord of the Flies\*](#), Chapter 3, pages 75-80.



## Symbolism

A **symbol** is a word or object that stands for a greater concept or idea. Authors use **symbols** as a way to discuss larger issues within a story.

Jack's attempts to kill a pig **symbolize** a desire to enter the world of savageness. As he and Ralph argue about what is most important to their survival, Jack's obsession with killing the pig becomes apparent. Instead of worrying about being rescued, he has embraced the new life in the wild. Killing a pig, he believes, would make it official. Here is the dialogue between Jack and Ralph that shows Jack's obsession with killing a pig:

"I was talking about smoke! Don't you want to be rescued? All you can talk about is pig, pig, pig!"

"But we want meat!"

"And I work all day with nothing but Simon and you come back and don't even notice the huts!"

"I was working too—"

## Plot, Setting, and Characters

The **plot** is the storyline or the sequence of events that take place throughout a story. The **plot** is the basis of the story that is interesting for the reader.

The **plot** for this section of Chapter 3 shows the continuing argument about whether it is more important to build the huts or to hunt for meat. Jack and Ralph argue, but end up cooperating in their dual leadership roles.

Simon slips away from the group and finds his own area of the jungle where he can be alone. There he enjoys the beauty and quiet of nature.

The **characters** are representations of people in the story. The **characters** in a story act out the **plot**.

Simon's **character** is explored in this lesson as Jack and Ralph run down to the beach. Simon wanders in another direction, which, according to Ralph, happens quite often. Here is the description from the text:

He was a small, skinny boy, his chin pointed, and his eyes so bright they had deceived Ralph into thinking him delightfully gay and wicked. The coarse mop of black hair was long and swung down, almost concealing a low, broad forehead. He wore the remains of shorts and his feet were bare like Jack's. Always darkish in color, Simon was burned by the sun to a deep tan that glistened with sweat.

The **setting** is the time and place of a story. It is the location for the **characters** to act out the story.

The **setting** is described as Simon travels into the "high jungle" alone. Despite the beauty of the untamed wild, the description is one of darkness and even fear. Here is that passage from the text:

Simon turned away from them and went where the just perceptible path led him. Soon high jungle closed in. Tall trunks bore unexpected pale flowers all the way up to the dark canopy where life went on clamorously. The air here was dark too, and the creepers dropped their ropes like the rigging of foundered ships. His feet left prints in the soft soil and the creepers shivered throughout their lengths when he bumped them.

## Internal & External Conflicts

**Internal conflicts** are conflicts that take place within a character's mind. You can see an **internal conflict** when a character struggles with a decision.

Ralph has an **internal conflict**. He wants to tell Jack about his feelings concerning how other boys are not being very helpful. Instead, Ralph suppresses his feelings and does not talk about them. Here is the passage from the text:

They faced each other on the bright beach, astonished at the rub of feeling. Ralph looked away first, pretending interest in a group of littluns on the sand. From beyond the platform came the shouting of the hunters in the swimming pool. On the end of the platform, Piggy was lying flat, looking down into the brilliant water.

"People don't help much."

He wanted to explain how people were never quite what you thought they were.

**External conflicts** exist between a character and another outside force, such as another character, an animal, nature, or even society.

Ralph and Jack's constant arguing about what the boys' priorities should be is an example of **external conflict**. Ralph believes that Jack is hunting solely for pleasure, and that Ralph is the only boy who is doing any productive work for the group. Here is the passage from the text:

"We could steal up on one—paint our faces so they wouldn't see—perhaps surround them and then—"

Indignation took away Ralph's control.

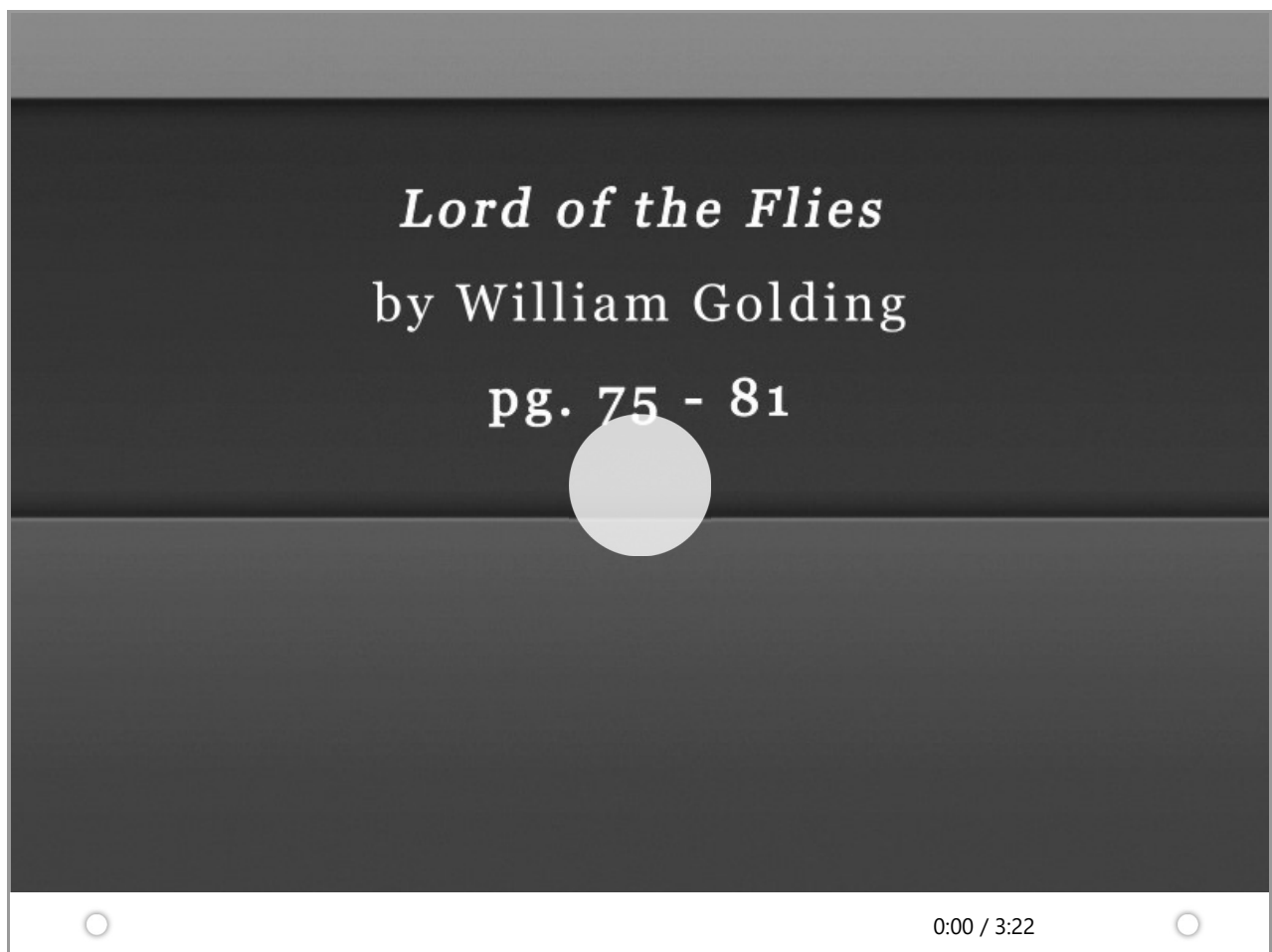
"I was talking about smoke! Don't you want to be rescued? All you can talk about is pig, pig, pig!"

"But we want meat!"

"And I work all day with nothing but Simon and you come back and don't even notice the huts!"

"I was working too—"

"But you like it!" shouted Ralph. "You want to hunt! While I—"



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## Vocabulary

Understanding vocabulary words can help you to gain more meaning from the work. Let's look at some of the vocabulary from this lesson.

1. **rapt** – adj. – showing complete interest in something
2. **tacit** – adj. – expressed or understood without speaking
3. **inscrutably** – adv. – without understanding
4. **riotous** – adj. – very exciting, fun, or full of energy
5. **susurration** – noun – the state of whispering, murmuring, or rustling