

Lesson Name : 25

Lesson Title : Lord of the Flies Chapter 7, Section 2

Course Name : English 2 Part 2 [Honors]

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Essential Instruction

Read William Golding's [*Lord of the Flies*](#), Chapter 7, pages 166-177.



Symbolism

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

The area of the woods that the boys set on fire is now barren of life, and filled with ash. This area **symbolizes** the sorrow, destruction, and death.

Here is the passage from the text that shows the **symbolism** of the ashes:

“That’s three, then.” Once more they set out to climb the slope of the mountain.

The darkness seemed to flow round them like a tide. Jack, who had said nothing, began to choke and cough, and a gust of wind set all three spluttering. Ralph’s eyes were blinded with tears.

“Ashes. We’re on the edge of the burnt patch.”

Plot, Setting, and Characters

The **plot** is the storyline or the sequence of events that take place throughout a story. The **plot** for this lesson shows the boys’ treacherous, or difficult, journey through a part of the island that they have previously not explored. They begin to become concerned that they will not make it to the mountaintop before dark, and that Piggy will be left with the young children alone at the shelters. Simon volunteers to go back alone and tell Piggy that they will not return until later.

Jack, Ralph, and Roger finally make it to the top of the mountain and discover the body of the parachutist that everyone had thought to be the beast.

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

Ralph examines his own intent as they decide to go to the top of the mountain with only three of them, unarmed, in the dark. Ralph also realizes that he does not believe that there is a beast, and that the boys are actually fighting a battle for leadership of the group. Here is the passage that shows Ralph's realization from the text:

Ralph had time while he coughed to remember how silly they were. If there was no beast—and almost certainly there was no beast—in that case, well and good; but if there was something waiting on top of the mountain— what was the use of three of them, handicapped by the darkness and carrying only sticks?

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 the boys make their way through the pig-track to the mountain. They have been journeying all day through rough terrain, and now try to hurry as they are faced with the impending darkness. Here is the description of the **setting** from the text:

The pig-track was a dark tunnel, for the sun was sliding quickly toward the edge of the world and in the forest shadows were never far to seek. The track was broad and beaten and they ran along at a swift trot. Then the roof of leaves broke up and they halted, breathing quickly, looking at the few stars that pricked round the head of the mountain.

Internal and External Conflicts

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

Ralph experiences an **internal conflict** as he realizes that he may be going to the top of the mountain to investigate for the wrong reasons. He reviews, in his mind, the different opinions of each person who influence his decision, including Piggy. Here is the passage from the text:

Now that his physical voice was silent the inner voice of reason, and other voices too, made themselves heard. Piggy was calling him a kid. Another voice told him not to be a fool; and the darkness and desperate enterprise gave the night a kind of dentist's chair unreality.

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

Robert, one of the boys, has an **external conflict** with nature as the boys try to hurry through the dangerous terrain of jagged rocks, and he cuts his knee quite badly. This serves as a warning for them to slow down and to be more careful. Here is the passage from the text:

Then they tried to hurry along the rocks and Robert cut his knee quite badly and they had to recognize that this path must be taken slowly if they were to be safe. So they proceeded after that as if they were climbing a dangerous mountain, until the rocks became an uncompromising cliff, overhung with impossible jungle and falling sheer into the sea.



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Vocabulary

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

1. **brandished** – verb – waved or swung a weapon in a threatening or exciting manner
2. **traverses** – noun – a route across or over something
3. **uncompromising** – adjective – not willing to change
4. **crestfallen** – adj. – very sad and disappointed
5. **glowered** – verb – looked at someone in an angry way
6. **sagely** – adv. – in a wise way
7. **impervious** – adj. – not bothered or affected by something
8. **enterprise** – noun – ability or desire to do dangerous or difficult things or to solve problems in new ways