

- Directions: For each chapter
1. Answer the given questions
- For each section
2. Create three open ended discussion questions (be prepared to lead the discussion on these questions)
 3. Choose 2 important quotes and respond to the quote by explaining the greater meaning of the quote, the significance of the quote in context of the story, or the significance of the quote in the historical context of the novel

The discussion questions and tasks are due on the days noted. These are subject to change. Questions will be checked periodically, but will be turned in altogether for a grade at the end of the novel reading. Questions will help with the class discussions, the MWDS, the final essay, and the final exam.

Chapter I

- Do you agree with the first two paragraphs of this chapter? Explain why you agree or disagree.

Chapter II

- What does the pear tree symbolize in this chapter?
- What is Nanny's motivation for forcing Janie to marry? Is she doing the right thing?

Chapter III

- What do you think the narrator means when she says: "Janie's first dream was dead, so she became a woman"? How does this statement tie in with the claims made in Chapter I that "the dream is the truth"?

Chapter IV

- What does the mule symbolize in this chapter?
- Do you think that Janie would have stayed if Logan shared his true feelings with Janie?

Chapter V

- Is Joe just another Logan Killicks?
- Is Joe Starks an admirable man? Why or why not?

Chapter VI

- How is the mule a metaphor for Joe and Janie?
- What does Janie's hair symbolize?

Chapter VII

- How has Janie changed based on her relationship with Joe?
- Should Janie have walked away from the fight in the store? Why do her words seem so much worse despite the words that Joe often throws at her?
- Why does Jody hit her?

Chapter VIII

- What truths are revealed in this chapter?
- What does Janie letting her hair down represent?

Chapter IX

- Does the following sentence reflect positively or negatively on Janie? Explain. "She sent her face to Joe's funeral, and herself went rollicking with springtime across the world"
- Why does Janie hate her grandmother so much?
- What does the horizon symbolize?

Chapter X

- Why is the checker game between Janie and Tea Cake significant?
- What is Tea Cake's real name? Judging from his nickname alone, what kind of person do you think Tea Cake is? How is he different from the other men of Eatonville?

Chapter XI

- Why is Janie so drawn to Tea Cake?
- From your own experiences, do you feel that the description of doubt, that fiend from hell, is accurate?

Chapter XII

- How does the town view Janie now that she is with Tea Cake verses when she was with Jody?

Chapter XIII

- Why is Janie so afraid that she will be the next Mrs. Tyler? What does she do to prevent this?
- What is ironic about Tea Cake's determination to provide for Janie compared to Logan and Jody?

Chapter XIV

- How does the change in setting reflect Janie and Tea Cake's relationship?
- How does Tea Cake express his insecurities in this chapter?

Chapter XV

- What do you think about Janie's reaction to Nunkie and Tea Cake? Is she justified in her actions towards Tea Cake? Why or

why not?

Chapter XVI

- Why is Ms. Turner poisonous to those around her?

Chapter XVII

- Why are the men jealous of the way Tea Cake beat Janie? Is it different from when Jody hit Janie? Analyze your thoughts about the men's idea about how to treat a woman.

Chapter XVIII

- Finally, the title of the novel appears: "They seemed to be staring at the dusk, but their eyes were watching God." What does this mean in the immediate sense of the hurricane? How does it relate to a theme in the novel?
- In the face of the hurricane, how does Tea Cake's belief system reveal itself to mirror that of Jody Starks?

Chapter XIX

- What do the circumstances of Tea Cake's death illustrate about Janie?
- How does Hurston establish Janie's powerlessness as a black woman in a white society?

Chapter XX

- What does Janie mean when she says "Love is lak de sea. It's uh movin' thing, but still and all, it takes its shape from de shore it meets, and it's different with every shore"? Can you give a real world example?
- Do you think that the ending of this novel is happy or tragic?

Open Ended Questions Stems

<p>Agree / Disagree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has anyone else had a similar . . . ?• Who has a different . . . ? <p>Clarification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'm not sure I understand . . . ? understand (character, action, event, description, purpose)• Tell me more about . . . ? (character, action, event)• Do you see gaps in my reasoning?• Are you taking into account something different from what I have considered? <p>Support Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you give us an example of . . . ?• Where in the story . . . ?• What would be a good reason for . . . ?• What is some evidence for . . . ? <p>Cause and Effect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why do you think (event, reaction) happened?• How could (event, reaction) have been prevented?• Do you think (event, reaction) would happen that way again? Why?• What are some reasons (character) (action)?• Based on the information in the story, predict what will most likely happen if (character) (action).• What will (character) do now that (event)? <p>Compare / Contrast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How are (character) and (character) alike? Different?• What is (event) similar to in our own time?• How does this (incident) remind you of (current event)?• How does this (poem, book, incident, etc.) remind you of . . . ? <p>Benefits / Burdens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are some of the reasons (character's decision, reaction) wouldn't (would) be a good idea?• Based on the information in the story, what inference/ assumption can you make about (event/theme/character)? <p>Point of View / Perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How might (character) have felt during (event)?• What do you think (character) was thinking during (event)?• How does (character) feel about (character/event, etc)?• How did (character's experience) influence (character's development, event)?	<p>Structure / Function</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What was the goal when (character) (action)?• What were (character)'s choices of how to (respond to a situation)?• What do you think of (character)'s approach to (problem, situation)?• What better choices could (character) have made concerning (problem, situation)?• How does (character's action or trait) contribute to the conflict in the story?• What is the author's purpose for including (character, event, and detail)? <p>Counterexample</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Would that still happen if . . . ?• What might have made the difference? <p>Different Situation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you describe a situation in which (character's action) would be acceptable/unacceptable?• Suppose (event) had happened differently. How would that change the outcome of (event)? <p>Open-Ended Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are some things that you wonder about?• What would you like to know about?• How does this relate to the real world, human experiences/emotions? <p>Personal Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What would you do in that situation?• Has anything like that ever happened to you?• In what way are you alike or different from . . . ? <p>Evaluate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The author of the story states " _____ ." Do you agree with his/her statement?• What is wrong with (character's) reasoning concerning (character, situation, event)?• Does (character's) treatment of (other character/s) seem fair?• What conclusion can the reader draw about (character/event, etc)? <p>Support Questions/Responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can you give us an example of . . . ?• Where in the story . . . ?• What would be a good reason for . . . ?• What is some evidence for . . . ?• I saw it a slightly different way . . .• That's a good point. What about . . . ?• I disagree a little. To me, . . .
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