Your task:

1. You will have to come up with a deeper level question to ask during book club
2. You will write down your question, and (in point form) the answers from your group in your journal

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| Book Club Questions |
| * Are **not:**   + Finding one small detail in the book   + Right or wrong answers     - Where did Sally go to get bread?     - What colour of hair does Jim have? * Are:   + Opinion questions   + Connection to (self, other texts, or in the world) questions   + Analyze and reflect motives, characteristics, and decisions of the characters and the author     - When did you experience the greatest empathy for the protagonist?     - What do you believe was the author’s motive to not a any female characters? |

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| As we read... |
| * Make notes as you go. * **Ask tough questions** of yourself and the book. * **Analyze themes**. What is the author trying to say in the book? * Get to know the characters. Consider their **faults** and **motives** and what it would be like to know them. * Notice the **book's structure.** Do the chapters begin with quotes? How many people tell the story? Is the book written in flashbacks? Does the order make sense to you? * **Compare** to other books and authors. Themes often run through an author's works. Comparing one author's book with another's can help you decide how you feel about the book. * Think about **stylistic techniques** |

**Guiding Questions from Litlovers.Com**

**1.** How did you **experience** the book? Were you engaged immediately, or did it take you a while to

"get into it"? How did you feel reading it—amused,

sad, disturbed, confused, bored...?

**2.** Describe the main **characters**—personality traits, motivations, inner qualities.

  • Why do characters do what they do?

  • Are their actions justified?

  • Describe the dynamics between characters

(in a marriage, family, or friendship).

  • How has the past shaped their lives?

  • Do you admire or disapprove of them?

  • Do they remind you of people you know?

**3.** Do the main **characters change** by the end of the book? Do they grow or mature? Do they learn something about themselves and how the world works?

**4.** Is the **plot** engaging—does the story interest you? Is this a plot-driven book: a fast-paced page-turner? Or does the story unfold slowly with a focus on character development? Were you surprised by the plot's complications? Or did you find it predictable, even formulaic?

**5.** Talk about the book's **structure**. Is it a continuous story...or interlocking short stories? Does the time-line move forward chronologically...or back and forth between past and present? Does the author use a single viewpoint or shifting viewpoints? Why might the author have chosen to tell the story the way he or she did—and what difference does it make in the way you read or understand it?

**6.** What main ideas—**themes**—does the author explore? (Consider the title, often a clue to a theme.) Does the author use **symbols** to reinforce the main ideas?

**7.** What **passages** strike you as insightful, even profound? Perhaps a bit of dialog that's funny or poignant or that encapsulates a character? Maybe there's a particular comment that states the book's thematic concerns?

**8.** Is the **ending** satisfying? If so, why? If not, why not...and how would you change it?

**9.** If you could ask the **author** a question, what would you ask? Have you read other books by the same author? If so how does this book compare. If not, does this book inspire you to read others?

**10.** Has this novel **changed you**—broadened your perspective? Have you learned something new or been exposed to different ideas about people or a certain part of the world

. **Name:**

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| **Scene and Description from the Text** | **Your deeper level question (remember, Do not have yes or no questions)** |
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| **Name of Group Members:    Summary of Student Discussions** | |
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| Key Words | |
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