

Merit English 10th Summer Reading 2024

The Fifth Mountain by Paulo Coelho. Publisher:HarperOne ISBN: 0060930136
Available via Audible on audiobook.

Students are asked to get a hard copy of this book to read this summer and annotate. Class discussion and a written assessment will take place during the first week of school.

We will be reading this book this summer and looking for observations on obedience and consequences. Specifically, we will explore a) the ways characters make choices that they know to be sinful/wrong, b) ways that characters are obedient to the will of God and c) ways that characters find God's Grace.

To prepare you for class discussion and a paper when we return to school, please complete the following steps as you read:

1. Get a copy of the book.
2. Complete the guided reading questions for each section.
3. You must type your responses and be prepared to upload the document into GoogleClassroom when the school year begins.
4. Highlight in your book where you find the answers.

Prologue and Part One:

1. Where are the two men hiding when the story opens?
2. Which Phoenician god is Elijah sentenced to execution for not worshipping?
3. Since childhood, what had Elijah been able to hear?
4. Who had the king married?
5. What did God tell him to tell Ahab when Elijah was in the carpentry shop?

6. Why does the soldier let Elijah go when his arrow misses?
7. What does the crow bring to Elijah that keeps him alive?
8. Where does the crow tell Elijah to go and find a widow woman?
9. Elijah and the widow discuss the Fifth Mountain, and Elijah tells her that her people have never done what to discover what exists there?
10. Why does the high priest tell the citizens they will allow Elijah to stay?
11. What does Elijah begin to call the city of Zarephath?
12. Which nation brings troops outside of the city?
13. Who is blamed for the death of the widow's son?
14. What is the consequence?
15. When Elijah returns, what happens to the boy?

Part Two A : “The high priest said the prayers” chapter to “He was awakened the next morning”

1. The high priest knew that what was more deadly than spears or arrows?
2. Who did Elijah actually see on the Fifth Mountain?
3. Elijah and the governor advocate for peace. Elijah says the best warrior is one who succeeds in doing what?
4. How do the widow and Elijah feel for each other?
5. What does Elijah plan to teach the widow?

6. How does the governor order the Assyrian prisoner to be executed?
7. Why is the Fifth Mountain called by a number and not a name?
8. When Elijah considers the governor's request for a miracle, he realizes "he had in his hands an opportunity that no prophet had ever had before." What was it?
9. Why do merchants in Akbar prefer to use papyrus, even though it must be imported and is expensive?
10. Who does the priest think that writing is a threat to?

Part 2 B: "He was awakened the next morning" chapter to "He looked at the boy, who now clutched Elijah's hand"

1. What do the Assyrians do when this chapter opens?
2. What does the angel tell Elijah to do when he leaves Akbar with the woman and her son?
3. Why had the Assyrians burned the house with the widow inside?
4. What happened to the widow?
5. Who does she want him to find?
6. Why does Elijah lie to her?
7. What does the widow make them promise?
8. How had the boy escaped the fire?
9. Who do Elijah and the boy get food from?

10. Why are Elijah and the boy going back to Akbar?

Part 2 C: “He looked at the boy, who now clutched Elijah’s hand” chapter to the end

1. What do Elijah and the boy want to help Akbar recover, like the widow?
2. Why must the survivors prioritize getting rid of the dead?
3. According to legend, how had the city of Akbar been founded?
4. Elijah says one can always count on children to teach adults what three things?
5. Elijah comes to learn that men and women who had the courage to confront God “understood that _____ was not _____ but a _____.”
6. What skill does Elijah teach the boy, and later the woman who lost her son?
7. Elijah explains to the people that there are moments when God demands obedience, but also moments where He challenges us to understand what?
8. When Elijah sees the widow in the temple, who does he say was also Akbar?
9. What happened to the Assyrian army after destroying Akbar?
10. Who becomes governor of Akbar after the Assyrians attack again?
11. When Elijah returns to Israel, and what happens after the Lord consumes his sacrifice on Mt. Carmel?
12. What happened later in the New Testament on the same mountain where Elijah is taken up to heaven?

