

Lesson 7: The Attack

☐ Getting Started

Consider how Kino and Juana's lives are different as a result of the pearl they discovered. Everything has changed for them, but perhaps not in the ways they expected.

Stuff You Need

- *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck
- journal
- colored pencils or markers

Ideas to Think About

- What is man's natural response to change?
- How can poverty or wealth change a person's life, character, and perspective?
- How do people's experiences shape and change their circumstances and their perspectives?

Things to Know

- Book discussion questions can include "right there" questions, "think and search" questions, "author and you" questions, and "on my own" questions.

☐ Reading and Questions

Read Chapter 5 and then develop four discussion questions for the chapter. Remember to ask a variety of types of questions. Look at the descriptions of the different types of questions that can be used for reading discussion.

A. Right There. The answer is in the text, and if we pointed at it, we'd say it's "right there!" Often, the answer will be in a single sentence or place in the text, and the words used to create the question will often also be in that same place. *Example: What happened to Kino on the path?*

B. Think and Search. The answer is in the text, but you might have to look in several different sentences to find it. It is broken up or scattered or requires a grasp of multiple ideas across paragraphs or pages. *Example: How is Kino and Juana's relationship different now than it was at the beginning of the story?*

C. Author and You. The answer is not in the text, but you still need information that the author has given you, combined with what you already know, in order to

respond to this type of question. *Example: How is the oppression experienced by villagers similar to and different from other examples of oppression you have learned about in history?*

D. On My Own. The answer is not in the text, and in fact you don't even have to have read the text to be able to answer it. *Example: Do you think that people's lack of contentment can affect their relationships with others?*

Provide answers or possible answers to the questions you develop.

1. Right There Question #1:

2. Think and Search Question #2:

3. Author and You Question #3:

4. On My Own Question #4:

Add sentences and phrases to your stylistic device log in your journal. Consider how each one affects the reader.

Activities

☐ Activity 1: Editing Sentences

Copy these sentences in your journal, correcting any grammar, spelling, or punctuation errors:

- The sun was hot yellow that morning and it drew the moisture from the eshtuary and from the gulf, and hanged it in shimmering scarves in the air so that the air vibrated and vision was insubstantial.
- For Kino was a well liked man, it would be a shame if the pearl destroyed him.

☐ Activity 2: Wants

One of the major themes in this story is want. The characters each want something, and their wants are not always bad. Think about each character in the story and what he or she wants in life. On the chart provided on the "Wants" page, record what you think each of the characters wants in the story. In the third column, draw a symbol that reflects the nature of the character's wants. Are the wants good? Are they evil? Are they valiant? Are they self-centered? Are they thoughtful? When you are finished, answer the question at the bottom of the page.

Wrapping Up

Kino and Juana are now in a desperate situation. Even though Kino kills his attacker in self-defense, both Kino and Juana realize that he will be charged with murder. The oppression of the villagers will not allow for a fair trial to take place, so the couple's only option is to flee.

Wants

Character	Wants	Symbol
The Priest		
Kino		
Juana		
The Doctor		

How does this story speak to the human condition of greed and contentment?

Lesson 7: The Attack

Getting Started

✿ Ideas to Think About

- What is man's natural response to change?
- How can poverty or wealth change a person's life, character, and perspective?
- How do people's experiences shape and change their circumstances and their perspectives?



Things to Know

- Book discussion questions can include "right there" questions, "think and search" questions, "author and you" questions, and "on my own" questions.

⦿ Skills

- Analyze the effects of characterization. (LA)
- Analyze the connections of relationships between and among characters. (LA)

Introducing the Lesson

Today your child will read the penultimate chapter in the story and will write questions about the chapter. Look over the questions your child developed as discussion and comprehension questions for the chapter he read.

Ask your child to share some of the stylistic devices he recorded in his log.

Reading and Questions

1. Right There Question #1:

The answer will be in the form of a question, and it should be a question that is answerable by looking at the text.

2. Think and Search Question #2:

This answer is a question that should require students to think and search in order to answer the question.

3. Author and You Question #3:

This answer is a question that is not answerable directly by looking at the text, but it should have the context of the story embedded in the answer.

4. On My Own Question #4:

This answer is a question that is not answerable at all by looking at the text. It may have nothing at all to do with the book.

Activities

Activity 1: Editing Sentences

Here are the suggested sentence corrections. (Changes from the original are underlined.)

- The sun was hot yellow that morning, and it drew the moisture from the estuary and from the Gulf and hung it in shimmering scarves in the air so that the air vibrated and vision was insubstantial.

- For Kino was a well-liked man; it would be a shame if the pearl destroyed him. (A dash between "man" and "it" would also work as would separating the clauses into two sentences.)

Activity 2: Wants

In this activity, your child will explore the theme of "want" in the story by identifying and analyzing each character's desires. He will record these wants on the activity page and draw symbols representing the nature of these desires, considering whether they are good, evil, valiant, self-centered, or thoughtful. Ask your child to describe what he thinks each character wants.

Possible Answers:

- The Priest — The priest wants money for the church and for himself. He wants power and recognition.
- Kino — Kino wants to improve his life and the life of his family. He wants something better than the life his people now have as a result of oppression.
- Juana — Juana wants her family to be safe and happy. She does not care about materialism or about rocking the boat.
- The Doctor — The doctor wants wealth and influence. He wants a life of ease and self-gratification.

Possible answers for the question on the bottom of the page include the following:

- The more people have, the more they want.
- No matter what a person has, there is always something else to want and a reason to not be content.
- Being content with what you have been given can lead to more happiness than great riches.

Wrapping Up

Questions to Discuss

- Kino tells Juana, "I am man." The author tells us "that meant certain things to Juana...It meant he was half insane and half god. It meant that Kino would drive his strength against a mountain and plunge his strength against the sea." Do you agree with Juana? Why or why not?
- How has the pearl changed Kino and Juana's relationship? (Kino and Juana used to get along peacefully. Now they are at odds and even though they still love each other, they are in a terrible battle over what to do with the pearl.)
- The author tells us that even though Kino's boat had been broken, it never occurred to him to steal someone else's boat. What does this tell us about Kino's culture? (Kino's people recognize the value of possessions and realize that a boat can make the difference between life and death. It is not in their nature to harm an innocent neighbor.)

Things to Review

Review your vocabulary words for this unit.