

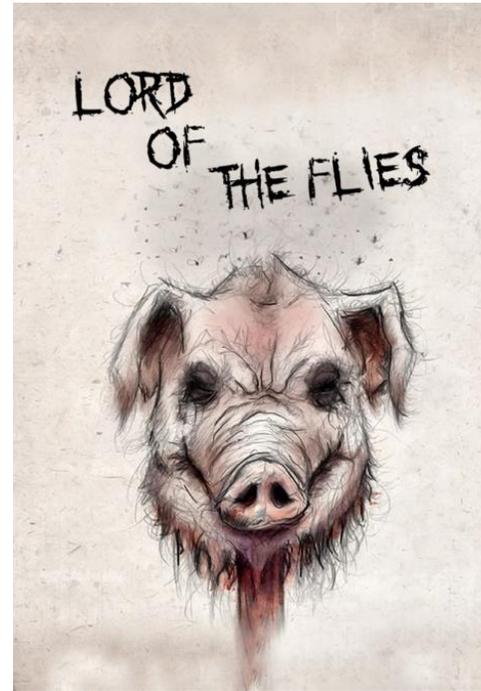
MAIN CHARACTERS



LORD OF THE FLIES KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Author: William Golding (1911-1993) Novel Published: 1954

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| Ralph | The largest and most physically powerful boy. Wants to plan and follow rules. Symbolises: law, government and civil society |
| Jack | The leader of the hunters. Loves to hunt and kill gets angry when he doesn't get his way. Believes a leader should be obeyed. Symbolises: dominance and power |
| Piggy | The smartest boy but has asthma and is overweight so is bullied. Has a tendency to lecture and is ridiculed. Symbolises: science and rationality |
| Simon | A dreamy, dark haired boy prone to fits. He recognises that the beast is within them. He is unafraid and meditates. Symbolises: Religion and spirituality. |
| Roger | A quiet and intense at first then becomes more evil as the group's rules disintegrate. He tortures SamnEric and likes to inflict pain. Symbolises: Sadism |



RELEVANT LITERARY TERMS AND METHODS

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| Novelist | A person who writes novels |
| Author | The writer of a book |
| Setting | Where a story takes place |
| Symbolism | An object which stands for a larger idea |
| Omniscient Narrator | An 'all knowing' narrator who can understand what all characters are thinking and foreshadow later events. |
| Colloquial Language | Informal and conversational language |
| Pathetic Fallacy | The attribution of human feelings and emotions to weather and setting. |
| Protagonist | The main character in a story whose actions determine the course of the narrative |
| Antagonist | The character who stands in the way of the protagonist - often a villain |
| Climax | The most dramatic, exciting stage of a story - often a turning point or 'twist' |
| Allegory | A story which can be interpreted to convey a hidden meaning |
| Foreshadowing | When a writer hints at future events |

THEMES AND BIG IDEAS



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| THE DARK SIDE OF HUMAN NATURE |
| CIVILISATION VS SAVAGERY |
| 'THE BEAST' |
| THE WEAK AND THE STRONG |
| SPIRITUALITY AND RELIGION |

KEY CONTEXT

AUTHOR: William Golding. Born 1921 in Cornwall, England. Brought up to be a scientist by his parents. Worked for a short time as a teacher and thus had experience of children and the impacts of authority (and lack of authority) on them.

LITERARY AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

- Post war fiction. Published 1954 after WW2.
- The horrors of WW2 and man's inhumanity to man got Golding thinking about human nature.
- Subverts traditional Robinson Crusoe stories.
- A direct response to Ballantyne's Victorian Novel 'Coral Island'

LORD OF THE FLIES KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER - KEY VOCABULARY AND SELF-STUDY TASKS

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| Prejudice | Preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience - "to prejudge" | Arguably, Piggy is a victim of class prejudice as the other boys do not take him seriously or listen. |
| Ostracised | Exclusion from a society or group; to leave someone out. | Throughout the novel, we see Piggy ostracised and shunned by the rest of the group. |
| Sadism | The tendency to derive pleasure, from inflicting pain, suffering, or humiliation on others. | The first sign of Roger's sadism and capacity for cruelty comes when we see him throwing stones at the littluns. |
| Civilisation | Civilization is the state of having an advanced level of social organization and a comfortable way of life | By keeping the natural human desire for power and violence to a minimum, civilization forces people to act responsibly and rationally, as boys like Piggy and Ralph do in Lord in the Flies. |
| Savagery | The condition of being primitive or uncivilized; brutal; fierce; cruel. | The killing of Simon arguably represents the boys' most savage moment; it is clear that by this point they have lost their minds. |
| Rivalry | Competition for the same objective or for superiority in the same field. | There is a rivalry between Jack and Ralph for leadership. |
| Microcosm | A community, place, or situation regarded as encapsulating in miniature the characteristic qualities or features of something much larger. | What happens on this island is a microcosm of what is happening in the adult world off the island. The novel is set during World War II, so the same kind of battle that is raging on the island is being fought in in the rest of the world. |
| Democracy | A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives. | Ralph represents a democratic leader who listens to the opinions of others and encourages the boys to vote on decisions. |
| Conditioning | The process of training or accustoming a person or animal to behave in a certain way or to accept certain circumstances. | Golding explores how society civilises and conditions people to behave in particular ways. |
| Brutality | Savage physical violence; great cruelty. | Golding presents man's natural capacity for brutality when the boys sadistically kill the sow. |
| Authority | The power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience. | Ralph's authority is demonstrated through his insistence that the other boys follow the rules they have agreed upon. |
| Derision | To ridicule or mock | From the outset of the novel Piggy is an object of derision ; as a an overweight character with glasses and asthma he stands out and is mocked for it. |
| Superiority | Higher than another in rank, station, or authority | At the initial meeting Jack and Ralph fight for social superiority . |
| Anarchy | A state of disorder due to an absence of authority or systems | As Jack's brutal form of leadership attracts more of the boys to |

Self Study Tasks

1. Create a mind-map to show everything that you know about a particular character including key quotations.
2. Make some flashcards to revise key vocabulary - can you use the word in a sentence to talk about some aspect of the novel?
3. Create a quotation bank for each key theme
4. Draw a graph which illustrates the boys' decline into savagery with key plot points noted down.
5. Create a map of the island and label the relevant areas with key events which happen there in the novel.