Lord of The Flies

**CONTEXT**

as an adult he taught in a boys' public school and observed boys' behaviour, what he saw was completely different to how stories about desert islands depicted it - Golding's is TRUTHFUL.

central theme of human nature comes from Golding's wartime experiences.

many people assumed that only the 'enemy' committed atrocities in Ww2, but Golding came back from war believing ANYONE is capable of evil.

1950s in Britain: the novel shows social divisions - Piggy is the smartest but is disregarded owing to his status. Jack assumes being choir leader should make him chief.

the boys on the island are a microcosm for the greater problem of war globally.

can be seen as a parody of R.M. Ballangleue's Coral Island in which shipwrecked boys Jack, Ralph & Peterkin create a perfect society.

William Golding enhances this with optimism.

the scar made by the plane shows how the boys immediately affect the island.

the island may represent the Garden of Eden - perfect until man's arrival.

Golding paints an image of the 'fundamental human struggle between the civilising instinct and the savage instinct.'

may be religious reference, as Simon is seen as a Jesus-like figure.