



CAINTA CATHOLIC COLLEGE
Cainta, Rizal

COLLEGE DEPARTMENT
Survey of English and American Literature
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COURSE: BSEd III – English

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Activity 7

1. Read “Gift for the Darkness: An Excerpt from ‘The Lord of the Flies’” by William Golding (check our group chat for the story). Then, answer the questions that follow (minimum of 3 meaningful sentences).

a. Why does the conch serve as the symbol of authority? Cite statements in the story to support your answer.

At the start of the story, it says here that *"the boys find a conch shell, the kind you can blow like a horn for signaling. Ralph learns how to sound the shell to turn to the other boys who have been wandering about the island since they landed."* The conch is *"Ralph, with his symbol of authority (the conch shell) to call the legislative head of government."* For my own understanding, conch serves as authority and Ralph is the leader of the boys. Since Ralph is the first person to use the conch as an instrument to talk to other boys. Also represents a symbol of Ralph's leadership legitimacy.

b. Why is fire important for the boys in the story? How does the building of a new fire affect the group? Discuss your answer.

Based on the story, *"The fire's the most important thing,"* Ralph says. *"Without the fire, we can't be rescued."* To the survivors, fire symbolizes rescue and hope. They keep it burning because Ralph, as the leader of the group, knows that there is still a chance to rescue them. Considering that without smoke, there is no signal that the boys are on the island.

c. What would you have done if you were in the boys' place at the start of the story? If you had been in the group, with whom would you have sided? Explain your answer.

Both Jack and Ralph are good leaders, but there is a difference between the two. So, if I had to choose between the two good leaders, I'd rather pick Ralph than Jack. Because at the start of the story, all of the boys chose Ralph as a leader, and when he was the leader, we see the power and ordinance. While Jack only wants power above all, maybe he thinks that he has become the leader because he is the leader of the choir. So, if I had been in the group, I'd be on Ralph's side.

d. Was deciding to move the fire a good move? Justify your answer.

Only Piggy among boys has the intellect to suggest moving the fire from the mountain. Their decision to move the fire is a good move because if the fire is just in one place, it's hard to