

Chapter VII Notes

These notes are for the classes which do not yet have notes on this chapter. Because we have lost several lessons due to absence, the lessons we have must be devoted mainly to finishing the book and to speaking activities. Please download these notes for your own use. They are NOTES and so are not in full sentences. Abbreviations are used but hopefully the meanings will be clear.

Notes

Boys go towards mt via other, 'unfriendly' side of island

R – wishes he cd improve hygiene (wash, cut hair etc)

feels more pessimistic about rescue

S – tries to reassure R – 'You'll get home all right'.

R – daydreams of home, parents, books etc

Boys stop to hunt. R joins in and enjoys it.

Play game – Robert pretends to be pig, others hunters. Robert gets hurt, scared.

Reach foot of mt.

R – wants to climb tomorrow, J determined to climb now.

S – goes alone through jungle to tell P what is happening.

S,E, other boys too scared to climb.

Roger joins R,J – 3 climb together.

J seems bravest at first but finally Ralph gets closest to 'beast'

Reach top, see parachutist (think it's beast). All 3 run away.

Things to Notice

1. At the beginning of the story we learn that Ralph had always dreamed of being alone, without parents, on a desert island. Now his dreams are about the security of home.
2. Simon's character is becoming clearer. He shows his sensitivity by trying to reassure Ralph about the prospects of rescue. Also, in going alone through the jungle to tell Piggy that the others are climbing the mountain, he does something that none of the other boys are brave enough to do. Remember that Simon has his 'own place' in the jungle, which he visits at night, so he is not afraid.
3. The 'games' the boys play are getting out of control. This is another stage in their 'regression' – from civilized to primitive beings.
4. Ralph and Jack 'have to' climb the mountain as they are involved in a power struggle. We are given no reason why Roger joins them. The others are all too frightened.