

Lord of the Flies Essay

Choose ONE of the following topics

Write about 400 words

Divide your writing clearly into PARAGRAPHS

Use QUOTATIONS

- 1. Simon and Piggy both lose their lives on the island. They are two of the novel's more positive characters. However, there are several differences between them. Compare Simon and Piggy.**
- 2. Some readers believe that Lord of the Flies is about 'regression from civilization into savagery'. Explain how and why the boys on the island lose their civilized values and become savage.**
- 3. 'Lord of the Flies is a story about boys on an island, nothing more. There are no deeper meanings.' Do you agree with this opinion? Why/Why not?**

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Notes and Guidance

1. Essay 1 is a comparative essay. It should have the appropriate structure. Do NOT write all about Simon, then all about Piggy. You could consider these points of comparison : appearance, physical health and how they try (or not) to overcome it, relationships with others, priorities, belief/disbelief in beast, death, in what ways they are positive/negative.
2. Essay 2 is a cause and effect essay. This means that you cannot disagree with the idea that the boys do regress into savagery. You should say how and why they regress, giving what you think are the important factors. You could consider these factors : the nature of the boys (think especially about Jack and Roger at the beginning) and how this is still partly controlled by their civilized lives, attempts to create a civilized society, how the society breaks down, Jack's personal charisma and what he offers boys, how taboos break down, what is happening in the adult world.
3. Essay 3 is argumentative. You can be either for or against the statement and you should justify your position with as many arguments/examples as you can. If you disagree with the statement, give at least four ways in which deeper meanings can be seen in the novel. If you agree with the statement (more difficult), you must have at least four good arguments for why it is only a story.

Points

30 points, divided as follows :

15 points for content (knowledge, understanding, ideas, originality, quotations)

15 points for language (structure, organization of ideas, grammar – range and accuracy, vocab)

Quotations

The essay must contain at least four quotations. Longer quotations must be separated from the text, like this :

After Ralph blows the conch many boys appear. Some come by themselves but there is an important group of boys, the choir, led by Jack Merridew. He has a distinctive appearance.

‘...he was tall, thin, and bony : and his hair was red beneath the black cap. His face was freckled and crumpled, and ugly without silliness.’

It quickly becomes clear that Jack is going to be Ralph's main rival on the island.

Shorter quotations can be inserted into the text, like this :

We could argue that the most aggressive of all the boys is Roger. We don't see his true personality until near the end of the novel, though when we first meet him he is described as a 'silent, furtive boy'. Later, we see Roger throwing stones at Henry.....