

Chapter VIII Notes – up to p154

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

R describes to P what he saw on mt.

J – calls meeting

- accuses R of being a coward, of insulting hunters, of not being a ‘proper chief’ etc
- asks boys to vote agst R

Boys don’t respond so J leaves group alone – ‘I’m not going to play any longer..’

P – happy J has gone, R worried

S suggests climbing mt (to see what the beast really is)

P suggests fire on beach – so they don’t have to climb mt.

While building fire, R realizes boys are going missing – we learn they are joining J (except S who has gone to jungle)

J declares himself chief of his ‘new’ group

Hunt, kill (very brutally) a mother sow

Leave head on a stick as ‘gift for the beast’ – a sacrifice so that beast won’t hurt them

Things to Notice

1. For the first time in the story, there has been a definite division of the group. Although boys do not vote against Ralph, they quite quickly defect from his group to Jack’s.
2. Three approaches to dealing with the beast are seen. Piggy’s idea is that, by staying on the beach, the boys will avoid it. Jack makes a sacrifice to it, as primitive tribes made sacrifices to their ‘gods’. Simon is the only boy who wants to learn the truth.
3. The brutality of the hunters’ killing of the sow. The act is more brutal because the sow has piglets.