

Their Eyes Were Watching God Socratic Seminar Prep: Due Friday

Part 1: Since your conversation will be directed by *you*, the reader, you will need at least 5 of your own questions. These can be text, world, and me questions and should be deep dive questions. You should be able to guide people to discussing the possible answers.

Part 2: Find evidence of **motifs** in the text and discuss their possible meanings. (Nature, hair, chairs/porches, clothing)

Part 3: Consider theme topics present in the text and their possible importance.

- Love/marriage
- Freedom
- Gender roles

Part 4: Analysis questions.

Chapter 9 Questions: Select quotations from the text that support your answers and answer in detail.

1. Janie's "starched and ironed face" is an image Hurston used in the previous chapter. What is the effect of the repetition (what does it make you think of, why do you think she repeated it)?
2. Is the funeral a reflection or a foil for Janie's internal state? Why?
3. What happens to Janie's hair in this chapter? What does this symbolize?

4. Compare Hurston's ocean imagery here to the description of them at the beginning of the book. What is the effect of this? Use a quotation from each.
5. Biblical allusion: Creation and Janie's part in it—what can you infer about Janie now?
6. Why does Janie hate Nanny?

Chapter 10 Questions: Select quotations from the text that support your answers.

7. What do we learn about Tea Cake through the checkers situation?
8. Verigible is a dialectical offshoot of *veritable* (use the dictionary). What do you make of his name? Think of the other names in the text so far as well.
9. Compare and contrast Janie's meeting Tea Cake with the moment she met Logan and the first moment she saw and spoke to Jody. Differences? Similarities? What is Hurston's purpose?

Chapter 11 Questions: Select quotations from the text that support your answers.

10. Biblical allusion: Peter walking on the Sea of Galilee. Why does Hurston use this reference?
11. Logan didn't give Janie her pear tree; nor did Jody. Will Tea Cake? How? Why? Use the text to back up your predictions.
12. When Tea Cake says, "Have de nerve tuh say whut you mean," what is the impact on Janie? What is the impact on you? What kind of characterization is this?