“Ghost of the Lagoon” Discussion Prompts

Name__________________________________ Period____________________

Page 192 ~ Lines 1-14
This passage establishes the setting and main character: Mako lives on the South Pacific Island of Bora Bora.
~ What kind of place is Bora Bora? Where is it located?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

~Who is Mako? And how does he spend his time?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

~Who is Afa?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Page 192 ~ Lines 6-14.
~What does the narrator reveal about Mako?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Page 194 ~ Lines 29-44.
~How does Grandfather describe Tupa?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

~What details make Tupa seem mysterious, dangerous, and evil?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Page 194 ~ Lines 34-50.
This passage begins to set up the motivation for Mako’s conflict with Tupa
~Who is Tupa, and where does he live?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

~What reward has the king offered for capturing Tupa?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

~Why does Grandfather think that Tupa cannot be captured?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
“Ghost of the Lagoon” Discussion Prompts

Mako has never before heard the story Grandfather tells in lines 36-42. Complete the T-chart by answering the questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What did Mako already know about Tupa?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What did Mako learn from Grandfather?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does Mako want to learn?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 195 ~ Lines 60-70

How does Mako react when he learns what happened to his father? What does this suggest about the traits of a hero?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Write the line that uses a simile.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Write the line that uses personification.

______________________________________________________________________________

Page 196 ~ Lines 73-77

What is the narrator able to reveal about Mako that the other characters in the story wouldn’t know?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Page 196 ~ Lines 94-111

How does the lagoon look as Mako paddles his canoe?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Why does Mako begin to doubt the story of the ghost of the lagoon?

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Do you think Mako will keep his vow to kill Tupa?

______________________________________________________________________________
“Ghost of the Lagoon” Discussion Prompts

Page 196 ~ Lines 105-111
~How do you learn what Mako is thinking even though he hasn’t spoken?

Page 198 ~ Lines 154-183
~How would you feel if you were in a dark and gloomy jungle and you suddenly realized that you might not get home before dark?

~How does Mako’s attitude about Tupa suddenly change?

~Do you think Mako can defeat the shark? Why or why not?

Page 198 ~ Lines 166-170
~How would this paragraph be different if Mako were telling the story?

Page 199 ~ Lines 194- 211:
This passage presents the climax of the story: Mako spears the shark to save Afa.
~What does Tupa do as Afa swims toward the canoe?

~How does Mako save Afa from the shark?

~What happens after Mako drags Afa onto the canoe?

~What qualities of a hero does Mako display?
“Ghost of the Lagoon” Discussion Prompts

Page 200 ~ Lines 212-240
~What would you have done after getting Afa aboard and spearing Tupa a second time?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
~How would the story be different if Mako had chosen not to fight the shark?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Page 200 ~ Lines 225-240
This passage concludes the story: it shows the attitude of the community toward their new hero.
~What does Mako do when he is sure that Tupa is dead?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
~Who spreads the news of Mako’s victory over Tupa?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
~What will Grandfather’s new song be about?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
~How has Mako become a hero in his community?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________