

Name _____

Write a brief summary to each study question as you read the novel at home or in class. Use the questions for review before group discussion and before your final exam.

1. Who is the narrator of the story?
2. Why was Phillip excited by the war preparations?
3. Why was gasoline production so important?
4. How does Phillip show his immaturity?
5. How did Phillip's father and mother differ?
6. Why did Phillip's mother want to leave Curacao?
7. How did Phillip and his mother act or react after their boat was torpedoed?
8. How bad is Phillip's injury?
9. Who is Phillip's companion? Why is Philip prejudiced?
10. Why is staying alive so difficult on the raft?
11. What is the problem in this novel?
12. Why do you think Stew Cat is important?

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13. How does Phillip's blindness make survival even more difficult?
14. Why does Phillip think it was good to have seen Timothy and Stew cat before he became blind?
15. How was Phillip a real trial to Timothy?
16. Why did Phillip and Timothy differ on landing on the island?
17. What made it difficult to be rescued from the island?
18. What did Timothy do to provide shelter and food?
19. What did Phillip learn that made him feel superior to Timothy?
20. Why is Phillip afraid to be alone?
21. Why do you think Timothy struck Phillip? Were you glad he did?
22. Why did Timothy make the long rope that reached to the beach?
23. Why did Timothy try to help Phillip to be independent?
24. Why did Timothy put Stew Cat on the raft?
25. How did Phillip prove he was a real friend to Timothy when he had malaria?

26. Why do you think Phillip's attitude toward Timothy has changed?
27. How did Phillip know that a storm was coming?
28. How did Timothy prepare for the storm?
29. How did Timothy shelter or protect Phillip from the storm?
30. What storm preparations by Timothy helped Phillip to survive without Timothy?
31. How did Phillip attract the plane?
32. What did Phillip take from the island?
33. List some ways that Phillip changed after his stay on the island?
34. Explain what Phillip learned about each of the following:

Prejudice

Friendship

Survival

blindness