

Grapes of Wrath

Study Guide Questions for Intercalary Chapters

I know the book LOOKS too long and too hard. For that reason, you are reading only part of the book over the summer: Chapters 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, and 29. For those chapters, I have provided you with a BRIEF study guide to help to focus your reading. This assignment is due on September 15, 2008. It will not be accepted late. At the beginning of the school year, I will set up your turnitin.com accounts and provide you with instructions on how to access it. All of your work will be submitted to turnitin.com.

Part I:

Define **INTERCALARY** using the American Heritage Collegiate Dictionary Online. Copy the definition that BEST suits these chapters within Steinbeck's novel and include it with your answers to the following questions.

Part II:

Now that you know what **INTERCALARY** means, answer the following questions on your own paper. Think about why these chapters (the non-fiction ones) are interspersed within the novel. What purpose does Steinbeck have for arranging his novel in this manner?

Type your answers into a document using Times New Roman 11 point font. You should have margins of no more than 1.00 inches all the way around your paper.

Each answer will be at least a paragraph in length—some may be longer. All answers must incorporate textual evidence and page references parenthetical citations. Please note: you can make no higher than a 50 if your answers are unsupported.

Chapter 1

Why does the first chapter deal with the effect of natural disasters on the country folk?

What is the significance of the title of the novel?

Chapter 3

What is the significance of the turtle?

Chapter 5

What point does Steinbeck make about qualifications for ownership?

How is the tractor described?

What is the significance of the conversation between the farmers and the driver?

Why does Steinbeck use the phrase "I got to figure?"

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Chapter 7

What is the significance of the car dealer?

Chapter 9

What “bitterness” is being bought?

What is the significance of Pilgrim’s Progress? (Look up Pilgrim’s Progress on the internet)

Chapter 11

What is important in the placement of this chapter?

Chapter 12

What contrasts emerge from this chapter?

Chapter 14

How does Steinbeck view man in this intercalary chapter?

Chapter 15

Why does Steinbeck include the rich people in the car?

Chapter 17

What Biblical parallels can be drawn from this chapter?

Chapter 19

Why is the historical background of California included here?

Chapter 21

What emotions are investigated in this chapter?

Chapter 23

Why does this chapter stress the pleasures of the migrants?

Chapter 25

What aspect of human ability is discussed here?

Chapter 29

What emotion characterizes this final intercalary chapter?