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| **KoNLG Part 1** |
| **Date** | **Ch** | **Discussion Questions** |
| March 2-6 | 1 | * What are your first reactions to Todd and this world of noise?
* What do we learn about Todd’s character through his interactions with Manchee?
* Identify the Elements of Sci-Fi you can see in the text
 |
| 2 | * Why do you think Todd hides the “hole in the noise”?
* How do the men keep secrets?
* What values are present in Prentiss Town?
* Describe the setting and atmosphere of Prentisstown
 |
| 3 | * What do you learn about the history of the New World
* Describe the differences between Ben and Cillian. Explain how they **foil** one another
* Define foil**:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
 |
| 4 | * What character developments do you see in Cillian?
* Make a prediction: What are “the plans” are that Mr. Prentiss Jr. refers to (45)?
* Explain the significance of this quotation: “The Noise is a man unfiltered, and without a filter, a man is just chaos walking” (42)
 |
| 5 | * Analyze the theme, “knowledge is power.” Find 3 quotations do demonstrate your thoughts.
* How does the author maintain mystery? How does the narrative point of view contribute to this?
 |
| 6 | * Describe Aaron’s character
* Compare the animals that Todd has encountered in part 1. How is voice used to characterize different species?
* What does Todd find at the end of the chapter? Make predictions for its purpose in the rest of the novel
* Discuss Aaron’s quotation, “Smart boys make useless men” (61)
 |
| **Notes** | * Elements of Science Fiction
* The Buildungsroman Genre
* Characterization Review Note
* Reader Response Journal Expectations & Format
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| **Assessment** | **Part 1 Reader Response Journal** |

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| **KoNLG Part 2** |
| **Date** | **Ch** | **Discussion Questions** |
| March 9-13 | 7 | * What do spackle look like (69)?
* What new technology does the girl have?
* Why would the girl’s absence of noise threaten Prentisstown?
* Track the use of Todd’s knife. State what it symbolizes and support your inference with a quotation.
 |
| 8 | * What does Aaron call the girl? What purpose does she serve (from his perspective)?
* How does Aaron justify his violence?
* Discuss what defines masculinity: strength or morality? Provide quotations to explain your position.
 |
| 9 | * Again, track the developing symbol of Todd’s knife, and support your inference with a quotation.
* What do we learn about the girl’s origin?
 |
| 10 | * Identify the elements of science fiction in this chapter.
* Explain why the girl’s technology is out of place in New World.
* What is Todd’s **epiphany** (realization) in this chapter?
 |
| 11 | * List Todd’s conflicts at this moment. Identify the type of conflicts, and predict how they’ll be resolved.
* How does the girl’s technology help Todd?
* How does the following quotation reflect Todd’s maturity: “That’s the thing I’m learning about being thrown out on yer own. Nobody does nothing for you. If you don’t change it, it don’t get changed” (110)?
* Do you think Todd is a good friend? Why or why not?
 |
| 12 | * Do you blame Todd for not killing Aaron when he had the chance? Explain why he blames himself.
* How does Viola save herself and Todd?
* In a T-chart, identify the character traits that the author portrays as masculine and feminine. Reference textual examples, and explain why you agree or disagree with this characterization.
 |
| **Notes** | * Innocence Essay
* Symbolism note
* Memo and email format
 |
| **Assessment** | * **Memo AND Email outline**
* **Practice Quiz & Quiz**
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| **KoNLG Part 3** |
| **Date** | **Ch** | **Discussion Questions** |
| March 23-27 | 13 | * List the new technologies found in the past few chapters, and explain the usefulness of each one
* Track the development of Viola’s character. How has she changed during this chapter?
* Explain the significance of silence (133)
 |
| 14 | * Track the developing motif of knowledge (142)
* Complete a “That’s Good, That’s Bad” chart for the bond that quickly develops between Hilde & Viola
* Do you think Todd should see himself as alone? Explain your position with textual references
 |
| 15 | * Predict why Hilde & Tam hate Prentisstown
* Summarize what you learn of Viola’s past, and explain what it contributes to the plot
* If Hilde is right that women aren’t in danger from the Spackle germ, is Todd a reliable narrator?
 |
| 16 | * Explain the irony of Todd’s desire for travel & freedom
* Summarize Todd’s dream. What does this reveal about his character?
 |
| 17 | * Describe Farbranch (both physical setting & emotional atmosphere), then compare it with Prentisstown
* Predict why Matthew wants to kill Todd
* In what ways are Matthew and Todd similar?
* What news do we learn of Prentisstown?
 |
| 18 | * What is unique about Farbranch’s government & social structure? Does this reflect feminist values? (192)
* Discuss “People are scared of what they don’t know, … Once they know [Todd], the problem goes away.”(196)
* How does Todd show that he’s maturing?
* What is more importance: Viola’s people or Todd’s warning?
 |
| 19 | * How does noise play a role in Todd’s fight w Matthew?
* How does the setting contribute to their conflict?
* Compare & contrast Farbranch & Prentisstown
 |
| **Notes** | * That’s Good, That’s Bad (chart)
* When does a boy become a man (essay)
* Feminism (reading & discussion)
* Comparative Paragraph Structure (note)
 |
| **Assessment** | * **That’s Good, That’s Bad**
* **Comparative Paragraph (noise, values, settings)**
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| **KoNLG Part 4** |
| **Date** | **Ch** | **Discussion Questions** |
| March 30 – April 2 | 20 | * Reread the fight scene (213-216) and analyze every literary device you can find.
* What surprises Todd about the Prentisstown Army?
* Who is missing from the army?
 |
| 21 | * Summarize what Todd and Viola learn from the book.
* Explain the situation with Todd’s age. Why is this important to his maturity?
* Ness uses a religious allusion on pg. 228. Discuss your knowledge of the Garden of Eden story. How does this parallel *The Knife of Never Letting Go*?
* Describe the setting of Viola’s ship.
 |
| 22 | * Describe the new creatures that Todd and Viola meet.
* How does Todd rationalize lying (242)?
* What is Wilf’s mission? How successful do you think he’ll be?
* Explain the ethical dilemma that Todd and Viola expect to face when they encounter new towns.
 |
| 23 | * How does Davy recognize Todd and Viola?
* Why do you think Mr. Pentiss Sr. wants Todd?
* Why does Todd hesitate with Davy?
 |
| 24 | * Why does Viola think the army is chasing Todd (265)?
* What trait defines maturity for: Prentisstown, Farbranch, Todd, and Viola?
 |
| 25 | * What about the spackle surprises Todd?
* Track Todd’s character development in this chapter; what is he like at the start, middle, and end? What is the catalyst for this change?
* Do you think this is a good development for Todd?
* Track the use of the knife in the past 3 chapters. How is it used, and what does this reveal about Todd?
* What grammatical device is used on pg 279-280? Explain how it effects the atmosphere.
 |
| **Notes** | * Comparative Paragraph Structure
* Elements of Design
 |
| **Assessment** | * **Knife of Never Letting Go Part 3&4 Quiz**
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| **KoNLG Part 5** |
| **Date** | **Ch** | **Discussion Questions** |
| April 7-10 | 26 | * What saves Todd at the beginning of this chapter? Explain the symbolism of this event.
* How does Todd determine how to find Viola? Do you think this is a smart course of action?
 |
| 27 | * Explain why Todd avoids settlements on his mission.
* How is Todd losing his grip on reality? (301)
* Continue to track the tension between reality and deceit through this entire part.
* What is the significance of Todd seeing his reflection? (303-304)
* What is the purpose of this chapter?
 |
| 28 | * How has Wilf done on his quest to warn settlements?
* Why does Todd feel an immediate affection to Jane?
* Discuss Todd’s thought, “Knowing a man’s mind ain’t knowing the man” (308) – How does this contrast Jane’s declaration about where Todd is from (314).
* Explain the paradox in Todd’s statement about silence on page 313.
* Explain how fear controls Todd, Jane, and the caravan.
 |
| 29 | * What insight is gained through Todd’s hallucinations? How is Todd changing in this chapter?
* Consider the tension between reality and deceit. Is Todd lying to himself? Is he still in control of his mind? Explain what you think with textual references.
* Describe the setting of the town Todd encounters.
 |
| 30 | * How has Todd’s hallucination changed?
* What does the boy represent?
* How does Todd’s reaction to the boy demonstrate his development as a character?
* If the boy is not real, is Todd’s progression real?
* Predict why Todd starts a fire & sends Manchee away.
 |
| 31 | * Why is the setting crucial to Todd’s plan?
* What effect does the personification on page 341 have on the elements of narration?
* Compare Todd’s affection for Manchee is this chapter and the first chapter.
* Do you think it is realistic that Manchee carry out such a complex plan?
 |
| **Notes** | * Dream interpretation
* Elements of Design
 |
| **Assessment** | * **The Character Truth Poster**
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| **KoNLG Part 6** |
| **Date** | **Ch** | **Discussion Questions** |
| April 20-24 | 32 | * Where is Todd? Why is he alarmed?
* What reasons does Dr. Snow have to stay and fight?
 |
| 33 | * Describe the setting of Carbonel Downs. In what ways is it different from the other settlements? How do they structure their male/female relations?
* How does Todd feel about taking orders (365-6)?
 |
| 34 | * How does Ben react to Todd’s confession?
* What do you think drives Todd, hope or fear (375-6)?
* Which settlement that Todd has encountered has the best control mechanisms over their noise?
 |
| 35 | * How does innocence play a role in this chapter? Consider how it affects Todd, Viola, and Jacob.
* Why does the beard (Fergal) want to uphold the law?
* Should the law be applied differently to adults & children?
 |
| 36 | * Summarize the truth that Ben explains.
* Which quotation is most thematically significant?:
	+ “That’s what New World is… never stops” (391)
	+ “War is a monster… become monsters” (392)
	+ “They either die… keep you alive” (396)
	+ “You were the last… complete control” (397)
* How is Ben struggling to define his own masculinity?
 |
| 37 | * How is Viola becoming more like Todd (404)?
* How is Todd and Viola’s relationship changing?
 |
| 38 | * Summarize the information learned from the journal about: Spackle, Ben & Cillian, Aaron, hope
* The “attractiveness of power” separate boys & men (417)
* What is Todd’s epiphany on page 420?
 |
| 39 | * What do T&V find? Why are they excited?
* What is their last hurdle?
 |
| 40 | * How does setting affect the plot?
* Why does Viola think she’s not the sacrifice? Who is?
* What does Todd mean that he’ll great Aaron “like a man” (444)? Is this masculine?
 |
| 41 | * How does a Prentisstown boy become a man?
* How does the use of religious imagery illustrate Aaron’s corruption throughout this chapter?
* Explain how Viola’s actions affect the themes of innocence, masculinity, and fate.
 |
| 42 | * Discuss Todd’s statement that “everybody falls” (468)
* Discuss the symbolism of water and rebirth (468)
* Explain the irony of the phrase, “Yer indestructible” (469)
* Has Prentiss Sr. or Jr. developed throughout this novel? Are they static or flat characters?
* Do you find the conclusion satisfying or not? Have you enjoyed studying this novel? Why?
 |
| **Notes** | * Comparative Essay Structure
 |
| **Assessment** | * **Media Viewing Sheet**
* **Comparative Essay**
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