

Ch. 5

1. What are Joe's actions in the town like? What does he do to show off? How do the people feel about him? What do they pity Janie for?
2. How is the beginning of chapter 5 similar to the beginning of chapter 4? How can we guess that Joe will be just another repeat of Logan?
3. How is Joe compared to white people in this chapter? Why does Hurston use this metaphor? What is she trying to show?
4. What is Janie's hair beginning to symbolize? What is the porch beginning to symbolize?

Ch. 6

5. Do Janie and Joe like to hear the mule talk as well? Why does Joe not let Janie listen to or take part in the mule stories?
6. What does Janie realize about Joe? What does he like to do to her?
7. For what could the story of the mule be a metaphor? How could it be a metaphor for Joe and Janie?
8. What happens to the mule after that? How do the townspeople mourn its death? Why does Joe forbid Janie to attend the draggin' out?

Ch. 7.

9. Eleven years have passed. What has Janie learned to do? How has she learned to cope with Joe's oppressiveness? What does she consider doing sometimes?
10. What does Janie realize about Joe? How does he take this out on her? What does he hope this will accomplish?
11. Why does Joe start yelling at Janie in the store? What is Janie's reaction? What does she tell Joe about his 'manhood'? What is Joe's response?

Ch. 8

12. What is happening to Joe? Who does he call for? Why won't Joe let Janie see him?
13. How does Janie picture Death? What visuals does she use to describe him?
14. Why does Janie need to see Joe? What does she need to tell him? How does she do this? What happens to Joe afterward?
15. What does Janie do after Joe dies? Who does she look for in the mirror? Why does she let her hair down? What could this represent?