

Discussion Questions for The Cay

Courtesy of:



1. What are some themes addressed in *The Cay*?
2. What did Phillip learn from his time on the island?
3. What do you think is the main theme in *The Cay*? Why did you choose this as the main theme?
4. How does the sinking of the *Hato* illustrate the theme of man against technology?
5. How did World War II technology affect the outcome of *The Cay*?
6. How does the storm on the cay illustrate the theme of man against nature?
7. How did Phillip survive on the island? What events that happened earlier in the story contributed to his survival during the storm and after Timothy died?
8. How does the story's World War II setting illustrate the theme of man against society?
9. How did World War II affect Phillip and his family?
10. How does Phillip's initial prejudice against Timothy illustrate the theme of man against self?
11. How did Phillip overcome the racial prejudice he had grown up with?
12. How did Phillip's blindness make survival more difficult?
13. How did Phillip's blindness allow him to learn things that he might not have learned if he could see?
14. How did Phillip overcome the obstacles caused by his blindness?
15. What did Phillip come to appreciate about Timothy?
16. How did Phillip's time on the island help him to quickly become more mature?