

Book club questions: original general prompt sheet

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Ending prompts reveal no named book, but use them only after the group has agreed full-book spoilers. Choose a few questions, not all thirty-six.

GENERAL-01 | Begin with a scene

Which early scene would you choose to show a new reader how the book feels, without giving away the main plot? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-02 | Begin with a scene

What did you expect from the first page, and which later detail made that expectation less certain? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-03 | Begin with a scene

Where did your attention slow down for a reason other than confusion? What in the writing held it there? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-04 | Begin with a scene

Which small detail seemed incidental at first but stayed with you after the last page? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-05 | Begin with a scene

If the opening were told from farther away, what kind of access to a person or place would disappear? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-06 | Begin with a scene

Which scene would you like to hear another reader describe before you explain your own response? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-07 | People and relationships

Which character explains themselves most clearly, and where does their behavior complicate that explanation? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-08 | People and relationships

What does one person need from a relationship that the other person does not recognize? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-09 | People and relationships

Where does a kind act create a difficult obligation? How does the recipient respond to that pressure? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-10 | People and relationships

Which disagreement is harder to solve because both people have a defensible reason for their position? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-11 | People and relationships

Who has the power to leave a situation, and who has to find a way to remain inside it? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-12 | People and relationships

What changes when a character becomes able to ask a question they could not ask at the beginning? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-13 | Voice, time and form

What does the narrator treat as obvious that a reader might want to question? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-14 | Voice, time and form

Where does the order of information shape a judgment before you have the whole account? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-15 | Voice, time and form

How would one scene change if another character supplied its final sentence? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-16 | Voice, time and form

What can a silence, a gap or a missing reply communicate without a direct explanation? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-17 | Voice, time and form

Which repeated image changes its meaning as the book moves through time? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-18 | Voice, time and form

How does a shift in pace change the importance of an event rather than merely how fast it passes? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-19 | Ideas, setting and evidence

Which rule in the story sounds neutral until its effect on two different people is compared? Chapter / notes:

GENERAL-20 | Ideas, setting and evidence

Where does a place limit a choice that might look freely available in a short summary? Chapter / notes:

GENERAL-21 | Ideas, setting and evidence

What kind of knowledge carries authority here, and whose knowledge is easy to dismiss? Chapter / notes:

GENERAL-22 | Ideas, setting and evidence

Which object moves between people, and how does its value change with each holder? Chapter / notes:

GENERAL-23 | Ideas, setting and evidence

What does the book make difficult to describe as a simple lesson? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-24 | Ideas, setting and evidence

Which factual question would you take to a separate primary source instead of asking the novel to prove it?
Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-25 | Ending and rereading

Which closing detail sends you back to a particular moment near the start? Chapter / notes:

GENERAL-26 | Ending and rereading

What does the ending settle about an event while leaving a judgment about it open? Chapter / notes:

GENERAL-27 | Ending and rereading

Which person might tell a less reassuring version of the final outcome? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-28 | Ending and rereading

If the final chapter ended one scene earlier, what would the reader be asked to carry differently? Chapter / notes:

GENERAL-29 | Ending and rereading

What stays unresolved because a character cannot know it, rather than because the writer forgot it? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-30 | Ending and rereading

Which interpretation can you support strongly while still making room for another reader's evidence? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-31 | Close the meeting

What question did another reader ask that changed the direction of your own attention? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-32 | Close the meeting

Which early opinion would you now state with more care, even if you have not changed it? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-33 | Close the meeting

What distinction helped the conversation most: fact and inference, intention and effect, or another pair? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-34 | Close the meeting

Which short passage would you return to alone after hearing the group? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-35 | Close the meeting

What part of the book would you choose to leave open rather than make everyone agree about? Chapter / notes: _____

GENERAL-36 | Close the meeting

What kind of reading mood does this book leave you in, without turning that mood into a required next title? Chapter / notes: _____