

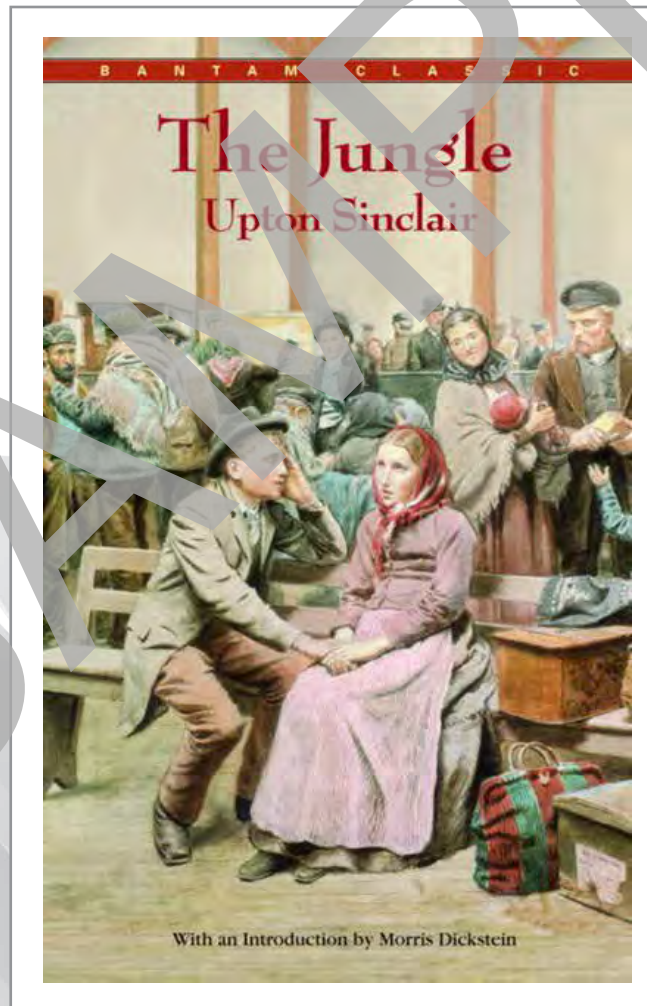


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 9-12

# The Jungle

Upton Sinclair



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

# The Jungle

Upton Sinclair

## STUDENT PACKET

**NOTE:**

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Find the following words in the dictionary and match each word in Part A with the correct definition in Part B.

**Part A**

- \_\_\_ 1. muckrakers
- \_\_\_ 2. naturalism
- \_\_\_ 3. determinism
- \_\_\_ 4. capitalism
- \_\_\_ 5. socialism
- \_\_\_ 6. democracy
- \_\_\_ 7. unions
- \_\_\_ 8. exposé
- \_\_\_ 9. the “American Dream”

**Part B**

- a. economic system in which private individuals or groups of individuals own land, factories, and other means of production and compete with each other
- b. writers in the early 1900s whose principal goal was to expose social and political evils
- c. groups of workers joined together to protect and promote their interests
- d. an exposure of something disreputable
- e. doctrine that all events are determined by previous things or events
- f. principles and methods of writers whose realistic descriptions include all details of an environment, regardless of how repulsive, and whose characters are molded by this environment
- g. the idea that through hard work, courage, and determination anyone can achieve freedom and prosperity
- h. government that is run by the people who live under it
- i. economic and political system in which the means of production are owned and controlled by the state

**Directions:** Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Use your answers in class discussions, for writing assignments, and to review for tests.

### Chapter I, pp. 1–21

1. What does the opening scene disclose about Jurgis and Ona?
2. Identify and briefly describe a *veselija*. Why do you think this celebration is important to the plot?
3. Who is Teta Elzbieta?
4. Who is Dede Antanas? What do you think his speech foreshadows?
5. What problem are Elzbieta and Antanas discussing? How do Jurgis and Ona react to the “trouble”?
6. What does Jurgis vow to do to pay the debt from the wedding celebration? What do you think this reveals about him?
7. **Prediction:** Will Jurgis be able to pay the debt?

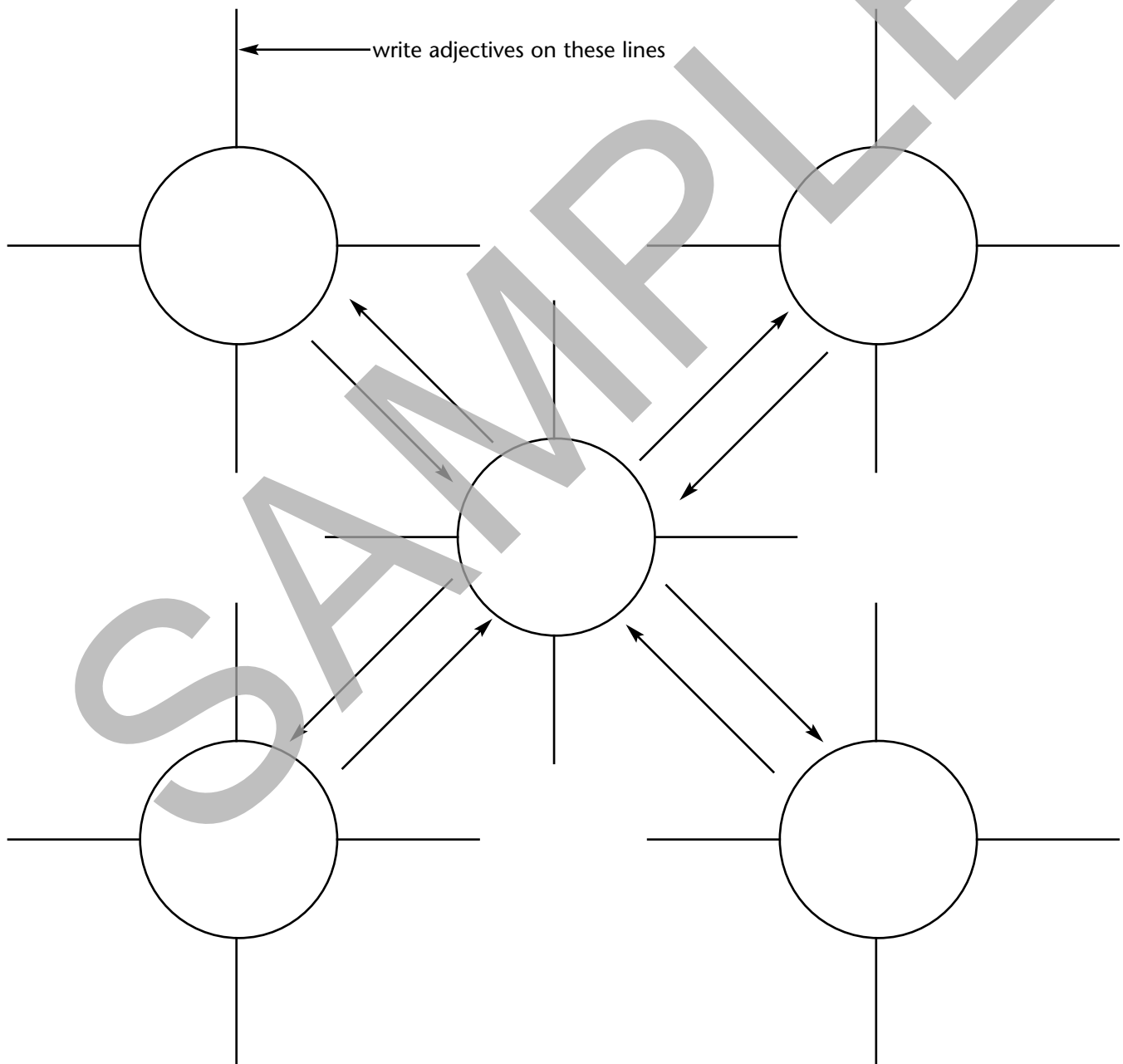
### Chapters II–III, pp. 21–43

1. From what country do Jurgis, Ona, and their extended family immigrate to America? Who first suggests this immigration?
2. How many members of the family come to America? What is their destination? Why?
3. Who is the first person the family meets in Packingtown? Why is this important to them?
4. Give three adjectives that describe the stockyards. How would this introduction to America make you feel?
5. Explain your interpretation of the metaphor comparing groups of cattle to “a very river of death” (p. 34).
6. How does Jokubas infer hidden corruption in Durham’s packing plant?
7. In one or two sentences, explain your reaction to the slaughter houses.
8. How many men are employed by Durham’s packing plant? For how many people does the plant furnish food worldwide?
9. **Prediction:** What do you think the future holds for Jurgis and Ona and their extended family?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Sociogram

**Directions:** A sociogram shows the relationship between characters in a story. Write Ona's name in the center circle and the names of Elzbieta, Marija, Miss Henderson, and Phil Connor in the surrounding circles. On the "spokes" surrounding each character's name, write several adjectives that describe that character. On the arrows joining one character to another, write a description of the relationship between the two characters. How does one character influence the other?



Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Conflict

The **conflict** of a story is the struggle between two people or two forces. There are four main types of conflict: person vs. person, person vs. nature, person vs. society, and person vs. self.

**Directions:** In the space provided, list four conflicts Jurgis and his extended family experience and explain the nature of this conflict. Then explain how each conflict is resolved.

#### person vs. person

| Conflict | Resolution |
|----------|------------|
|          |            |
|          |            |

#### person vs. nature

| Conflict | Resolution |
|----------|------------|
|          |            |
|          |            |

#### person vs. society

| Conflict | Resolution |
|----------|------------|
|          |            |
|          |            |

#### person vs. self

| Conflict | Resolution |
|----------|------------|
|          |            |
|          |            |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Sequence

**Directions:** Sequence the steps of Jurgis' decline on the following chart.

