



 Prestwick House

Activity Pack

SIDDHARTHA

BY HERMANN HESSE



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Item No. 201113

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part One, Chapter 1: The Son of the Brahman**Style**

Objectives: Recognizing an author's style
 Understanding how style contributes to atmosphere

Activity

Read the first paragraph. As you read, pay attention to the rhythm created by the frequent use of three sets of items, either nouns, adjectives, phrases, or clauses. How does the author's method add to the atmosphere of the opening of the novella or detract from it? Have you encountered similar styles in previous reading? What did you feel about that?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part One, Chapter 2: With the Samanas**Motif****Objective:** Understanding motif**Activity**

Collect examples of themes in various media. Television, current events, school events, ceremonies, rites of passage, marriages, funerals—all could be possible sources to connect the idea of a literary motif with motifs outside of the classroom.

Sample:

Your school is celebrating homecoming week, and the halls have been decorated with the school colors; students and teachers are wearing the colors, and special colorful foods are being served in the cafeteria. The motif of the week would be that showing the school colors indicates positive feelings about the school.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part One, Chapter 4: Awakening**Style**

Objectives: Understanding author's style
 Predicting events

Activity

Discuss why Chapter 4 seems to be a pause in Siddhartha's journey.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part Two, Chapter 2: With the Child People**Debate**

Objectives: Practicing logical arguments
 Responding to literature

Activity

Form two groups, one taking the pro argument and the other group taking the con side. Take notes within your groups, and prepare a series of points that you wish to make for your side.

Debate the following proposition:

THE TENETS OF BUDDHISM ARE GUIDELINES TO A WHOLESOME AND SATISFYING LIFE.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part Two, Chapter 3: Samsara**Interpretation****Objective:** Interpreting details from the text**Activity**

Write a job resume for Siddhartha. You may use our attached resume form or *Resume Wizard* in *Microsoft Works* or any standard resume form found in most word processing programs. What kind of job do you think Siddhartha would be qualified for? What do you think he would write as his job objective?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part Two, Chapter 5: The Ferryman**Map Drawing****Objective:** Providing visual reinforcement**Activity**

Prepare a map of Siddhartha's journey. Begin where you believe his home was, include the forest where he became an ascetic, the town where he became worldly, the grove where he met Kamala, his house when he became wealthy, and the river where he finally ended his journey.

The map may include computer graphics, pictures from magazines or any other appropriate marker. Use a standard sheet of poster board. Remember to include a legend.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part Two, Chapter 8: Govinda**Writing****Objective:** Using the imagination**Activity**

Compose a set of e-mails between Siddhartha and Govinda that might be written in the years after the novel has ended. Try to assume the character of both people and apply this to the way you write and what you say.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Wrap-Up

Speeches

Objective: Responding to literature

Activity

One at a time, draw for the numbers of the topics listed below. Immediately after drawing the topic, deliver a three-minute speech on the subject. Be sure to elaborate on your thoughts with reasons and examples.

TOPICS FOR EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEECHES

1. The character I would like to have as a friend is _____.
2. The character I would avoid is _____.
3. The character that most intrigues me is _____.
4. The character I most admire is _____.
5. The character I would least like to be is _____.
6. The character I understand the best is _____.
7. The most memorable image of the novel is _____.
8. The most realistic image of the novel is _____.
9. The most confusing image of the novel is _____.
10. The theme I most agree with is _____.
11. The theme I most disagree with is _____.
12. Having read this novel, I will become more aware of _____.
13. I think Buddhism is _____.
14. The novel demonstrates that self-reliance is _____.
15. The moral concept I have learned about sin is _____.
16. While reading the novel I was bothered by _____.
17. I think the novel is worth reading because _____.
18. The setting of the novel was well-chosen because _____.
19. According to this novel, people should avoid _____.
20. If I could ask Hesse a question, I would want to know _____.
21. The person Siddhartha was too _____.
22. The character I feel similar to is _____.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Wrap-Up**Writing****Objective:** Discerning influences in your life**Activity**

Complete the following questionnaire concerning the role of adults in your life. Be candid and honest. On a scale of one to five, with five being the most important, rate the importance of the adults in your life in the following areas. Under each area, list specific ways adults in your life perform the described function.