

Episcopal Academy
Middle School English - Summer Reading
Study Sheet 2006 for students entering I Form
The Cay by Theodore Taylor

Chapter 1

- What is the setting as the story begins?
- Why are the German U-boats in the waters surrounding Willemstad?
- Describe Philip's mother and father.
- Why don't the citizens/army of Willemstad attack the U-boats?

Chapter 2

- Why don't Grace and Phillip fly to Norfolk?
- How does the sinking of the *S.S. Empire Tern* affect Phillip?
- What is the name of their ship?

Chapter 3

- When is the *S.S. Hato* torpedoed?
- Who is aboard the life raft with Phillip?
- What had Phillip's mother always said about black people?

Chapter 4

- Where does Phillip think that Timothy is from?
- Where is Timothy actually from?
- How old is Timothy?
- How old is Phillip?
- Initially, how does Phillip respond to his blindness?

Chapter 5

- How does Timothy respond when the passing plane does not spot them?

Chapter 6

- What causes Phillip to fall overboard?
- Describe the island that they see?

Chapter 7

- Phillip senses that Timothy is worried about something. What?

Chapter 8

- The first time that Timothy goes to the reef to fetch langosta, he leaves Phillip behind.
- How does Phillip respond to this?
- Timothy reveals his real (estimated) age. How old is he - really?
- Why doesn't Timothy write "help" in the sand by himself?

Chapter 9

- Why does Timothy string a rope from the hut to the fire on the beach?
- Why does Timothy hit Phillip?
- Why does Phillip suddenly want to be friends with Timothy?

Chapter 10

- Why does Phillip like the rain?
- When Phillip asks Timothy, why there are different colors of skin, what is Timothy's reply?

Chapter 11

- Why does Timothy encourage Phillip to be more independent?
- What are "obediah" and "jumbi"?
- What does Timothy carve out of wood?

Chapter 12

- Describe how Phillip saves Timothy when he has Malaria.

Chapter 13

- What does Phillip finally agree to climb?

Chapter 14

- What preparations does Timothy make for the tempest?

Chapter 15

- What is the only thing that Phillip can do to help Timothy recover from the tempest?

Chapter 16

- What had Timothy left behind in order to help Phillip survive?
- Why do birds attack Phillip?

Chapter 17

- How is Phillip able to catch langosta by himself?
- Does he catch anything else?

Chapter 18

- How does Phillip create black smoke?

Chapter 19

- How are Phillip's feelings about black people at the end of the story different than they were at the beginning of the story?