

And Then There Were None Summer Reading Assignment for Rising Seniors

ANSWER EACH OF THE QUESTIONS ON ANOTHER SHEET OF PAPER.
BE SURE TO NUMBER THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWER THEM COMPLETELY.

1. Who is U. N. Owen? What do we learn about him in the novel's opening pages?
2. Describe the primary setting of *And Then There Were None* with as much detail as possible. How and why is Indian Island so important to the narrative?
3. List the ten guests who have been invited to Indian Island, giving their names and backgrounds. Did any of the individuals—when you first encountered them in the introductory chapter or in the following pages—strike you as especially sinister or threatening or as especially harmless? If so, state which one(s) and explain why.
4. Describe the poem that Vera Claythorne finds on display above the mantel in her bedroom (in Chapter 2). How are the poem's meaning and imagery changed by its context in this novel? How does it relate to the centerpiece of small china figures that first appears in the subsequent dinner scene (in Chapter 3)? How does this poem relate to the larger plot structure of this novel?
5. Reread the last sentence of chapter 8. Identify the possible implications of this last sentence—for the plot of this novel and the fate of its characters. What sort of threshold has been crossed, and how is the story different from this point on?
6. Who is the murderer? How is his or her identity revealed? Who is the mysterious Mr. Owen? Were you satisfied with the novel's conclusion? Were you surprised by it? Did you, as a reader and an armchair detective, find the ending fully credible and plausible? Did the murderer's "confession" seem fitting and appropriate to you? Explain your answers.