

CSEC QUESTIONS

Mere Hodge's "For the Life of Laetitia"

Julie Tagg | Think and Write for CSEC English A and B

1. In the novel, "For the Life of Laetitia," Hodge presents the theme of friendship and the value of friendship in shaping the life of young children. With close reference to the novel, write an essay where you show the friendship as it exists between two of the major characters in the novel. In addition, discuss the ways that these friendships change the lives of EACH of the selected characters.
2. The setting has an impact on the treatment of the characters. Write an essay that discusses the challenges that the major character faces because of her rural background. Be sure to identify and discuss the prejudice that is associated with living in rural areas.
3. The theme of hope and hopelessness resonates throughout the novel. Write an essay where you discuss the hopes or hopelessness that TWO major characters face in the novel.
4. Lacey's friend, Ajanee faces difficulties at home. Her challenges lead to her unhappiness and this unhappiness affects their friendship. With close reference to the novel, discuss the challenges that Ajanee faces in her family. Be sure to include the effect that these challenges have on Ajanee and how this impacts her friendship with Lacey.
5. Families can be a challenge in the development of the lives of young children. Discuss the challenges that one major character faces in his or her family. In addition, you must assess the impact that these challenges have on the development of this character.
6. Teachers play an integral role in the development of the lives of children. Write an essay that assesses the role of teachers in the development of children. In your essay, compare the actions of TWO teachers and discuss how these actions shape the thoughts and actions of TWO characters in the novel.
7. Conflict is inevitable in a novel. Write an essay that discusses the internal conflict that the main character faces and how this conflict is resolved.

Excerpt from:

Merle Hodge's "For the Life of Laetitia" – Study Guide

CSEC English B

With Notes and Sample questions.

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8. Anjanees death has a profound impact on Lacey's life. With close reference to the novel, write an essay that discusses the impact of Anjanees death on Lacey and the decisions that Lacey makes.
9. Everyone has dreams and desires. These dreams shape the ways that characters behave. Write an essay that discusses the steps that TWO major characters take to achieve their dreams and desires.
10. Lacey is deeply disturbed by the way that she is treated at Cephas' home. Write an essay that compares the treatment that Lacey receives at her grandmother's home and at Cephas' home.
11. Parents play the most important role in shaping the lives of their children or those they care for. Write an essay that compares the parental role any TWO of these characters:
 - a. Lacey's Grandmother
 - b. Cephas
 - c. Anjanees father.In addition, discuss the impact that these roles have on ONE character in the novel.
12. Major characters are important to the development of the plot of a story. Write an essay that assesses the contribution of ONE major character to the development of the plot.
13. Minor characters contribute to the actions of the major characters. Select TWO minor characters from the novel and discuss how the actions of these minor characters shape the actions of ONE major character.
14. Prejudice serves as a contributing factor to the actions of children. Based on your reading of the novel, discuss ONE type of prejudice that exists in the novel and say how this prejudice influences the actions of ONE major character.
15. Migration affects everyone in the family and especially children. Write an essay that explains the effects of migration on parents and children. In your essay, compare the effects of migration on ONE character.
16. Conflict can be internal or external. Write an essay that assesses the internal conflict that ONE of the character faces. In addition, assess how this character deals with this conflict.

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17. Identify ONE instance of prejudice in the novel and discuss how ONE of the characters deals with this experience.
18. A character's dream may suggest that some thoughts may not be expressed. Discuss the symbolism of Lacey throwing her Geography book in her dreams. In addition, discuss the use of the imagery of the dream.
19. Symbols suggest that there is a deeper meaning to the object or event in the novel. Write an essay that discusses the use of symbolism in Cephas's home and the Home Economics teacher hanging a picture of a happy family.
20. Lacey, Ma Zelline, and Ma have gardens. With close reference to the novel, discuss the symbolism of these gardens as it relates to economic independence.

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