

Discussion Guide

Chunk	Questions
1	A. Style: Notice Baldwin's repetition of the word "sight." Why does he do that? B. Craft: Look at the last sentence. What would happen if you removed the text between the dashes? How would that impact or alter meaning? C. Identify the event and its significance.
2	A. Style: What is the function of the details about the village and its people? How does Baldwin use these details to impact the reader? B. Craft: What is the effect of Baldwin's syntax in which he juxtaposes simple and complex sentences?
3	A. Content: What is the significance of the last sentence in paragraph 4? B. Content: Discuss the context and significance of James Joyce's quote at the end of paragraph 5. What does it contribute to Baldwin's reflection? C. Style: Characterize Baldwin's tone or attitude as he writes about the village. Find diction that contributes to the tone. D. Craft: What is the impact of Baldwin's use of dashes in sentence structure (see page 26 for reminders on use of the dash).
4	A. Content: Discuss the irony of the village's "custom" as it resonates with Baldwin's in his reflection. B. Style: Revisit the last sentence in paragraph 6 and identify the tone. Discuss where and how the tone shifts in this chunk of text. C. Craft: What is the effect of the syntactical structure of the last sentence in paragraph 9? D. Content: Discuss the analogy Baldwin makes in paragraph 7.
5	A. Content: How is the stranger in the village theme conveyed here? B. Style: How does the author organize this section to advance the theme of the essay? C. Craft: What words are repeated in paragraph 10? What new emotional layer is added to the tone?
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