Discussion Questions for Wendell Berry's "The Pleasures of Eating"

- 1. Wendell Berry says, "eating is an agricultural act." What does he mean by this? How is this representative of his food ethic?
- 2. Berry is critical of the modern "industrial" eater's food ethic. How does the industrial eater's food ethic fail to recognize eating as an agricultural act?
- 3. What is Wendell Berry asking of us? What does he mean by "eat responsibly"?
- 4. How does someone who embraces these mindsets and behaviors fundamentally alter their relationship with the Earth (as contrasted with the typical industrial eater)?
- 5. Analyze the meaning of the William Carlos Williams poem. How does the poem represent a "food ethic"?
- 6. Why is this essay called "The Pleasures of Eating"?