

Group Seminar Prep: SFoC

Essential Questions:

1. What are the important themes in *SFoC* and how does the novel address/resolve these themes?
2. How are characters important to the novel's themes and overall meaning? What can we learn about ourselves, history and/or human nature through a novel's characters?
3. What impact did Pearl Harbor have on race relations in the United States? What social and political changes did it create?

Directions: As a group, discuss "Clarification" and "Seminar Questions". By the end of class, complete the form on my DP with the following:

- Everyone's name
- List of universal themes/binaries
- List of seminar questions. In parenthesis after the question, write which theme you think that question most connects to and the page/chapter #.
- Your group's response to Essential Q #3.

Clarification: Help each clear up any confusion that you have about the plot, characters, resolution, etc... In addition, discuss the following:

- **Characters:** *DISCUSS:* What changes do Hatsue, Kabuo and go through in the second half of the novel? What are significant passages/pages/quotes on these characters?
- **Universal Themes/Binaries:** What themes stand out in the novel? What is the significance of each theme? For example, the theme of Identity stands out in the novel. Through the novel, Guterson suggests that our identities are not entirely ours to create, but that a variety of external forces shape and control our identity.
- **Essential Question:** Discuss #3 from the above essential questions.

Seminar Questions: Come up with 1-2 seminar questions for each of the chapters I assigned you.

Also, in parenthesis after the question, write which theme you think that question most connects to. Be sure to include the page # or chapter # for each question.