*Cry, the Beloved Country*

Book II Packet

**Setting**

Chapter 18

1. Explain the primary agricultural issues that trouble the Umzimkulu valley as explained in Jarvis’ reflections.

**Style**

1. The opening of Book II should be familiar. What does repetition with a new observer do for the novel?

**Point of View**

1. The first two paragraphs of chapter 18 will be familiar. Why does Paton open Book II this way? What changes does he make to this opening?
2. What is the shift in point of view in this book? How does this connect to the opening of the chapter?Whose viewpoint predominates in Book II?
3. What is the advantage of seeing both the African landscape and the murder of Arthur Jarvis from this point of view?
4. What is this person’s relationships with characters from the previous book? How might his vocation impact his perception?
5. List African social and economic conditions that become clear to the reader through his eyes.
6. Chapters 22 and 23 shift to a narrator as impartial observer. What things do we learn about South Africa in these chapters?
7. From whose viewpoint is most of Chapter 25 told? Why is it better to use his viewpoint than Kumalo’s when telling of their first meeting?
8. From Chapter 26 to the end of Book II, whose viewpoint is used? Why is this point of view effective?

**Conflict**

\*Review the types of conflict found in literature (conveniently, you listed these in the Book I packet).

1. What conflicts can be found in Book II? Within whom is each found?

**Structure**

1. What event in Book II becomes the climax, if you consider both the point of highest emotional interest and the point at which one force wins out and the rising action reverses itself and becomes the falling action?

**Irony**

Verbal

1. Read Chapter 23. Find at least five examples of verbal irony and explain why they are ironic.
2. Find two examples of irony in Harrison’s statements on pages 149 and 150? Explain why they are ironic

Situational

1. What is ironic about Arthur Jarvis’ fate?

**Characterization**

For each of the following characters, explain how s/he is characterized by the author. What are his/her dominant traits? How does each represent a different facet of the black South African experience? Offer specific evidence from the text for each. \*\*Tip: here’s where you might also note how some characters connect to their names.

James Jarvis

Arthur Jarvis

Margaret and Mary Jarvis

John Harrison

Mr. Harrison (John and Mary’s father)

Absalom

**Additional Notes:**