

The Hunger Games Reading Guide Questions

Chapter One:

1. Why does Buttercup hate Katniss?
2. Why is District 12 surrounded by fences?
3. How is Katniss' mother different from other residents of the Seam?
4. Why don't Gale and Katniss run away and live in the woods?
5. What is the Hob?
6. Describe the Reaping system. How is it unfair?
7. How many Reaping entries will Katniss have in her 16th year?
8. What are the Hunger Games?

Chapter Two:

1. How does Katniss save Prim from the Reaping?
2. How did Katniss's mother react to her husband's death?
3. Describe Katniss's only previous encounter with Peeta Mellark.

Chapter Three:

1. How does Katniss feel about her chances of winning? Why?
2. Who visits Katniss and what gifts do they bring her?
3. What is a mockingjay?
4. What role will Haymitch play in the Games?

Chapter Four:

1. Why does Katniss decide to stay away from Peeta as much as possible?
2. How do Peeta and Katniss gain Haymitch's support?

Chapter Five:

1. What is surprising about Cinna, Katniss's stylist?
2. Describe Katniss's Tribute costume.
3. How does the crowd respond to Katniss and Peeta during their grand entrance? What makes them so special?

Chapter Six:

1. From where does Katniss recognize the girl with red hair?
2. Why do Katniss and Peeta decide to talk on the roof?

Chapter Seven:

1. What is Haymitch's training strategy for Katniss and Peeta?
2. What are "Career Tributes"?
3. How does Katniss make a unique impression on the Gamemakers?

Chapter Eight:

1. What do the scores the Gamemakers give the Tributes mean?
2. What is Katniss's greatest fear after her private session with the Gamemakers?
3. Why are Katniss and Gale an effective hunting team?

Chapter Nine:

1. What advice does Cinna give Katniss for her interview?
2. What does Rue say will be her greatest strength in the arena?
3. What secret does Peeta reveal at the end of his interview?

Chapter Ten:

1. How does Katniss react to Peeta's declaration of love?
2. What does Peeta mean when he says "I want to die as myself"?
3. What is injected under Katniss's skin before the Games? Why?

Chapter Eleven:

1. What is the "Cornucopia"? Why is it important?
2. What does Katniss take from the Cornucopia?
3. What happens to the girl who lights a fire for warmth near Katniss's hiding place?
4. What big surprise does Katniss get at the end of Chapter 11?

Chapter Twelve:

1. How are the Career Tributes using Peeta?
2. How is dehydration affecting Katniss?

Chapter Thirteen:

1. What wakes Katniss up?
2. Why do the Gamemakers want to chase the Tributes from their hiding places?
3. How does Katniss escape the Careers when they find her resting in the pond?

Chapter Fourteen:

1. What are tracker jackers?
2. How does Katniss escape the Tributes waiting for her beneath the tree?
3. What does Katniss realize right before she passes out?

Chapter Fifteen:

1. What did Katniss get from Glimmer's body?
2. Why does Katniss want Rue for an ally?
3. What is the punishment for eating crops in District 11?

Chapter Sixteen:

1. How does Katniss plan to strike at the Careers?
2. How are the Careers' supplies protected?
3. How does Katniss trigger the trap?

Chapter Seventeen:

1. What happens to the boy from District 13?
2. What does Katniss mean by a "hollow day"? Have you ever had a hollow day?

Chapter Eighteen:

1. What does Katniss do for Rue as a sign of protest against the Capitol?
2. What sponsor gift does Katniss receive? Who is it from?
3. What important rule change is announced in Chapter Eighteen?

Chapter Nineteen:

1. How has Peeta managed to stay safe since his fight with Cato?
2. Describe Peeta's injuries.
3. How does Katniss stop Peeta from talking about his potential death?

Chapter Twenty:

1. What condition threatens Peeta's life?

2. Where did Katniss really get the money for Prim's goat?

3. What can Katniss get at the feast?

4. How does Haymitch help Katniss get to the feast?

Chapter Twenty-One:

1. What clever strategy does Foxface employ at the feast?

2. What stops Clove from killing Katniss?

3. Why doesn't Thresh kill Katniss?

Chapter Twenty-Two:

1. Why is Peeta's perspective on life different from Katniss's and Gale's?

2. What did Peeta's father confide to him about Katniss's mother?

3. What is Haymitch "looking for" from Katniss and Peeta?

Chapter Twenty-Three:

1. According to Peeta and Katniss, how must Haymitch have won the Games?
2. What does Katniss fear will happen if she wins?
3. How is Foxface killed?

Chapter Twenty-Four:

1. Why do the Gamemakers dry-up the river and ponds?
2. Why doesn't Cato attack Katniss and Peeta?

Chapter Twenty-Five:

1. What is chasing the Tributes?
2. Why don't the creatures kill Cato quickly once they have him overpowered?
3. How does Cato finally die?
4. What is the Gamemakers' final surprise?

5. How do Kat and Peeta outsmart the Gamemakers' last twist?

Chapter Twenty-Six:

1. How does Katniss surprise herself when she sees Haymitch?
2. According to Haymitch, why is Katniss in trouble?

Chapter Twenty-Seven:

1. Why is Peeta upset?
2. Summarize how Chapter 27 bring the story to an end.
3. Are there any questions you have that are left unanswered? If so, what are they?

Discussion Questions:

1. Would you like to live in District 12? How is Panem an “oppressive” country? Do you think there are places like Panem on Earth today?
2. How are the people of the Capitol different from those who live in the districts? Why do you think they are different?
3. Is it savage to watch people kill each other on television? What does the popularity of the Hunger Games say about the people who watch it? Compare the Games to our reality television today. Are there some similarities? What does the popularity of reality television shows say about our society?
4. What role does karma play in the games? Do you believe karma plays a role in real life?
5. Katniss suggests that Peeta can’t understand some things because his family isn’t as poor as hers or Gale’s. Is this fair? Do you think it is true? Why is it important to consider things from other people’s perspectives?