

NOVEL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What motivates the central character's actions?

What literary elements does the writer use to help the reader understand the views of the character?

What surprised you about the character?

How would this character answer these questions?

- What is your view regarding slaves and slavery?
- What would you be willing to do to defend your views?
- What problems may arise because of these views?

What is the most important mood so far? What techniques does the writer use to create this mood?

What have you learned about the time period while reading (e.g., names of people, laws, unusual situations, settings)?

What historical information does the writer include? How is it supported?

What is the one thing the writer makes you curious about? Why?

What are the main character's most important traits? Why are these traits important?

How is the main character changing? What is he or she learning about life and the role he or she plays in it?

Who controls the character's actions? How does this make him or her feel or react?

What is the most interesting scene in the novel so far? What did the writer do to catch your interest?

What would be "out of character" for the main character? (In other words, what would he or she most likely never do?)

Who is the antagonist? What motivates him or her?

Is the antagonist likable even though he or she is trying to prevent the central character from accomplishing his or her goals? Why?