The Hunger Games Video Guide

About the Author: Suzanne Collins

Answer the following questions:

**Classical Inspiration (video: 1:46)**
1. What story inspired her to create *The Hunger Games*? __________________________________________________________

2. What message did Crete give to the people of Athens? ___________________________________________________________

3. How is the story inspired by Roman times? __________________________________________________________

**Contemporary Inspiration (video 1:13)**
4. How did Collins put a contemporary spin on *The Hunger Games*? __________________________

5. The games are required viewing not only for entertainment purposes, but what is the second (and most important reason) the citizens are required to view them? _______

**Desensitization (video 1:20)**
6. What is desensitization? (Not in video--answer from discussion) __________________________

7. Do you share Collins’ fear that we are becoming desensitized to war and violence because we see it so often on TV? Why or why not? __________________________

**Responses to the book (video :56)**
8. Collins hopes that it does make people think about what they _____________ in a more reflective way. What does this statement mean? __________________________

9. What are some of the themes of the book, according to Collins? __________________________

Name:
10. This book, more than anything else she has written, has depended upon the __________________________ experience.

Getting Personal (video 4:10)
11. List three things (or facts) about Suzanne Collins that interested you. ______________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

12. What three things would she take with her if she were on a deserted island? ______
____________________________________________________________________________

13. What three things would YOU take if you were on a deserted island? ______________
____________________________________________________________________________
About the Author: Suzanne Collins
Watch the interview with Suzanne Collins about her novel, *The Hunger Games* (2008), on the website: 
Answer the following questions:

**Classical Inspiration (video: 1:46)**
1. What story inspired her to create *The Hunger Games*? **The Greek myth of Theseus & the Minotaur.**
2. What message did Crete give to the people of Athens? **If you mess with us, we’ll do worse: we’ll mess with your children.**
3. How is the story inspired by Roman times? **The Roman Gladiators**

**Contemporary Inspiration (video 1:13)**
4. How did Collins put a contemporary spin on *The Hunger Games*? **It’s a reality TV show.**
5. The games are required viewing not only for entertainment purposes, but what is the second (and most important reason) the citizens are required to view them? **It is the yearly reminder that they had the nerve (audacity) to go against the Capitol.**

**Desensitization (video 1:20)**
6. What is desensitization? (Not in video--answer from discussion) **When we are over-exposed to sensitive material, we lose our compassion (sensitivity) toward it.**
   *(Dictionary definition: make (someone) less likely to feel shock or distress at scenes of cruelty, violence, or suffering by overexposure to such images)*
7. Do you share Collins’ fear that we are becoming desensitized to war and violence because we see it so often on TV? Why or why not? **Answers will vary!**

**Responses to the book (video :56)**
8. Collins hopes that it does make people think about what they watch in a more reflective way. What does this statement mean? **Thinking about the show’s meaning or message as you watch--or its consequences.**
9. What are some of the themes of the book, according to Collins? **Violence, hunger, romance, reality TV, survival**
10. This book, more than anything else she has written, has depended upon the 
reader's own experience. Getting Personal (video 4:10)

11. List three things (or facts) about Suzanne Collins that interested you. answers will vary

12. What three things would she take with her if she were on a deserted island? matches, endless supply of water, and a survival book

13. What three things would YOU take if you were on a deserted island? will vary

(I have to share with you one of the funniest--or saddest, perhaps--answers I got from a student for #13. The three items she would take with her on a deserted island: her cell phone, iPod, and cell phone charger. I'm not kidding.)