

“The Lorax”

By Dr. Seuss



Part A: Questions for Thought

Directions: After watching the video (or reading the book) answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Explain how things changed as a result of the Onceler’s activities. Use at least three specific examples from the movie.
2. Describe whom you think the Lorax represents.
3. Describe whom you think the Onceler represents.
4. The Onceler explains his actions by saying “If I didn’t do it, someone else would.” Is this a good excuse for doing what he did? Explain.
5. Do you think of yourself or anyone you know as a “Onceler?” Explain.
6. How could the Onceler have managed his company to protect natural resources and not run out of trees to manufacture "Thneeds"? Is it necessary to protect all trees "from axes that hack"? Explain.
7. What could the Lorax have done to get the Onceler to stop cutting down all the trees and stop the pollution of the air and water?
8. What did the Onceler mean by "UN-LESS"? What responsibility does he seem to think "someone like you" needs to take? What kinds of things can we do today to ensure that trees will be available for all different purposes in the future?
9. It is likely that Dr. Seuss intended for the seed that was given to the little boy to symbolize something. Explain what you think the seed symbolizes.
10. Do you think the little boy has any responsibility to take care of the seed? Explain.
11. Explain what message Dr. Seuss was trying to teach with this fable.

Part B: Essay

Directions: Write an essay (11 point font and double-spaced) addressing the following issue. This assignment should be 1-1.5 pages and TYPED!

Obviously Dr. Seuss wrote “The Lorax” with the idea that it would be a children’s story. However, we know that his stories incorporate many adult themes and undertones. Explain how our society is following the story of “The Lorax”. Use 2-3 specific examples from our society’s overuse and misuse of our resources and problems that have occurred because of them. Also, make predictions about the future if our current lifestyles do not change.