

# Kite Runner Log Prompts Complete 5 1/2 page responses

| Chapter of Text | After You Read, Complete a Log On Lined Paper in Response to the Following Prompt:   |
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| Chapters 2 & 3  | <p>At the end of the chapter, we learn that Amir's first word was "Baba," and Hassan's first word was "Amir." Amir says he thinks that "the foundation for what happened in the winter of 1975—and all that followed—was already laid in those first words" (11). Discuss the significance of these "first words." What might they foreshadow? What do they suggest about the relationship between Amir and Hassan, and what do they suggest about the relationship between Amir and Baba?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>Re-read pages 22 &amp; 23. Baba says twice of Amir, "There is something missing in that boy" (22). Based on this chapter, what do you think Baba means? What is "missing" in Amir? Provide one quotation as evidence to support your ideas.</p> |
| Chapter 4       | <p>What does it mean to be a friend? Describe the kind of relationship you have with your closest friend. Amir says, "I never thought of Hassan and me as friends." What prevents Amir from calling Hassan a friend? Do you think that Hassan would call Amir a friend?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>In what ways have you seen Amir acting ethically (with kindness, generosity, etc.)? In what ways has Amir acted unethically (with cruelty, selfishness, etc.)? Overall, do you think Amir is a good person at heart? Why or why not?</p>   |
| Chapter 5       | <p>Based on what you know so far, what kinds of ideas about race are people in Amir's culture exposed to? (Consider what you've heard from Assef as well as Amir). To what extent (how much) do you think Amir accepts what Assef says about race? Give an example or quote from the text to support your answer.</p> <p>Optional: Make connections to how race is treated today in American culture.</p>  |
| Chapter 6       | <p>Choose three quotations in the chapter that reveal something about the relationship between Hassan and Amir (look especially for quotes that show who has more power in the relationship). For each quote of the three quotes that you choose, write 1-2 sentences describing <i>what</i> you think the quote reveals about the relationship between the two boys.</p>  |
| Chapter 7       | <p>Briefly describe a time where you saw or heard something happen that you knew was wrong, but didn't stop it. Why didn't you stop what was going on? (Did you not know how? Were you afraid? Etc.)</p> <p>When Hassan is being attacked, Amir simply watches and then runs. He explains, "The real reason I was running, was that Assef was right: Nothing was free in this world. Maybe Hassan was the price I had to pay, the lamb I had to slay, to win Baba" (77). What does Amir mean? How is Hassan "the lamb" that he has to "slay"?</p> <p>Optional: Where else does a lamb come up in this chapter? What effect does it have to describe Hassan as a lamb?</p>  |

| Chapter of Text | After You Read, Complete a Log in Your Journal in Response to the Following Prompt:   |
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| Chapter 8       | If a person harms someone, what are three things the person can do to ease his or her guilt? What do you think Amir will do to ease his own guilt about not standing up for Hassan and not telling anyone about the rape? Why do you think that's what might happen? Use evidence from the text (what you know about Amir) to support your answer.  |
| Chapter 9       | Hassan and Ali decide to leave Baba's house, even though Baba forbids it (107). We never get to witness the scene in Hassan and Ali's hut where they are making this decision to leave Baba's house, but we know they are talking for at least 30 minutes because that is how long Amir and Baba wait for Ali and Hassan to join them (105). Write your version of that missing scene in the hut when they decide to leave. Write it as a dialogue between Hassan and Ali.  |
| Chapter 10      | You've just finished the last chapter that takes place during Amir's boyhood in Afghanistan. Using phrases from the text, write a poem <i>as if it were written by Amir</i> that gives the reader an idea of Amir's background. If you want, you can use Ms. E's example and brainstorming sheet to help you. Your poem may be as playful/light or as dark/serious as you like; just remember that <i>Amir</i> wrote it. (You'll need to look back through Chapters 1-10 to get ideas for what to include in your poem).  |
| Chapter 11      | <p>Explore the differences in the way that Amir and Baba experience the move to America, using a quote for Baba and a quote for Amir. Which one feels more positively toward America, and why? How is Amir adjusting to America? How is Baba adjusting to America? Which person do you predict will be more successful and/or happy in America? Why?</p> <p>Optional: Have you ever moved from one location to another? How was the new place different? Were there differences in the way that you and other members of your family adjusted?</p>  |
| Chapter 12      | Choose three quotations that tell you something about gender roles in traditional Afghan culture (at least 1 quote must be from Chapter 12; the other 2 can be from any chapter). Write down the three quotations, and analyze/explain what each one shows about how the expectations/roles for men in Afghan culture are different than the expectations and roles for women.  |
| Chapter 13      | <p>Amir recalls the following from Baba's funeral: "I realized how much of who I was, what I was, had been defined by Baba..." (174). Later, when Amir is considering adopting a child, he reflects on his own father: "What sort of father would I make, I wondered. I wanted to be just like Baba and I wanted to be nothing like him" (184). What "sort" of father was Baba? (Consider both positive and negative qualities). What qualities do you think are most important for a father to have? Does Baba have these? Does Amir have them?</p> <p>Optional: Make connections to <u>Things Fall Apart</u> (about Okonkwo's style of being a father).</p> |
| Chapter 14      | Rahim Khan tells Amir that "there is a way to be good again." Do you think that Amir can ever really be "good again"? Should he be forgiven for what he did to Hassan? Begin your log with a "thesis" arguing either that Amir <i>does</i> or <i>does not</i> deserve forgiveness. Then use evidence from the text to support your response (make sure to include quotations from the text as evidence).  |

| Chapter of Text  | After You Read, Complete a Log in Your Journal in Response to the Following Prompt:  |
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| Chapters 15 & 16 | When Hassan goes to live with Rahim Khan, why does he move his family into his old hut instead of into the big house, even though there's plenty of room in the house and that's where Rahim Khan wants him to live? What do you think about Hassan's decision? What does it tell you about Hassan and about how Hassan views his relationship with Amir? Use at least one quote to support your answer.   |
| Chapters 17 & 18 | <p>Pretend that you are Amir and that you can still communicate with Hassan (even though he is dead). Knowing what you know now after reading this chapter, write Hassan a letter in response to his letters to you. In your letter, you may choose to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apologize to Hassan</li> <li>• Tell Hassan that you are brothers</li> <li>• Respond to what Hassan wrote in his letters</li> <li>• Write about who you feel about everything that has happened lately</li> </ul> <p>You may include anything you want in your letter, as long as it could believably have been written by Amir.</p> |
| Chapters 19 & 20 | Farid says that Amir has always been a tourist in Afghanistan, even when he lived there (232). What does Farid mean by that? Later, when Wahid finds out that Amir has come to Afghanistan to find Sohrab, Wahid calls Amir a "true Afghan" (238). How do you think Amir would identify himself at this point? (As an Afghan? An American? An Afghan-American? Something else?) Which country does he feel more connected to—America or Afghanistan? Defend your answer by citing 1-3 quotes from the text.  |
| Chapter 21       | <p>Describe your reaction (as a reader) to the scene at the stadium. What did this scene make you feel or think? What questions do you have about what happened at the stadium?</p> <p>Why do you think Hosseini included this scene in the novel? What do you think it is meant to show?</p>  |
| Chapter 22       | <p>When Assef breaks Amir's ribs, Amir says that his "body was broken...but [he] felt <i>healed</i>. Healed at last" (289). Why do you think suffering physical pain makes Amir feel <i>healed</i>? Use evidence from the text to support your ideas.</p> <p>Optional: See if you can make connections to <i>1984</i>.</p>   |
| Chapter 23       | As Amir, write a letter back to Rahim Khan responding to his letter. Make sure to spend extra time responding to Rahim Khan's statements about ethics and morality. This will be the last time you (Amir) communicate with Rahim Khan, so if there is anything else you would like to tell him that did not come up in Rahim Khan's letters, now is your chance.   |
| Chapter 24       | Sohrab tells Amir, "Father [Hassan] used to say it's wrong to hurt even bad people. Because they don't know any better, and because bad people sometimes become good" (318). Do you agree with Hassan's statement? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer, as well as evidence from your own life.  |

Chapter  
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Socratic Seminar Prep: Prepare five excellent questions for our Socratic Seminar. (Your questions should be Level 2 or Level 3 questions...in other words, they shouldn't be questions that have one obvious answer. Level 2 questions ask people to analyze something in the text, and level 3 questions ask a more general or universal question that is related to the text but that could be answered with other knowledge/experience as well).

Tips for Writing Good Questions:

- Ask people to relate themes in the book to their own lives.
- Ask about why the author made certain choices.
- Choose an important quotation and ask people to analyze its significance in the novel.
- Ask what characters, places, or objects might symbolize in the novel.
- Start questions with "why," "how," and "what do you think about..." They usually spark discussion because they could have more than one acceptable answer.
- To make sure your question is a good one, brainstorm a possible answer for it. If you can't think of any possible answer or how it could be answered, it might be too general or too confusing for the class!