

**English 2/English 2 Honors
10th Grade
2018**

For questions about the assignment or more information, contact:
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Students will read *The Old Man and The Sea* by Ernest Hemingway over summer break. They will answer the following questions using the book and should be prepared for a test within the first week(s) of school. This assignment will be collected immediately upon return to school.

The Old Man and The Sea can be found at the library, or purchased as a hard copy, pdf, or ebook. The book can be purchased inexpensively through Amazon or Thriftbooks, but purchasing it is not necessary to complete the assignment.

**The Old Man and the Sea, Ernest Hemingway
Study Guide Questions**

Read and answer the following questions. Use **quotes** from the novella and **indicate the page number (s)** on which you found the details.

PAGES 9-25

1. **Who is Santiago? Describe his physical appearance and personality.**

2. **Who is Manolin (the young boy)?**

3. **Describe Santiago's relationship with the young boy.**

4. **Describe Santiago's home. What does it say about him as a man?**

5. **Why do the other fishermen make fun of or pity Santiago?**

6. **Who does Santiago admire and why?**

7. **What does Santiago dream of? Why is this dream important to Santiago?**

PAGES 25-54

8. **Why can the reader consider Santiago a superior fisherman? Give examples.**

9. **How does Santiago describe the sea? How is this different from other fishermen?**

10. **How does Santiago compare himself to a turtle on page 37?**

11. **How are women portrayed in this novella?**

12. **How does Santiago feel about the marlin? What does it symbolize to him?**

13. **Santiago contemplates his choice on page 50. What was this choice?**

14. **Does Santiago possess any flaws?**

15. **How is Santiago similar to the warbler?**

16. **Describe the developing bond between Santiago and the marlin.**

17. **Is Santiago afraid of death? Explain.**

18. **Describe the marlin. (62-63)**

19. **What part of his body does Santiago not trust? Why?**

20. **Why does Santiago worship baseball and Joe DiMaggio?**

21. **How does Hemingway develop Santiago as a Christ-like figure?**

22. **What is man's place in nature? In the life cycle?**

PAGES 76-122

23. **What does it mean to be a man or "to suffer like a man"? (92)**

24. **Why does Santiago "not care who kills who"? (92)**

25. **How does the marlin transcend his death? (94)**

26. **How is the Mako Shark similar to the marlin? How is it different from the shovel-nosed sharks?**

27. **How does Santiago feel about hope? (104)**

28. **Why can Santiago not look at the mutilated marlin?**

29. **How does Hemingway continue to develop Santiago as a Christ-like figure?**

30. **How does Santiago justify what he has done to the marlin? Do you feel he is justified? Why or why not?**

31. **Do you feel that the marlin has died in vain? Why?**

32. **Explain the significance of: “The boy keeps me alive.” (106)**

PAGES 122-128

33. **Explain: “A man can be destroyed but not defeated.” (103) Was Santiago defeated by the shovel-nosed sharks?**

34. **Although Santiago will probably never have the chance to catch another big fish, how does he transcend “the death” of his fishing career?**

35. **Why is it significant that the novella ends with Santiago dreaming of the**

lions?

36. How does Hemingway develop the theme that there is honor and beauty in defeat?

37. How is pride seen as a virtue?

38. How is the idea that life comes from death illustrated in the novella?

39. What does the marlin come to symbolize for Santiago and his life as a fisherman?

40. Reflection: What themes (ideas) struck a chord with you? Write a thesis statement (see below) about one of the novel's themes.

How to write a thesis statement:

<http://www.vaniercollege.qc.ca/tlc/tipsheets/writing/thesis-statement.pdf>