

Major Symbols

Directions: Reflect on the role of each of the following items in *Lord of the Flies*. Consider both the literal meanings or uses and the symbolic significance.

Symbol	Literal Use	Symbolic Associations
1. The conch		
2. Piggy's glasses		
3. The dead paratrooper		
4. Painted faces		
5. Fire		
6. The Lord of the Flies		

Symbolic Associations

Part A.

Directions: Match each of the symbolic elements in the left column with an interpretation in the right column. Write the letter of your choice in the blank.

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| _____ 1. Castle Rock | a. means of hiding one's true self |
| _____ 2. darkness | b. authority and order |
| _____ 3. Piggy's glasses | c. microcosm of the world |
| _____ 4. mountain | d. ability to understand and know |
| _____ 5. dead paratrooper | e. violence and death in the adult world |
| _____ 6. scar | f. humans' tendency to ruin nature |
| _____ 7. conch | g. huge gap that often separates humans from each other |
| _____ 8. fire | h. secrecy, hiding, and the unknown |
| _____ 9. painted face | i. evil, decay, and destruction |
| _____ 10. the beast | j. terror created out of irrational fear |
| _____ 11. the island | k. perspective, power, and truth |
| _____ 12. beach | l. safety and community |
| _____ 13. forest | m. hope; reaching out for help |
| _____ 14. Lord of the Flies | n. punishment; torture; dictatorship |
| _____ 15. ocean | o. ignorance and fear |

Part B.

Directions: Select one of the items listed above, and write a paragraph in which you discuss its symbolism.