

Leisure and Aging: Ulyssean Living in Later Life, 5th ed.
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Discussion Questions

SAGAMORE
P U B L I S H I N G

Discussion Questions

Unit 1 Discussion Question: After you read the poem Ulysses (available at <http://www.eecs.harvard.edu/~keith/poems/Ulysses.html>) discuss why you think I used this poem as the theme for the textbook we use in this class and as the foundation of my philosophy of aging.

Unit 2 Discussion Question: Read this article (http://www.sptimes.com/2004/02/24/Seniority/Retirement__minus_a_r.shtml) on older individuals following the activity theory approach to life. Is this the “best” way to successfully age?

Unit 3 Discussion Question: Read The Fable of the Dragon-Tyrant and then address the following question: Why do we, as a society, have a negative perception of aging?

Unit 4 Discussion Question: Mark Twain said, “When I was younger, I could remember anything, whether it had happened or not; but my faculties are decaying now and soon I shall be so I cannot remember any but the things that never happened. It is sad to go to pieces like this, but we all have to do it.” Is it true that “we all have to go to pieces” as Twain states?

Unit 5 Discussion Question: Tell students in my Introduction to Recreation class that it is harder to be a professional in the recreation field than in the engineering field because we build people and engineers build bridges. Bridges are easier since they are more predictable and understandable than people. Do you believe that leisure can be an effective modality for building a better life for older individuals? Why?

Unit 6 Discussion Question: Discuss your perspective on nursing homes and their role in later life.