

Moby Dick: Part I Reading Guide NAME: _____ SCORE: _____

1. **Connect:** Do you like being around water (either at the river, lake, or ocean)? Explain.
2. Why does Ishmael decide it's time for him to take to sea again?
3. What is around the bar in the Spouter Inn?
4. What causes Ishmael to want to go whaling?
5. What does Ishmael see in the dark and blurry painting?
6. Coffin compares the whale to whom?
7. What bad news does the innkeeper give Ishmael about his sleeping arrangements?
8. What has Ishmael's harpooneer been selling around town?
9. What is strange about the harpooneer's appearance?
10. What does the savage do with the tomahawk he pulls from his bag?
11. **Infer:** What does "turning flukes" mean?
12. Ishmael says, "Better to sleep with a _____ than a _____."
13. Queequeg shaves with what?
14. What did Queequeg eat the only time he had a stomach ache?
15. What is written on the plaques that line the sides of the whaleman's chapel?

16. What does Ishmael mean when he says, "This physical body is but the lees of my better being?"
17. How does Father Mapple climb up into his pulpit?
18. Father Mapple says, "If we would obey God, we must..."?
19. What Biblical character is the subject of Father Mapple's sermon?
20. Ishmael says you cannot hide what?
21. How did Queequeg come to be in America?
22. What two gifts does Queequeg give to Ishmael?
23. **Allusion:** In the Bible Ishmael is the son of Abraham. Abraham sends Ishmael and Ishmael's mother out to wander in the desert; therefore, the name *Ishmael* implies someone who is a wanderer, a loner, or an outcast. Does this name fit the character Ishmael? Explain.
24. **Theme:** Based on the way Herman Melville presents Queequeg in *Moby Dick*, what was he trying to say about "civilized" and "savage" people? Explain.
25. **Connect:** Have you ever formed a close friendship with someone who was drastically different from you? Explain the friendship. If you have no friendships with someone drastically different from you, why do you think this is so?

Moby Dick: Part I Reading Guide KEY

1. **Connect:** Do you like being around water (either at the river, lake, or ocean)? Explain. *Answers may vary.*
2. Why does Ishmael decide it's time for him to take to sea again? *He's feeling depressed or possibly suicidal; the sea refreshes him and makes him happy.*
3. What is around the bar in the Spouter Inn? *Whale jaws*
4. What causes Ishmael to want to go whaling? *The thought of the whale; curiosity about the whale*
5. What does Ishmael see in the dark and blurry painting? *A whale trying to jump over a ship, impaling itself upon the masts*
6. Coffin compares the whale to whom? *God*
7. What bad news does the innkeeper give Ishmael about his sleeping arrangements? *He will have to share a bed with a harpooneer.*
8. What has Ishmael's harpooneer been selling around town? *Heads*
9. What is strange about the harpooneer's appearance? *He has tattoos all over his body; he is bald except for a scalp knot on top of his head.*
10. What does the savage do with the tomahawk he pulls from his bag? *Smokes tobacco from it*
11. **Infer:** What does "turning flukes" mean? *Going to sleep; turning in for the night*
12. Ishmael says, "Better to sleep with a _____ than a _____." *Sober cannibal, drunken Christian*
13. Queequeg shaves with what? *Harpoon*
14. What did Queequeg eat the only time he had a stomach ache? *The flesh of his enemies; human flesh*
15. What is written on the plaques that line the sides of the whaleman's chapel? *The ways whalemen died at sea*

16. What does Ishmael mean when he says, "This physical body is but the lees of my better being?" *He feels his body is only a small part of who he is; his spirit is the important part of his being.*
17. How does Father Mapple climb up into his pulpit? *Using a rope ladder*
18. Father Mapple says, "If we would obey God, we must..."? *Disobey ourselves*
19. What Biblical character is the subject of Father Mapple's sermon? *Jonah*
20. Ishmael says you cannot hide what? *The soul*
21. How did Queequeg come to be in America? *He stowed away on a ship that came by his island.*
22. What two gifts does Queequeg give to Ishmael? *A shrunken head and half his money*
23. **Allusion:** In the Bible Ishmael is the son of Abraham. Abraham sends Ishmael and Ishmael's mother out to wander in the desert; therefore, the name *Ishmael* implies someone who is a wanderer, a loner, or an outcast. Does this name fit the character Ishmael? Explain. *Answers may vary.*
24. **Theme:** Based on the way Herman Melville presents Queequeg in *Moby Dick*, what was he trying to say about "civilized" and "savage" people? Explain. *Answers may vary.*
25. **Connect:** Have you ever formed a close friendship with someone who was drastically different from you? Explain the friendship. If you have no friendships with someone drastically different from you, why do you think this is so? *Answers may vary.*

Moby Dick: Part II Reading Guide NAME: _____ SCORE: _____

1. Why do people stare at Ishmael and Queequeg as they travel through the streets of New Bedford?
2. What heroic deed does Queequeg perform aboard the schooner to Nantucket?
3. Who has told Queequeg that it should be Ishmael who picks the ship?
4. For what is the *Pequod* named?
5. Why does Ishmael compare the *Pequod* to a cannibal?
6. **Background:** Who were the Quakers?
7. Who is the captain of the *Pequod*?
8. How did the captain of the ship lose his leg?
9. What is a *lay*?
10. What do Peleg and Bildad argue about?
11. What could Peleg mean when he says Captain Ahab is “an ungodly, god-like” man?
12. What is the biblical significance of Ahab’s name?
13. What is the crazed sailor’s name and what is its biblical significance?
14. How long will the *Pequod* be gone hunting whales?
15. Describe Starbuck, the first mate:
16. Describe Stubb, the second mate:

17. According to Stubb, what is the eleventh commandment?
18. Describe Flask, the third mate:
19. What does Ishmael think he sees through the mist?
20. What does Queequeg use for a seat?
21. What character finally reveals himself at the end of this part of the story?
22. **Foreshadowing:** What are three examples of foreshadowing from this part of the story?
23. **Characterization:** How are Mr. Starbuck and Mr. Stubb, the first and second mate, opposites of one another?
24. **Characterization:** How is Captain Ahab a mysterious character?
25. **Predict:** What could be an explanation of the shadowy forms that Ishmael saw going onto the boat?

Moby Dick: Part II Reading Guide

KEY

1. Why do people stare at Ishmael and Queequeg as they travel through the streets of New Bedford? *They are shocked to see a white man and a "savage" on such friendly terms.*
2. What heroic deed does Queequeg perform aboard the schooner to Nantucket? *He saves a boy from drowning.*
3. Who has told Queequeg that it should be Ishmael who picks the ship? *Yojo; his idol*
4. For what is the *Pequod* named? *A race of extinct Native Americans*
5. Why does Ishmael compare the *Pequod* to a cannibal? *It is decorated with whale bones.*
6. **Background:** Who were the Quakers? *A religious group who did not believe in violence of any kind*
7. Who is the captain of the *Pequod*? *Captain Ahab*
8. How did the captain of the ship lose his leg? *A whale bit it off.*
9. What is a *lay*? *A portion of the profits that each man on the whaleship receives*
10. What do Peleg and Bildad argue about? *How much to pay Ishmael*
11. What could Peleg mean when he says Captain Ahab is "an ungodly, god-like" man? *He is a man who does not regard God but acts like he is a god himself.*
12. What is the biblical significance of Ahab's name? *Ahab was a wicked king that defied God.*
13. What is the crazed sailor's name and what is its biblical significance? *Elijah; Elijah was a prophet that opposed Ahab.*
14. How long will the *Pequod* be gone hunting whales? *Three years*
15. Describe Starbuck, the first mate: *A tall, thin, careful man; the first mate of the ship*
16. Describe Stubb, the second mate: *A carefree, easygoing man; the second mate of the ship*

17. According to Stubb, what is the eleventh commandment? *Thou shalt not think.*
18. Describe Flask, the third mate: *A short, angry man; the third mate of the ship*
19. What does Ishmael think he sees through the mist? *Shadows boarding the ship*
20. What does Queequeg use for a seat? *A sleeping sailor*
21. What character finally reveals himself at the end of this part of the story? *Ahab*
22. **Foreshadowing:** What are three examples of foreshadowing from this part of the story? *The mysterious message of Elijah, the Pequod being named for an extinct tribe of Native Americans, various characters saying cryptic things about Captain Ahab, etc.*
23. **Characterization:** How are Mr. Starbuck and Mr. Stubb, the first and second mate, opposites of one another? *Starbuck seems serious and responsible while Stubb is always laughing and seems carefree.*
24. **Characterization:** How is Captain Ahab a mysterious character? *He has prophecies spoken about him; he remains hidden until later in the story; Elijah makes strange statements about him.*
25. **Predict:** What could be an explanation of the shadowy forms that Ishmael saw going onto the boat? *Answers may vary.*

1. What becomes Ishmael's Yale and Harvard?
2. **Analyze:** How is the *Pequod* a symbol of the United States?
3. Describe Tashtego:
4. Describe Daggoo:
5. Describe Pip:
6. What type of scar does Ahab have on his body?
7. What sound keeps the crew awake at night?
8. Stubb says that Ahab goes where each night?
9. Why does Ahab almost attack Stubb?
10. What does Ahab throw into the sea? Why does he do this?
11. For what type of whale does Ahab order his men to look?
12. What does Ahab offer to the man who first spots the whale?
13. What do all the men of the *Pequod* (except Starbuck) swear?
14. Why will Starbuck not swear this oath?
15. How does Ahab view Moby Dick as more than just a whale?
16. Ahab says, "I'd strike _____ if it insulted me."

17. What ritual does Ahab make the men perform?
18. Why does the whiteness of the whale disturb Ishmael?
19. What strange noise does Ishmael hear on the night watch?
20. When whales are first spotted, what mysterious figures appear on the *Pequod*?
21. How does this explain an earlier mystery?
22. What ends the crew's first whale hunt?
23. What does the crew spy for many nights thereafter? What is it said to be?
24. **Characterization:** What details does Melville give us to highlight Ahab's obsession?
25. **Connect:** Why is it important to be careful what type of leader you follow?

Moby Dick: Part III

KEY

1. What becomes Ishmael's Yale and Harvard? *The Pequod or a whaleship*
2. **Analyze:** How is the *Pequod* a symbol of the United States? *It is made of people from all over the world who work toward a common goal. It also has thirty crewmen, which is how many states the United States had at the time of Moby Dick's publication.*
3. Describe Tashtego: *A Native-American harpooneer*
4. Describe Daggoo: *An African-American harpooneer*
5. Describe Pip: *The African-American cabin boy*
6. What type of scar does Ahab have on his body? *A white mark that runs from the crown of his head to his toes*
7. What sound keeps the crew awake at night? *Ahab pacing back and forth across the deck*
8. Stubb says that Ahab goes where each night? *Down into the hold*
9. Why does Ahab almost attack Stubb? *Stubb asks Ahab if he would mind not walking the decks at night.*
10. What does Ahab throw into the sea? Why does he do this? *His pipe. He does this because a pipe is for someone who is relaxing, and he is on a mission of revenge.*
11. For what type of whale does Ahab order his men to look? *A white whale*
12. What does Ahab offer to the man who first spots the whale? *A golden doubloon*
13. What do all the men of the *Pequod* (except Starbuck) swear? *To hunt Moby Dick to the death*
14. Why will Starbuck not swear this oath? *He believes it is blasphemy (or unholy) to pursue an animal for revenge.*
15. How does Ahab view Moby Dick as more than just a whale? *Ahab believes there is some evil lurking behind Moby Dick, and he hopes to destroy that evil by attacking Moby Dick. Moby Dick is just a mask for the evil.*
16. Ahab says, "I'd strike _____ if it insulted me." *The sun*

17. What ritual does Ahab make the men perform? *He makes them drink from a goblet and swear to hunt Moby Dick.*
18. Why does the whiteness of the whale disturb Ishmael? *It seems eerie and unnatural.*
19. What strange noise does Ishmael hear on the night watch? *The sound of someone down in the hold.*
20. When whales are first spotted, what mysterious figures appear on the *Pequod*? *Ahab's secret crew*
21. How does this explain an earlier mystery? *When Ishmael saw shadows boarding the ship before it departed, it was this crew sneaking aboard.*
22. What ends the crew's first whale hunt? *A squall or storm*
23. What does the crew spy for many nights thereafter? What is it said to be? *A spout; it is said to be Moby Dick drawing them forward.*
24. **Characterization:** What details does Melville give us to highlight Ahab's obsession? *He cannot sleep; he paces the deck; he throws away his pipe; he has secreted a special crew aboard; he makes the crew partake in a strange ritual; he says he would strike the sun if it insulted him.*
25. **Connect:** Why is it important to be careful what type of leader you follow? *Answers may vary.*

1. **Analyze:** What relationship does there seem to be between Ahab and Fedallah?
2. According to Stubb, what is Fedallah's true identity and what is his purpose for being aboard the *Pequod*?
3. What are some rumors about Moby Dick that make him seem supernatural?
4. **Analyze:** When Daggoo is holding Flask on his shoulders, what does Ishmael observe about them? How is this symbolic?
5. What type of creature rises from the deep?
6. What makes the harpoon line dangerous? How does Ishmael view this symbolically?
7. What is a whale's "flurry"?
8. What does Stubb command Daggoo to cut from the whale?
9. Queequeg and Daggoo are lowered over the side of the ship to do what?
10. **Analyze:** Queequeg says whatever god created the shark must be a what? Why is this comment ironic?
11. What great "surgical feat" does Stubb boast he can perform in ten minutes?
12. What is a monkey-rope? How does Ishmael view this symbolically?
13. What happens in the try works?

14. **Analyze:** Why does the sight of the harpooners feeding the fire of the try works remind Ishmael of Ahab's soul?
15. **Analyze:** Ahab questions what object for information about Moby Dick? What does this show us about Ahab?
16. Why is Tashtego stabbing a well-like hole in the whale's head?
17. How does Tashtego almost die?
18. Who saves him and how?
19. What is a "gam"?
20. Who does the crazed prophet aboard the *Jeroboam* claim to be?
21. How did one of the *Jeroboam's* crew members die?
22. The *Pequod* tries to give what to the crew of the *Jeroboam*?
23. What prophecy does the prophet make about Ahab?
24. **Analyze:** How is the name of the *Jeroboam* symbolic?
25. **Analyze:** What is strange about Fedallah and Ahab's shadow? How is this symbolic?

Moby Dick: Part IV Reading Guide

KEY

1. **Analyze:** What relationship does there seem to be between Ahab and Fedallah? *Fedallah seems to be Ahab's spiritual advisor, his prophet, or his high priest.*
2. According to Stubb, what is Fedallah's true identity and what is his purpose for being aboard the *Pequod*? *Stubb says that Fedallah is the devil, and he is making a deal with Ahab for his soul.*
3. What are some rumors about Moby Dick that make him seem supernatural? *He can be seen in one ocean one day and in another the next; he has lived for many years; he has survived many attacks and wrecked many whaleboats.*
4. **Analyze:** When Daggoo is holding Flask on his shoulders, what does Ishmael observe about them? How is this symbolic? *Ishmael observes that Daggoo seems nobler than Flask, who is seated on his shoulders; this symbolizes the oppression of slaves in America, who were nobler than their cruel masters.*
5. What type of creature rises from the deep? *A giant squid*
6. What makes the harpoon line dangerous? How does Ishmael view this symbolically? *In a whaleboat there are lines whizzing all around you; if you are caught in a line, you will be dragged to your death; Ishmael says that we are always seconds from death, and we never realize it.*
7. What is a whale's "flurry"? *The fit it goes into right before it dies*
8. What does Stubb command Daggoo to cut from the whale? *A steak*
9. Queequeg and Daggoo are lowered over the side of the ship to do what? *Kill sharks*
10. **Analyze:** Queequeg says whatever god created the shark must be a what? Why is this comment ironic? *A savage; this is ironic since Queequeg, who is constantly referred to as a savage, is calling someone else a savage in a derogatory way.*
11. What great "surgical feat" does Stubb boast he can perform in ten minutes? *Cutting the head from a whale*
12. What is a monkey-rope? How does Ishmael view this symbolically? *A monkey-rope is a line that attaches one man to another; Ishmael says this symbolizes the way that all human beings are connected to one another.*
13. What happens in the try works? *Whale blubber is boiled down into oil.*

14. **Analyze:** Why does the sight of the harpooners feeding the fire of the try works remind Ishmael of Ahab's soul? *It reminds him of hell; it reminds him of a dark and frightening place, which he equates with Ahab's soul.*
15. **Analyze:** Ahab questions what object for information about Moby Dick? What does this show us about Ahab? *A whale's head; this shows that he is possibly insane.*
16. Why is Tashtego stabbing a well-like hole in the whale's head? *To remove the spermaceti from the whale's head*
17. How does Tashtego almost die? *He falls into the deep hole in the whale's head.*
18. Who saves him and how? *Queequeg saves him by diving into the sea, cutting into the head, and pulling Tashtego out.*
19. What is a "gam"? *A meeting of ships upon the sea where information is traded*
20. Who does the crazed prophet aboard the *Jeroboam* claim to be? *Gabriel the Archangel*
21. How did one of the *Jeroboam* crew members die? *He fell out of the boat while trying to attack Moby Dick.*
22. The *Pequod* tries to give what to the crew of the *Jeroboam*? *A letter*
23. What prophecy does the prophet make about Ahab? *The prophet says that Ahab will soon be going where their dead crew member went (death).*
24. **Analyze:** How is the name of the *Jeroboam* symbolic? *It is the name of an evil king from the Bible. It symbolizes that Ahab is perhaps going against God or acting against the forces of good.*
25. **Analyze:** What is strange about Fedallah and Ahab's shadows? How is this symbolic? *Their shadows join into one. It symbolizes that their characters are connected in some strange way. Fedallah perhaps represents the evil within Ahab or the deal he has made with evil forces to achieve his goal.*

1. **Analyze:** How does Ahab destroy the democratic spirit aboard the *Pequod*?
2. What job does Pip have to do to which he is not accustomed?
3. What happens to Pip when Stubb's boat strikes a whale?
4. What cruel remark does Stubb make to Pip after this incident?
5. The next time that Pip has a similar accident what happens to him?
6. How does Pip change after this incident?
7. **Analyze:** Who "adopts" Pip? Why does this character do this?
8. How is Captain Boomer both similar and different from Captain Ahab?
9. **Analyze:** What is Captain Boomer's function in the story? What does he show us about Ahab?
10. Why does Starbuck say the *Pequod* should stop for a few days?
11. How does Ahab threaten Starbuck?
12. **Analyze:** Why does Ahab finally agree to stop the *Pequod*?
13. What happens to Queequeg?
14. What request does Queequeg make of the ship's carpenter?

15. Why does Queequeg suddenly decide to change his fate?

16. What does Queequeg carve into a wooden box?

17. Who is Perth and why did he decide to go whaling?

18. **Analyze:** Ahab asks Perth if he can mend what type of “seam”?

19. Ahab asks Perth to forge what for him?

20. What does Ahab use to “baptize” this item?

21. According to Fedallah, what two types of hearses must Ahab see before he dies?

22. According to Fedallah, who must return from the dead to pilot Ahab to his own death?

23. According to Fedallah, what is the only thing that can kill Ahab?

24. **Analyze:** How does Ahab misinterpret all these prophecies?

25. **Predict:** How could these prophecies be fulfilled?

Moby Dick: Part V Reading Guide

KEY

1. **Analyze:** How does Ahab destroy the democratic spirit aboard the *Pequod*? *Ahab's presence and his domineering nature remind the men of the hierarchy of the ship. They are not equal. They are subservient to his power.*
2. What job does Pip have to do to which he is not accustomed? *Rowing in a whale boat*
3. What happens to Pip when Stubb's boat strikes a whale? *He jumps out of the boat and becomes tangled in the harpoon lines.*
4. What cruel remark does Stubb make to Pip after this incident? *Stubb tells Pip that a whale is worth much more money than Pip is.*
5. The next time that Pip has a similar accident what happens to him? *Pip is left alone in the sea for hours.*
6. How does Pip change after this incident? *He goes insane.*
7. **Analyze:** Who "adopts" Pip? Why does this character do this? *Ahab; perhaps he does this because he feels a kinship with Pip's insanity.*
8. How is Captain Boomer both similar and different from Captain Ahab? *Captain Boomer has been wounded by Moby Dick, but he is not seeking revenge.*
9. **Analyze:** What is Captain Boomer's function in the story? What does he show us about Ahab? *Captain Boomer shows us that Captain Ahab's reaction to Moby Dick is not justified.*
10. Why does Starbuck say the *Pequod* should stop for a few days? *The barrels of whale oil are leaking in the hold.*
11. How does Ahab threaten Starbuck? *He threatens to shoot him.*
12. **Analyze:** Why does Ahab finally agree to stop the *Pequod*? *Answers may vary. Perhaps Ahab is trying to keep Starbuck from mutinying. Or perhaps he temporarily regains his sanity.*
13. What happens to Queequeg? *He becomes ill.*
14. What request does Queequeg make of the ship's carpenter? *To make him a coffin*

15. Why does Queequeg suddenly decide to change his fate? *He remembers that he did not pay his bill at the Spouter Inn.*
16. What does Queequeg carve into a wooden box? *Copies of his tattoos*
17. Who is Perth, and why did he decide to go whaling? *Perth is the ship's blacksmith. He decided to go whaling because he knows it is a miserable life and wants to punish himself.*
18. **Analyze:** Ahab asks Perth if he can mend what type of "seam"? *Ahab asks Perth if he can mend the scar that runs down the length of his body.*
19. Ahab asks Perth to forge what for him? *A harpoon*
20. What does Ahab use to "baptize" this item? *The blood of Queequeg, Tashtego, and Daggoo*
21. According to Fedallah, what two types of hearses must Ahab see before he dies? *One not made by human hands and one made of American wood*
22. According to Fedallah, who must return from the dead to pilot Ahab to his own death? *Fedallah*
23. According to Fedallah, what is the only thing that can kill Ahab? *Hemp or rope*
24. **Analyze:** How does Ahab misinterpret all these prophecies? *Ahab believes that the prophecies mean that he is actually immortal.*
25. **Predict:** How could these prophecies be fulfilled? *Answers may vary.*

1. What scene does Ishmael see in the midst of a whale hunt that reminds him of the serenity the crew sometimes felt?
2. **Analyze:** Why does Ahab feel like he cannot give up his quest for Moby Dick?
3. **Analyze:** Is Ahab totally evil? Explain.
4. **Analyze:** What does the storm symbolize? (Think back to the biblical story of Jonah that was referenced in the first part of *Moby Dick*.)
5. **Background:** What is Saint Elmo's Fire?
6. **Analyze:** What is symbolized by Ahab taking some of Saint Elmo's Fire onto his harpoon and then extinguishing it?
7. What drastic step does Starbuck consider taking toward Ahab?
8. **Analyze:** Why can Starbuck not bring himself to do this thing?
9. For whom or what is the *Rachel* searching?
10. **Analyze:** What does Ahab's reaction to the *Rachel's* quest show us about his humanity?
11. Who wins the gold doubloon that Ahab has offered to the first man to sight Moby Dick?
12. Whom does Ahab make captain in his absence?
13. Who or what comes between Ahab and the jaws of Moby Dick?

14. How has Moby Dick harmed Captain Ahab with his attack?
15. Who was dragged under by a line during the attack?
16. Who replaces one of Captain Ahab's missing crewmen in his whaleboat?
17. What bites at the whaleboats as they sail out for a second time?
18. What is caught in the harpoon lines that crisscross Moby Dick's body?
19. How does this fulfill part of Fedallah's prophecy?
20. Why does the *Pequod* begin to sink?
21. How does this fulfill another part of Fedallah's prophecy?
22. How does Captain Ahab die?
23. **Analyze:** What saves Ishmael from drowning? How is this ironic?
24. **Analyze:** What is Ahab's tragic flaw that leads him to destruction? Explain.
25. **Analyze:** In your opinion was Moby Dick supernatural or just a whale? Explain.

Moby Dick: Part VI Reading Guide

KEY

1. What scene does Ishmael see in the midst of a whale hunt that reminds him of the serenity the crew sometimes felt? *A group of cow and calf whales swimming in the midst of the other whales unaware of the danger all around them*
2. **Analyze:** Why does Ahab feel like he cannot give up his quest for Moby Dick? *He feels like he is bound by fate to complete his mission. He feels he is "fate's lieutenant."*
3. **Analyze:** Is Ahab totally evil? Explain. *Answers may vary.*
4. **Analyze:** What does the storm symbolize? (Think back to the biblical story of Jonah that was referenced in the first part of *Moby Dick*.) *The storm symbolizes the wrath of God.*
5. **Background:** What is Saint Elmo's Fire? *A weather phenomenon in which luminous plasma is created by a coronal discharge from a sharp or pointed object in a strong electric field in the atmosphere (such as those generated by thunderstorms or created by a volcanic eruption)*
6. **Analyze:** What is symbolized by Ahab taking some of Saint Elmo's Fire onto his harpoon and then extinguishing it? *Ahab is claiming to be more powerful than God or a god himself. In other words, he is more powerful than nature.*
7. What drastic step does Starbuck consider taking toward Ahab? *Shooting him with a musket*
8. **Analyze:** Why can Starbuck not bring himself to do this thing? *Answers may vary. Starbuck has a very strict Quaker faith that forbids him to use violence against a fellow human being.*
9. For whom or what is the *Rachel* searching? *A missing portion of the ship's crew, who were lost after being attacked by Moby Dick*
10. **Analyze:** What does Ahab's reaction to the *Rachel's* quest show us about his humanity? *He is totally heartless and refuses to treat others as he would wish to be treated.*
11. Who wins the gold doubloon that Ahab has offered to the first man to sight Moby Dick? *Ahab himself*
12. Whom does Ahab make captain in his absence? *Pip*
13. Who or what comes between Ahab and the jaws of Moby Dick? *The Pequod intervenes.*

14. How has Moby Dick harmed Captain Ahab with his attack? *He bit off his whalebone leg.*
15. Who was dragged under by a line during the attack? *Fedallah*
16. Who replaces one of Captain Ahab's missing crewmen in his whaleboat? *Ishmael*
17. What bites at the whaleboats as they sail out for a second time? *Sharks*
18. What is caught in the harpoon lines that crisscross Moby Dick's body? *Fedallah's body*
19. How does this fulfill part of Fedallah's prophecy? *Either Fedallah would return to pilot Ahab to his own death or Ahab would see a "hearse" made not by human hands*
20. Why does the *Pequod* begin to sink? *Moby Dick rams the ship.*
21. How does this fulfill another part of Fedallah's prophecy? *Fedallah said that Ahab would see a "hearse" made of American wood, which is the sinking ship.*
22. How does Captain Ahab die? *He is caught around the neck by a harpoon line and dragged into the sea.*
23. **Analyze:** What saves Ishmael from drowning? How is this ironic? *Queequeg's coffin. This is ironic because a coffin, which is typically associated with death, saves a man's life. It is also ironic because Queequeg is constantly saving other characters, and he saves Ishmael this final time.*
24. **Analyze:** What is Ahab's tragic flaw that leads him to destruction? Explain. *Answers may vary. Ahab's excessive pride (hubris) is the most obvious answer. He believes he can challenge God or whatever supernatural power he sees lurking behind the mask of Moby Dick.*
25. **Analyze:** In your opinion was Moby Dick supernatural or just a whale? Explain. *Answers may vary.*