

Hey, don't forget your

NAME:

The Pearl: Chapters 4 - 5 Questions

Ch. 4 - Answer questions on a separate sheet of paper in at least 3 complete sentences.

1. On pg. 41, Steinbeck writes, "...let one man step out of the regular thought or the known and trusted pattern, and the nerves of the townspeople ring with nervousness..."

-Have you ever stepped out of the regular thoughts and patterns of a group? What was the situation? What was the result?
2. Steinbeck explains that all of the pearl buyers in La Paz are actually buying for a single larger pearl buyer. When a single person or company controls an entire industry, it is called a monopoly. What do you think could be some of the downsides to a monopoly?
3. On pg. 43, Steinbeck writes, "A vision hung in the air to the north of the city--the vision of a mountain that was over two hundred miles away, and the high slopes of this mountain were swaddled with pines and a great stone peak arose above the timber line."

-Why do you think Steinbeck includes such a lengthy description of a "vision" of a high mountain? What do you think this mountain could symbolize for Kino and his family?
4. Does wealth always bring greed with it? Can someone be wealthy without being greedy? How?

5. Kino decides to head for the capital city to sell his pearl even though the church fathers forbid it. Was it wrong to do so? Why would the church fathers forbid this act?
6. What would you have done in Kino's case? Would you have gone to the capital to sell the pearl, or would you have accepted the price of the pearl buyers? Or would you have done something else entirely?

Ch. 5 - Answer questions on a separate sheet of paper in at least 3 complete sentences.

7. What drives Kino to such extremes (endangering his family, killing a man)? Is it just the pearl itself, or is it some other obsession that is driving him?
8. Does Kino deserve to be punished for killing the man who attacked him on the beach? Why does he flee the town instead of staying to explain that he was attacked?
9. Why do you think Steinbeck describes Kino's attackers as shadowy figures instead of just describing them fully as men?
10. Juana's tries to take the pearl and throw it into the sea. Why does she try to do this? Was what she tried to do *right* or *wrong*? Explain.

tiny font is hard to read,

isn't it?