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The Pearl

THE PEARL

Written by John Steinbeck's

THE GENERAL CONCEPT OF THE PEARL

- The Novel "the Pearl" centers on Greed, Corruption and Obsession of various people, who would like to possess Kino's Pearl for their own greed.
- Kino too is obsessed with the Pearl that he is ready to do anything to protect the Pearl and sell it at a fair price.
- At last Kino has lost his canoe, house and son.

MAIN CAHRACTERS IN THE PEARL

1. Kino:

- ❖ The protagonist of the novell (Novel). He is a simple man who lives in a brush house with his wife, Juana and their son, Coyotito, both of whom he loves very much.
- ❖ He is a young Mexican, Indian man who is satisfied with his life up until he discovers the Pearl.
- ❖ His discovery of the Pearl, the people around him lead him to lose his most precious objects such as canoe and house including his son.

2. Juana

- ❖ She is Kino's wife. She shows submission and fierce will in the face of threats to her family.
- ❖ When issues surrounding them twist she senses danger and advise her husband to through the Pearl back into the sea. She describes the Pearl as evil.

- ❖ True to her words the family has suffered and lost valuable possessions and in the end Kino takes her advice and throw back the Pearl into the sea.

3. Coyotito

- ❖ Kino and Juana's only son, who is stung by a scorpion while resting in a hammock one morning
- ❖ Because Coyotito is an infant, he is helpless to improve his situation and thus at the mercy of those who provide for him.
- ❖ Kino and Juana's efforts to save him by finding a big pearl with which they can pay a doctor prove to be more harm than good.

4. Juan Tomas

- ❖ Kino's older brother
- ❖ Deeply loyal to his family
- ❖ Juan Tomas supports Kino in all of his endeavors but warns him of the dangers involved in possessing such a valuable Pearl.

5. Apolonia

- ❖ Juana's Tomas wife and the mother of four children.
- ❖ Like her husband, Apolonia is sympathetic to Kino and Juana's plight and she agrees to give them shelter in their time of need.

6. The Doctor

- ❖ He is corrupted by greed and racism.
- ❖ He prefers to treat the rich only to the poor, his charges are too far to the normal.
- ❖ The doctor initially refuses to treat Coyotito but changes his mind after learning that Kino has found a great Pearl.
- ❖ He represents the arrogance, condescension, and greed at the heart of colonial society.

7. THE PRIEST

- ❖ The local priest (Village priest)
- ❖ As a priest, represents moral virtues and goodness but he is just interested in exploiting Kino's wealth as everyone else.
- ❖ He hopes of finding a way to persuade Kino to give him some of the money he will make from the Pearl.

8. THE TRACKERS

- The group of violent and corrupt men that follows Kino and Juana when they leave the village, hoping to steal Kino's Pearl.

9. THE PEARL BUYER/THE BUYER

- The extremely well-organized and corrupt pearl dealers in La Paz. Systematically cheat and exploit the Indian pearl divers who sell them their goods. They desperately long to cheat Kino out of his pearl.

SUMMARY

- The Novel, which was first published in 1947 is about Kino, his wife Juana and son, Coyotito.
- The son, Coyotito, is stung by a scorpion and Kino has no money for treatment.
- He hunts for a pearl valuable enough to cover medical bills.
- He finds a good pearl that ignites jealousy and greed among people of all walks of life.
- As a result selling a pearl at fair price become difficult. He is therefore unable to pay the medical bills.
- In an attempt to go to the capital where he can sell the Pearl at a Fair price ,Coyotito is shot by a tracker.
- Kino believes his wife that the pearl is Evil". He takes is back and throws it into the sea

- By this time, the Pearl has brought more trouble than wealth. He has lost his Canoe, house and son.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

- The story is set in La Paz Mexico. This is rural (area) fishing village and the larger more developed town of La Paz.

JUSTIFICATION

- This is evidenced by the simplicity and hardship of the life of fishing village which is constructed to the easier and more comfortable life of the town.
- Racial problems which evolved from colonial domination.

THE PEARL'S NARRATION

- ❖ The narration is *Third Person Point of View*.

CHAPTER ONE

CHARACTERS

- *Kino*
- *Juana*
- *Coyotito*
- *Scorpion*
- *Doctor*
- *Neighbours (Juan Thomas, Apolonia)*
- *Servant*

SETTINGS

- The events in the first chapter are set in the rural area

JUSTIFICATION

- This is shown by Kino's family and others living in brush houses, keeping roosters and pigs.

PLOT

- Kino wakes up in the dark of early morning.
- There are roosters and pigs outside his brush house.
- Kino's wife is Juana and his son, Coyotito and is sleeping in a hanging box. This shows that he is an infant.
- Juana is awake. She never sleeps and Kino is awake.
- Kino's attention is outside. He closes his eyes and listens to the song of the leaves of the beach outside. The song is called the song of the family. People have been hearing this song for many years.
- Juana gets up, checks on their son and makes corn cakes on a grinding stone for the son.
- Kino comes outside and watches the dawn. A dog curls up near Kino. This is the morning like other mornings.
- Juana, Kino's wife, sings a family song that is warm, safe and whole.
- Kino and his wife take breakfast together without talking. There is no enmity but they do not need speech to communicate.
- After breakfast, Kino and his wife see scorpion. Kino hears song of the evil believing something bad has happened, but Juan prays silently.
- Kino moves silently across the room and reaches his hand towards scorpion. The scorpion releases its poisonous tail in reaction.
- Coyotito shakes the cradle where scorpion hangs. Then it falls.
- Kino quickly grabs the scorpion and mashes it into pieces (paste), but it has already

stung Coyotito.

- Kino quickly carries the screaming baby, Coyotito and tries to suck out the poison, Kino is helpless.
- The screaming (crying) of the baby has made the neighbours to come. These neighbours are Juan Tomas, his fat wife Apolonia and their four children.
- The people gathered have an ill feeling in their mind that the baby may die. Juana, Coyotito's mother does not believe like others but believes that their son will be better, therefore she tells Kino, her husband to get a doctor.
- The people around Kino's house express doubt that a doctor may come to poor people like Kino and his wife.
- The doctor is known for attending to rich people who live in plaster abodes in town unlike people in brush houses like them.
- Juana can listen to the onlookers, she insisted to go to the doctor. The people followed him.
- As they are going to the doctor, the beggars watch them. They know how cruel the doctor is and have a sting conviction that they will not be assisted.
- The white doctor is racist (segregative). He does not assist Mexicans except on high life.
- Upon arrival at the doctor's house, Kino knocks the door. The servant comes and opens the gate. Kino informs him their visits. The servant refuses to answer in the same old language Kino uses.
- The servant informs the doctor. He is sitting in his bed dressed in his gown of "Red Watered Silt that had come from Paris". The doctor is drinking from a cup of egg shell china in a silvery tray. His room has religious paintings.
- When the doctor is informed of the News he declares that the servant should tell Kino that he is not a Veterinary and does not deal with Indians.
- Later, the doctor asks if they had money. The servant comes back to Kino. He gives him

small eight pearls that are valueless.

- The servant takes the pearls to the doctor who refuses them. They are brought back and his servant lies that the doctor has gone out.
- Kino is ashamed. He stands at the gate for a long time. He strikes the gate in anger with his fist. His knuckles split open.
- Kino goes back home while frustrated
- Songs mentioned in the Pearl.
 - ❖ *Song of the family and its variations*
 - ❖ *The song of the evil*
 - ❖ *The song of the undersea*
 - ❖ *The song of Pearl that might be*
 - ❖ *The song of enemy*

SYMBOLISM IN THE PEARL

- ✓ Scorpion often symbolizes the corruption of innocent, also represents arbitrary and unmotivated evil that exist in mankind.
- ✓ The doctor represents colonial establishment

CHARACTER ANALYSIS

1. KINO

a) Violent Temper

- He reacts violently to the scorpion which bites the son.
- When the doctor refuses to treat Coyotito he gets angry and punches the gates.

b) Loving

- He loves his wife and child

c) Superstitious

- Believes in the songs of the family and evil

2. JUANA

a) Caring and Dutiful

- She works up in the morning and takes care of Kino and child.

b) Religious and Pragmatic

- When Coyotito is attacked by Scorpion she says prayers for protection and calls for the doctor.

3. DOCTOR

a) Racists

- He does not want to treat Indians. To him Indians are animals.

b) Selfish

- He does not come out to hear Kino's problem.

c) Greedy / Money Hungry

- He wants to help Kino on one condition, if he has enough money.

THEMES IN CHAPTER ONE

1. Racism

- This is shown by the doctor who does not want to assist the Indians.

2. Superstition

- Kino believes in family and evil song.
- He believes the scorpion as the symbol of evil.

3. Selfishness

- This is shown by the doctor who does not want to assist Indians.

CHAPTER TWO

CHARACTERS

- *Kino*
- *Juana*

SETTING

- The events happen in two near the beach of an estuary at the rural area

JUSTIFICATION

- The presence of Canoe that are seen coming from Nayarit and the presence of wild pigs and dogs roaming the beach looking for food.

PLOT

- Kino and his family go to their canoe which one thong of value, Kino owns in this world.
- The canoe which Kino has possessed was given to him by his grandfather.
- This time Coyotito's condition is getting worse. The swelling from the scorpion's sting has improved up from his shoulder towards his face.
- Juana puts a poultice of sea weed over the wound. This seems to be better treatment than doctor could have done.
- Kino's wife prays silently that Kino should find a Pearl in water valuable, enough for medical bill at the doctor.
- Kino paddle out. They pass through the Oyster bed that is littered, cracked and opened. These Pearls once made the King of Spain rich.
- Pearls are made when an Irritant; usually parasite and not the proverbial grain of sand works its way into the Oyster, Mussel or clam.
- As defense mechanism, a fluid is used to coat the irritant. Layer upon layer of this coating called nacre, is deposited until lustrous Pearl is formed.

- Kino dives to the bottom with the help of heavy rock. He manages to fill his basket with unopened Oysters and while he hears “the song of the Pearl that might be.
- Kino was a well-known expert. He manages to stay under water for two full minutes looking for the best Oysters. He gets a very big Oyster slightly opened which contains something in it. He comes to the surface with it.
- Juana noticed Kino’s excitement and deliberately looks away. She believes expecting too much drives lucky way. She advises him to open the big oyster and a valuable Pearl is found.
- Juana noticed that Coyotito’s swelling has gone down. The poison is leaving his body.
- Kino shouts in excitement and that has made other Canoes to paddle over his boat.

Symbolism

- The Pearl in this chapter symbolises human kind underlying greed and selfishness

CHARACTERIZATION

1. KINO

a) Responsible

- He tries to source a pearl that can be sold for his son’s treatment

b) Courageous and Strong

- He is able to gather Oyster under water for a full two minutes.

c) Overexcited / Extravert

- Shows his excitement upon discovering the valuable Pearl. This has attracted other to his boat.

d) Skillful

- He is well known expert, he stays and at full minutes looking for the best Oyster.

2. JUANA

a) Creative

- Puts poultice of sea weed over the wound and the swelling has gone down.

b) Religious

- Prays silently for Kino's success in the ocean.

c) Calm

- When Kino gets the valuable pearl deliberately looks away because she holds belief that much expectation drives lucky away.

THEMES

1. Responsibility

- Kino tries to source a Pearl that can be sold for his son's treatment

2. Courage

- Kino is able to gather Oyster under water for two full minutes

3. Excitement

- Kino becomes over excited upon discovering the valuable Pearl.

4. Religious Believe

- Juana believe God, that is why she prays for Kino for success in the ocean.

CHAPTER THREE

CHARACTERS

- *Kino*
- *Juana*
- *The Priest*

- *The Shopkeeper*
- *The Doctor*
- *Pearl Buying Officer*
- *Juan*
- *Apolonia*

SETTING

- The chapter has two settings, rural and urban.

JUSTIFICATION

- It is rural area because of the presence of Kino's brush house.
- It is in urban area because of the presence of doctor, the town, Pearl year and shopkeeper.

PLOT

- The News that Kino has found a big Pearl spread everywhere like bush fire
- The news had drawn different reactions among the following individuals

1. the priest

- When the priest hears about the Pearl, he thinks that it can be sold and the be used for church repairs

2. The Shopkeeper

- Thinks that will sell clothes to Kino after he has sold his Pearl

3. The Doctor

- He realizes that he did not treat Kino's child because he could not afford treatment. This time Kino is likely to come back to him. The money he will get can help him buy "Paris and Fine dining".

4. Pearl Buying Officer

- They think of buying that pearl at the lowest possible price
- The officers are agents buying pearls on behalf of the people
- Kino is a hardworking and self-serving man. Therefore becomes an enemy of everyone. Everyone knows what the pearl could do for him. Therefore, they consider Kino as somebody who is standing on their way.
- Kino and Juana are at Kino's brother Juan alongside Juan's wife, Apolonia. Kino explains what he will do once he get rich.
- Kino says he would do the following when he get rich:
 - 1) Would like to marry his wife officially in church because he can pay for it
 - 2) He wants to buy a rifle
 - 3) His son Coyotito would go to school
- He seems scared of his talking and doubts if the Pearl will do it all.
- The priest then visits Kino's family. He comes to flatter Kino. He puts his two cents and explains how they should donate money to the church. Juana kindly receives the message and the Priest leaves.
- Meanwhile Kino is distracted by evil song which is competing with the song of the Pearl
- All the people came at Kino's house have gone back to their homes for the night. Kino sits around and discovered that many are plotting against him. Therefore, he thinks of protecting himself from the plot (Thinks of counter plot)
- In the course of thinking of protecting himself (his counter) plot, two men with a tool box. He is a doctor and his servant. The doctor tells him that he had been out and has come back to see Kino's baby.
- Kino tells the doctor that his baby is better. The doctor says that sometimes scorpion stings seem to get better when really are getting worse.
- The doctor looks at Coyotito and says the poison is holed up on inside. He then

gives the child a capsule which we speculate contains poison. The doctor goes out after giving the baby a capsule.

- Kino wraps up and hides the Pearl
- After the doctor has given the baby the capsule, the baby's condition gets worse. Juana thinks that the doctor was right but Kino is suspicious of the doctor because of the evil song he is hearing.
- The doctor gives Coyotito something else perhaps (antidote) he packs up his bags and asks when Kino will be able to pay the bill.
- Kino promises the doctor that he will pay as soon as he sells the pearl. The doctor asks more about the Pearl and if he can keep it for him in his "safe" (safe place). The doctor travels to the place in the hut where the pearl is hidden.
- After the doctor has gone, Kino hears more evil music, so he moves the pearl to the hole he has dug under his sleeping mat.
- Juana asks Kino who he is afraid and Kino answers "everyone". They go to sleep. Later, he wakes up due to the evil song he hears.
- An intruder comes in the dark and Kino becomes smashed in his head. He managed to chase the person.
- Juana nurses Kino's injury, she declares that the pearl is sin, it is evil and is bringing misfortunes in their family. She also tells Kino to throw it back into the ocean. Kino filled with anger and fear does not listen.
- The following morning Kino digs up the pearl and stares at its beauty while listening to its song. He feels hopeful again.

CHARACTERIZATION

1. PRIEST

a) Selfish

- Thinks of his church and not the life of Kino and his family.

b) Greedy

- He becomes ambitious with Kino's money after he will sell the Pearl.

2. SHOPKEEPER

a) Selfish

- He thinks of clothes he will sell to Kino and the money he may get.

b) Greedy:

- He thinks of doing better for himself.

3. DOCTOR:

a) Wicked

- give baby poison capsule

b) Pretentious

- Pretends that he has been away when Kino came to his house

c) Greedy

- He wants to assist Kino after hearing that he will be rich because of his pearl

4. PEARL BUYERS

a) Cheats

- They would like to buy the pearl at the lowest price.

b) Selfish

- Wants to buy the Pearl at the lowest price at the expense of the poor Kino.

5. JUANA

a) Caring

- Nurses Kino's injury.

b) Cautious and sensitive

- Warns Kino the effects of the pearl to their family.

6. KINO

a) Cautious/ Protective

- Hides the pearl

b) Suspicious

- sees everyone as his enemy

c) Optimistic

- Hopes the pearl shall make the family rich

d) Open

- he tells people what he can do if he gets rich

e) Revengeful

- Count plots against his enemies

THEMES

1. Selfishness

- The priest does not think of the life of Kino but the church.
- The buyers do not think of the welfare of Kino but they think of making profits by buying Kino's pearl at lower price.
- The doctor is also selfish because he does not want to assist Kino only when he hears that Kino has got a Pearl and he will have money.

2. Cheating

- The buyer wants to cheat Kino by buying his pearl at the lower price.

3. Suspicious

- Kino sees that everyone is his enemy because of his pearl.

4. Revenge

- Kino count plots against his enemies.

5. Optimistic

- Kino hopes the Pearl shall make the family rich.

CHAPTER FOUR

CHARACTERS

- *Pearl Buyer*
- *Perl Divers*
- *Kino*
- *Juan*
- *Juan Tomas*
- *Juana*

SETTING

- The event take place in urban area

JUSTIFICATION

- The mentioning of the town called La Paz Baja peninsula in Mexico.

PLOT

- The news that has got a pearl spread the whole town of La Paz. In this time everyone in this town is knowing that Kino is going to sell his Pearl today.
- Most of the time, Pearl buyers try to outdo (compete) with one other in order to buy the pearl.
- The free market in this town follows capitalism system. This system is costly for the merchants.

- To avoid this costly system of capitalism, buyers meet in advance and agree on a price that is far below the pearls actual value
- Pearl divers had decided not to go to work in order to watch Kino sell his pearl. They are waiting with excitement
- Many people stand around and discuss things they would like if they had Kino's pearl. Some say would buy world peace.
- Kino and his family are dressed in their finest clothes and they are on their way to town
- Kino's brother Juan Tomas had cautioned (advised) his brother not to be cheated by the buyers. Juan Tomas also remind Kino if a story their father told them when they were young.
- Other local pearl sellers have sensed that the buyers may not give them fair prices. Therefore, have pooled their pearl and sent them all with one man to the capital in a larger and more just market.
- Then Kino unwraps the pearl and looks forward to the buyer's reaction. The buyers show no reaction at all. The buyer tries to entice Kino with coin which slips and falls into his lap.
- The buyer then looks at Kino's pearl and calls it "Clumsy" for being too big (large). He offers thousand pesos. Kino declares that it is worth fifty thousand pesos.
- The agent tells Kino to go and ask other agents independently the value of the pearl. (These people are working together to keep the price low.)
- Kino goes to the next agent who offers him six hundred. Kino quickly takes away his pearl and declares that will go and sell it at the capital.
- Before Kino leaves, another agent calls him and offer fifteen thousand pesos. Kino refuses to receive that amount.
- The dealer go back to play with their coins. The people who are around (spectators) consider Kino as greedy. They say Kino being poor fifteen hundred pesos could have taken him a long way.

- Kino returns and he is hesitant to go to the capital because had never been away from home before. Not only that but ask he has never been to the capital and does not know the life there.
- The brother Juan, come to see Kino. Kino explains that the buyers are cheats. Juan tells Kino that the buyer have cheated all at their lives.
- Juan Tomas however, is worried of Kino's safety and wishes him well "go with God."
- Kino seems worried, his wife comfort him with her presence. There is nothing she can do other than comforting him. She tries here best to fight the song of the evil with the song of the family.
- During the night, he gets attacked. Juana finds Kino on the ground bleeding from the head. Kino has been hurt from his ear to the chin.
- Having seen that Kino is attacked, Juana tells her husband by repeating that the Pearl is evil and Kino should get rid of it.
- Kino is full of argument and tells her believe me, I am a man.
- Kino then tells his wife the way they should leave the following morning in their canoe for the capital. Finally they got for sleep.

CHARACTERIZATION

1. PEARL BUYERS

a) Cheats

- They offer Kino lowest price

b) Cooperative / United

- They meet in advance and agree on a price that is far below the actual price

c) Greedy

- Wants to make more profits at the expense of the poor.

2. PEARL DIVERS

a) Narrow minded

- They have not gone to work just because they want to see Kino selling his pearl.

3. KINO

a) Optimistic

- He hopes to sell his pearl at the fair price to meet his dreams

b) Superstitious

- Holds the belief that selling the pearl elsewhere is against religion
- He believes that everyone is against him

c) Resolute/ consistent

- He stand on his belief and his plan; he does not allow to sell his pearl at lowest price

d) Courageous

- Although he has been attacked, he continues with his plan of selling the Pearl to the town.

4. JUAN TOMAS

a) Mindful /cautions

- He cautions/reminds Kino not to be cheated by the pearl buyers.

b) Sensitive

- Sensed danger on Kino. He feels that Kino has no safety because of his pearl.

c) Loving

- He cautions his brother not to get cheated by the pearl buyers

5. JUANA

a) Understanding

- She cares more about Kino and comforts him with her presence
- When Kino gets attached she nurses him

b) Superstitious

- She believe that the pearl is evil

THEMES

1. Cheating

- Pearl buyers meet before the pearls sellers have come to make the price so they can cheat the seller

2. Unity/Cooperation

- In unity the pearl buyers they gather and agree the pearl sellers to avoid out of each other.

3. Observation

- Other pearl sellers observed how the buyers buy the pearls, they kept their pearls and sell to other buyers

4. Optimism

- Kino hopes to sell his pearl at the fair price to meet his dreams

5. Superstitious

- Juana believes that the pearl is evil.
- Kino believes that selling the pearl elsewhere is against religion.

CHAPTER 5

CHARACTERS

- *Kino*
- *Juana*

- *Apolonia*
- *Juan*

SETTING

- The events take place in rural area at night.

Justification

- The presence of the word village and the beach.

PLOT

- Juana gets the pearl while Kino is asleep. She silently leave the house
- Kino opens his eyes and sees her like a shadow. He follows Juana to the beach while angry.
- Juana takes the pearl in order to throw it back into the ocean. As she is about to throw the pearl back in to water Kino stops her.
- Kino kicks Juan to the ground and strikes here in the face. He takes the pearl back.
- Juana is terrified and knows that Kino is capable of murder (can kill a person)
- As king is going back home, he is attacked by the thugs. Kino managed to stab the thug with his knife. The pearl falls to ground and got lost.
- Juana knows her husband is a man. This means he is "half insane, half god". Kino will struggle with mountains and oceans even though he has been attached.
- Juana does not of thinking of separating with Kino. She understand and aware of her role. She has to be a woman, to reason, caution and preserve her husband.
- Juana wakes up from the ground; she comes across the pearl (meet by chance) and picks it up. She wonders whether she must throw out back into ocean or not.
- Juana sees two women in darkness. The second man is bleeding form throat.
- Juana forgoes the idea of throwing the pearl back into the water. It is clear that Kino has killed a man because of the pearl. She thinks off throwing the pearl back into the

water because she cannot have peace they all had before they got the pearl.

- Back at home, Kino explains how he lost the pearl. Juana tells him that she manages to retrieve (to get it back).
- Juana advises Kino to rush to the town before Kino is arrested (convicted) of murder. Since he has killed a man that night.
- They start to go out and want to go by water using their canoe. When they set out to their canoe, they discover that someone has knocked a hole in the bottom. This makes Kino to become angry.
- Kino realizes that a boat cannot heal or protect it. This makes Kino become an animal. Therefore, Kino thinks of survival and protection.
- When Kino goes back to his house he discovers that someone has lit his house on fire.
- Kino takes his family and seeks refuge to at his brother's house.
- When Kino arrives with his family at his brother's they found Apolonia, Juan's wife grieving (crying). Apolonia stops crying upon seeing them.
- Juan been the elder brother takes now authority. He tells Kino that the pearl is evil and assured him to hide in his house for a day.
- Juan also advises Kino that should leave for the north to the next evening when they should go and hide.
- The following night Juan wanted to know from Kino if he is willing to have the Pearl destroyed. Kino replies that the Pearl has become his soul, therefore he cannot destroy it.

CHARACTERIZATION

1. KINO

a) Short tempered

- The way had handled his wife when she is about to throw the Pearl back into the ocean.

b) Strong

- He defeats two men intending to attack him.

c) Stubborn

- He does not listen his brother and wife to throw the Pearl back into the ocean.

2. JUANA

a) Forgiving

- She does not divorce her husband Kino for beating her.

b) Cautious

- Cautious her husband to escape to the capital before he convicted of murder.

3. APOLONIA

a. Loving

- She sympathizes with Kino and here house because of the burning of their house.

b. Sympathetic

- She grieves of the burning of the house of Kino and Juana.

4. JUAN

a.) Cautious

- Cautions Kino to leave to the North the following evening for his family to be protected because the pearl they possess is evil.

b.) Sympathetic

- He sympathizes with Kino and his family in every unfortunate situation.

THEMES

1. Courage

- Kino defeats two men intending to attack him

2. Sympathy

- Juan and his wife Apolonia sympathizes with Kino in every unfortunate situation.

3. Anger

- This is portrayed in the way Kino handled his wife when she is about to throw the Pearl back into the sea

CHAPTER SIX

CHARACTERS

- *Kino*
- *Juana*
- *Tracker*

Setting

- The events taken in urban area and on the way to the North towards Lereto, another town on Baja Peninsula

Justification

- The presence of the word town and capital

PLOT

- Kino and his family are going to the capital to sell the pearl at fair price.
- On their way to capital, Kino and his family gets in touch with ancestors while watching the stars and wideness
- Kino hears both the music of the Pearl and the music of the family intermingling
- Kino and his family stop on the road side to hide and rest during the day
- As they were going, Kino is being suspicious and brushes away their foot prints so

that people should not trace them.

- Kino advises Juana on the type of trees to avoid, what bad luck is and many more. Juana knows all this but shows special respect to the husband and listens attentively.
- Juana feels that the journey to the capital might have “been an illusion”. She holds the opinion that the pearl dealers were right.
- Kino disputes (conclude) this by urging that if the pearl were not valuable everyone would not be interested to steal it.
- Kino looks at the Pearl and imagines the wealth he is likely to acquire and things his wealth can buy.
- He thinks of rifle but sees a nameless murdered man on the ground.
- Secondly, Kino says will marry his wife officially in church; this too brings a picture of Juana lying on the ground beaten up.
- Kino puts the pearl back in his pocket when he hears the music of the pearl growing sinister (showing no signs of danger)
- Although it is day time Kino and his family go to sleep and Kino wakes up from a horrible dream. He senses danger and tell his wife to keep the baby quiet.
- Kino sees a group of trackers pass by. These are dangerous men whose senses are sharp. He regards them as a threat because he is carrying the world’s valuable pearl.
- Kino draws his knife and is ready to attack should any need arise.
- Coyotito innocently makes noise and Juana, suckle him to keep quiet.
- Kino is not sure whether he should give up himself to the trackers in order to save his family or not.
- Later, Kino decides that they should hide in mountains. Unfortunately, he has forgotten to hide their track as they go.
- Kino hears the music of the evil. At the mountains they stop to rest and trackers

cannot be seen anymore.

- Kino thinks that it would be better of Juana and Coyotito hide while he goes to the North to sell the Pearl. Juana refuses and they keep moving together.
- Kino leaves decoy (lure) footprints in order to lead trackers off in the wrong direction
- Kino and his family arrive at a water pool, fed by the stream. When he looks down the mountain he sees the trackers coming.
- Kino thinks of hiding in a shadow cave and warns that she must not let Coyotito cry out.
- The trackers camp out by the pool lit a fire. Kino takes of his white clothes in order not to be seen. He comes out the cave and Juana says a protection prayer.
- Kino slowly goes towards the trackers in darkness. He hears the song of the family and the music of the enemy.
- He intends to attack but suddenly the moon rises and there is too much light and holds himself back.
- Coyotito cries out. The trackers think it is just young dog with her pup (mother), and one of the trackers says it must be silenced.
- The man points his gun in the directions of Coyotito and Juana. Kino quickly stabs the man on the neck but it is too late because the gun has already gone off and shot the baby Coyotito.
- Kino stabs two trackers, steals the riffle and shoots the other man between the eyes. He hears Coyotito has been shot dead.
- The family cancels the trip and returns home side by side. Kino carries the rifle while Juana carries her dead baby Coyotito.
- Kino hears the song of the family. He goes back to the water. All what he sees in the pearl is a reflection of evil faces, dead trackers and Coyotito's body.
- The pearl looks ugly, the pearls music is destroyed.

- Kino hands the pearl to Juana but she refuses. Then Kino with anger and grief, he throws the pearl back into the ocean.
- Finally, the music of the pearl cannot be heard any more.

CHARACTERIZATION

1. KINO

a) Suspicious

- He brushes away their foot prints so he cannot be traced by people.

b) Courageous and strong

- Manages to kill the trackers

c) Optimistic

- Believes that he will do a lot when he sells his pearl

2. JUANA

a. Decisive

- She does not allow to remain behind as Kino goes alone to sell a Pearl in the city

b. Superstitious

- She refuses to handle a pearl when Kino gives her, she believes that it is evil.

c. Caring and Loving

- She carries her dead baby back home

3. TRACKERS

a. Greedy

- Attacks Kino because of the pearl he wants to sell in town

b. Evil Minded

- Want to eliminate Kino and his family because of the Pearl

THEMES

1. Suspicion

- Kino does not believe anyone. He thinks everyone is his enemy, hence brushes his finger prints in the road not to be traced by anybody.

2. Greed

- Trackers follow Kino all because of the greedy for the pearl, because they know will get money.

3. Religion and Faith

- Juana prays before taking a hide in the cave.

4. Superstition

- Kino believes in the song of the family and the Pearl

MAJOR THEMES IN THE PEARL

1. OBSESSION

- ✓ Kino dives for pearls in attempt to find one with great value
- ✓ He would like to pay the doctor for Coyotito's treatment after being stung by a Scorpion. He gets one valuable Pearl.
- ✓ Kino considers the pearl as a fulfillment of his dreams for the family. He will acquire new clothes, conduct church wedding with his wife Juana, buy a riffle for himself and pay education expenses for Coyotito.
- ✓ Kino kills a ma when he is attacked in self-defense.
- ✓ Kino savagely beats his wife up when she tries to throw Pearl back into the sea.
- ✓ Kino clings to the pearl until their baby dies. His house is burned, Canoe destroyed.

- ✓ Kino claims that the pearl has become his soul.
- ✓ On the way to the capital he kills three men following them for the pearl.
- ✓ All this is a sign of obsession

2. GREED

- ✓ The news of Kino's pearl has stirred up evil intention from various people. Greed is evil and has infected both the rich and the poor.
- ✓ The doctors, merchants, priest and beggars all think of the pearl in monetary terms.
- ✓ Greed makes people in town to conduct acts of violence against Kino is attempting to still the pearl. Blood is shed.

3. CORRUPTION

- ✓ Corruption has fueled greed. Thus is seen in the lives of individuals and the society at large.
- ✓ The doctor is corrupted by his love of money and fine possession in silk robe. He sits in his beautiful house sipping chocolate from a China cup while he refuses to treat Coyotito, who has been stung by a scorpion. He does this because the baby is an Indian and he says he not a veterinary. He later gives a hand to Kino's pearl.

4. RELIGION

- ✓ Religion is portrayed negatively in the Novel. The priest who is supposed to be a strong pillar and a role model seems corrupt and self-serving.
- ✓ Kino's life has fallen apart even though he is a religious man. Juana has been offering a protection prayer but little seems to have taken place.

- ✓ Based on this religion in the story is not something to be trusted and counted on. It leads to disappointment.

5. PRICE OF WISDOM

- ✓ Juana seems to have the understanding of the impact of clinging to the pearl. She says "It will destroy us all" and even our son.
- ✓ This has come to pass because their house is burnt, Kino's canoe smashed and their son Coyotito shot dead.
- ✓ Juana Tomas too tries to save them from destruction. He says "there is a devil in the pearl". He advises Kino to sell it or throw it back into the ocean in order to pass on the devil.
- ✓ Juan believes that if Kino sells the Pearl he will buy a peace for himself but Kino refuses. He clings to it.
- ✓ Kino beat his wife for trying to throw the pearl back into the ocean. In the end Kino has come to believe that both Juana and Juan were right.
- ✓ Kino personally returns the pearl to the sea after the death of his son, his house burnt and Cone smashed.
- ✓ This is a terrible price to pay for Kino's acquiring wisdom.

6. IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY

- ✓ The family is indicated as the only institution where one can find warmth. When Kino seems to be troubled he finds warmth from his wife Juana.
- ✓ Juana gives warmth to Kino in the following ways: by her presence to him, she nurses Kino's wound when he gets attached.
- ✓ Kino says when he gets rich, will marry his wife Juan through the church. All this because he is satisfied.
- ✓ Kino is accompanied by his family to the market to sell the pearl with high expectations.

- ✓ Juana and Coyotito seem to enjoy Kino's protection as family head.
- ✓ Juana, Kino's brother and his wife sympathizes what Kino pass through. He advices Kino that he should not be cheated by the pearl buyers, when Kino's house is burnt, he offers him accommodation.
- ✓ The family song Kino hears also symbolizes the significance of the family. All in all Kino enjoys the warmth and this shows that the family is the very important institution ever.

7. WEALTH

- ✓ The story shows that wealth has both advantages and disadvantages. He goodness is that it brings joy and one is able to meet needs and fulfill family needs (obligations)
- ✓ Kino feels that once he gets rich will be able to marry his wife through church and send his son to school.
- ✓ On the other hand wealth has challenges, for example; Kino has become center of attraction. Various people plot to attack him and his family and get away with the pearl.
- ✓ Almost everybody wants to cheat Kino in order to get his pearl.
- ✓ In the end his house is burnt to ashes, Canoe smashed and his son Coyotito is shot dead all because of the Pearl.
- ✓ Wealth brings both happiness and insecurity. To addition insecurity perhaps that's why Kino says one of the item he will buy when he get rich is a rifle.

8. GOOD VERSUS EVIL

- ✓ Family is good. It brings warmth and comfort one needs in difficult times.
- ✓ Greed is evil. It makes people envious and filled with self-serving spirit. For example the priest who thinks of church repair and the doctor who needs Paris and furniture.

- ✓ Love is good. It brings consolation of the mind is the best medicine in hard times. For instance Kino beats up his wife because of the pearl, but in the end they reconcile because of the love.

9. GENDER

- ✓ Kino by virtue of being the man he becomes family head and Jun respects all decisions made by Kino there good or bad. The same applies to Juan over Apolonia.
- ✓ Kino is ultimate speaker of the family and everyone should bow down to him.

10. PREMITIVE

- ✓ The pearl has changed the man from civilized and to primitive one. He is scared and a protective beast. He declares that everyone is his enemy and is afraid of everyone.
- ✓ When Kino's wife takes the pearl without his knowledge to throw it back into the sea (ocean) he savagely beats her up.
- ✓ Kino goes further by killing a man who wants to attack him for his pearl. He cuts him on the throat.
- ✓ Finally Kino kills the trackers just to protect his pearl.

REVISION QUESTIONS FROM EACH CHAPTER

CHAPTER ONE

1. Explain the reason why Kino's wife Juana usually wakes up before him?
2. Describe the tone of the Pearl in chapter one.
3. List down the evidence of beliefs in superstition portrayed in chapter one.
4. Outline the characteristics of characters in chapter one of the Pearl

5. State Juana's greatest weakness in chapter one.
6. Who is narrator of the Pearl?
7. Why does the doctor refuse to treat Coyotito in the Pearl?
8. What song does the Kino hears in the Pearl
9. Why symbolism of the scorpion in the Pearl?
10. Contrast the difference between the doctor's house and that of Kino?
11. In the Pearl what is Juana's reaction when she sees scorpion climbing down the rope towards Coyotito's box?

CHAPTER TWO

1. How is the Pearl made?
2. "Juana sensed his excitement and she pretended to look away" Explain?
3. Describe Kino's most valuable possession in chapter 2.
4. What new song does Kino hear in chapter two of the Pearl?
5. What medication has Juana used to the baby's swollen shoulder?
6. What occupation does Kino indulges himself?
7. Explain two reasons why Kino's canoe was so important to him?
8. List down the examples in the Pearl which show that money is important in life.

CHAPTER THREE

1. In what sense Kino becomes Man's enemy in the Pearl?
2. How the doctor is affected greed in the novel of the Pearl?
3. In the Pearl, what does the doctor do when he comes to Kino's house the first time?
4. What are the reactions of the following to news of Kino's Pearl discovery?

- a) The Priest
 - b) Shopkeepers
 - c) Doctor
 - d) Beggars
 - e) Pearl buyers
5. What experience in the chapter three of the pearl makes Kino realize that his innocence has put him at mercy of the people?
 6. Describe the example of foreshadowing in chapter 3
 7. What does the doctor do that is dishonourable?

CHAPTER FOUR

1. Why are the pearl buyers excited about Kino's Pearl?
2. Why did Kino sell his pearl for the offered fifteen hundred pesos?
3. What did the buyer know?
4. Why does Kino keep saying "I am a man" in chapter four of the Pearl?
5. What evidence is there that the Pearl buyers worked together to cheat sellers?

CHAPTER FIVE

1. Who are two people who feel that the Pearl is evil?
2. In what sense Kino becomes every man's enemy?
3. How does Kino kill a man in chapter five of the Pearl?
4. Why does Juana want Kino to throw the Pearl back into the ocean after their return to La Paz?

5. According to the Author; what are the three qualities of a woman.
6. What are the four examples which depict Kino compared to or described as an animal in the Pearl?
7. What does Kino mean when he says Pearl has become his soul?

CHAPTER SIX

1. What reason are portrayed by Kino's actions in the Pearl?
2. How does Kino get in touch with his ancestors on his way to the capital?
3. What could be the reason why Kino hears the music of the family and the pearl intermingling?
4. Explain what has Kino done not to be traced on his way to the capital?
5. How does Juana portrays a role model of the wife?
6. Why Kino's dreams on his way to the capital are seem to be shattered?
7. "Coyotito live in his world of innocence" how true is this statement?
8. Describe the characters of
 - i.) Kino
 - ii.) Juana
 - iii.) Coyotito

EXAMPLES OF ESSAY QUESTIONS

- 1) Describe the character of each of the following using four points.
 - a. The French Doctor
 - b. the Native Indians

- 2) Discuss eight points that show how the theme of curiosity is portrayed in the book "The Pearl."

THE END