*The Alchemist* MeetingDate: 12/3/20

Section: Part 2, pages 51-86

Your Name: Andrew Martin

Group Members’ Names: Abbie Cote, Siobhan Mcmakin

**Step 1: Summarize:** As a group summarize the main events of the chapter.

Santiago helps the crystal merchant and decides to go back to Spain to continue being a shepherd. Before he leaves, he goes to the bar where he was originally scammed. There, he is convinced to follow his dreams. He then joins a caravan with an Englishman who is trying to find a master alchemist to teach him the trade. He talks to the camel driver on the ride and learns how to live in the moment. At the end of the section, they were approaching the oasis.

**Step 2: Quotation Discussion**

Each member of the group shares his/her most significant quotation selection from their reading task and explains why the sentence(s) had such a large impact. After each member shares, each member of the group should respond to the sentence. There should not be a situation where someone shares his/her work and is met with silence. Consider responses such as…

* In addition to what was said, I’d add…
* Because of this moment, I thinlk\_\_will happen..
* I didn’t think of it that way…I had thought of…
* I like what was said because…
* This makes me wonder/think about…
* I also found that sentence meaningful because…
* This point connects well with…

Each group member should share a different sentence. You may not respond with “mine were already taken”.

**Step 3: Group Reflection**

After your circle has shared and discussed each quotation, reflect on what was said and how group members responded by answering **one** of the questions below in complete sentences (aim to fill the space).

1. What does Santiago learn from the camel driver and the caravan on his journey through the desert?  How is what Santiago learns different from what the Englishman experiences?
2. Compare the Englishman’s search for the alchemist with Santiago’s search for a treasure.  What characteristics/elements do they share?  How do their journeys differ?
3. When the Englishman and Santiago discover they are both carrying the same stones they both recognize their encounter as an omen.  Are all omens coincidences or luck as the Englishman believes?  What are the different types of omens?  How is Santiago’s perspective of omens different from the Englishman’s?  How do omens remind one of the past?  How is the Englishman a representation of Santiago’s past and an omen for his future?

SPACE TO RECORD YOUR RESPONSES IS ON THE BACK

Question # 1

Santiago learned how to enjoy life in the present tense. He learns how to enjoy the moment and not care about what happens to him. He helps him be aware of what is around him, and how to deal with anything that comes up. This allows him to fully experience the world without worry or regret.

**Step 4: Summing it Up**

Create a list of **3 “BIG IDEAS/QUESTIONS”** that resulted from the share session and discussion. You can list terms, themes, motifs, characters, symbols, historical implications, or connections you may have come across when sharing the quotations. In deciding “BIG IDEAS/QUESTIONS” be mindful that these are not ideas/questions that can be answered with a “yes” or “no”. These ideas/questions should have sparked more questions/discussions within your group, and would also do so in a whole class discussion.

* Once a dream is realized and achieved, does life still have a purpose?
* Is change always good?
* Is living only in the moment beneficial?