“The Help” Movie Questionnaire

**-Directions:** While you are watching the movie, please answer the following questions.

1. How many (white) babies did Aibileen raise during her career?
2. Fill in the blanks: “You is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. You is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. You is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
3. How much did Aibileen make monthly?
4. Why does Hilly refuse to use the guest bathroom at Elizabeth Leefolt’s house?
5. What does Skeeter’s mother really want her daughter to achieve or have?
6. Skeeter calls Ms. Stein to run a book idea by her. What is it?
7. How does Aibileen react to Skeeter’s proposal?
8. How does Elizabeth Leefolt’s husband feel about the extra bathroom his wife (and Hilly) wants to build for the help?
9. Why doesn’t Aibileen want to help Skeeter with her book?
10. Skeeter reads a copy of the Jim Crow laws. What does she learn could happen to her for writing this book?
11. Not only does Minny get herself in trouble at work, but she has to face certain problems at home, too. What is the problem at home?
12. Why does Aibileen decide to help Skeeter?
13. Who is Minny’s new employer?
14. How is Celia different from the other white women?
15. Why doesn’t Celia want her husband to know that she hired a maid?

16. Why does Skeeter storm away from her date, Stuart?

17. How does Ms. Stein feel about the book/interviews?

18. What happened to Aibileen’s son?

19. How did Skeeter humiliate Hilly?

20. Why did Hilly have Yule Mae arrested?

21. How does Celia resolve to make things right with Hilly?

1. What mistake does Celia make at the auction? (There are multiple answers. You only have to give one.)
2. Why did Charlotte, Skeeter’s mother, really fire Constantine?
3. What did Skeeter do with the money she earned from the publication of her book?
4. How does Stuart react to Skeeter’s book?

Directions: While you are watching the movie, please answer the following questions.

1. When was the narrator, Aibileen Clark, born? She was born in 1911.
2. How did Aibileen know that she would be a maid? Her mama and her grandmamma were both maids and house maids.
3. How many (white) babies did Aibileen raise during her career? She raised 17 (white) babies.
4. Fill in the blanks: “You is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. You is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. You is

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” “You is smart. You is kind. You is important.”

1. How much did Aibileen make monthly? She made $182 a month. Those were her wages.
2. What is the setting of the story? It is set in Jackson, Mississippi during the early 1960s.
3. What is different about Miss Eugenia “Skeeter” Phelan? She is not like the other ladies. She doesn’t have a man. She doesn’t have any babies.
4. Why does Skeeter give the editor-in-chief a rejection letter as a reference? It says she has potential, but she needs to get experience.
5. How was Aibileen able to get through the loss of her son? Minny, her best friend helped her, and God helped her too.
6. Why does Miss Skeeter need Aibileen’s assistance? Her own housekeeper, Constantine quit. She needs someone to help her write the answers to the Ms. Myrna column.
7. Who is Celia Foote? She is “the tacky girl Johnny married.” Johnny is Hilly’s ex-boyfriend.
8. Why does Hilly refuse to use the guest bathroom at Elizabeth Leefolt’s house? She won’t use the same bathroom as the help.

Directions: While you are watching the movie, please answer the following questions.

1. Why does Skeeter think Constantine quit? She went to live with her daughter, Rachel.
2. What does Skeeter’s mother really want her daughter to achieve or have? She really wants her daughter to get married.
3. Why is Skeeter so upset with her mother? Her mother fired Constantine. Skeeter felt like

Constantine raised her. She had been with the family for 29 years, so it just doesn’t seem right to fire her.

1. Skeeter calls Ms. Stein to run a book idea by her. What is it? She wants to write a book from the point-of-view of the help.
2. How does Aibileen react to Skeeter’s proposal? She walks away from Miss Skeeter.
3. How does Elizabeth Leefolt’s husband feel about the extra bathroom his wife (and Hilly) wants to build for the help? He’s furious. He says they don’t have the money.
4. Why does Hilly fire Minny? Instead of going outside in the thunderstorm, Minny just uses the inside bathroom.
5. How does Mae Mobley feel about Aibileen? She says that Aiby is her real mama.
6. Why doesn’t Aibileen want to help Skeeter with her book? People have been attacked before for no good reason. This would be a real reason.
7. Skeeter reads a copy of the Jim Crow laws. What does she learn could happen to her for writing this book? She could go to prison.
8. Not only does Minny get herself in trouble at work, but she has to face certain problems at home, too. What is the problem at home? Her husband is abusive. He throws things at her.
9. Why does Aibileen decide to help Skeeter? She hears a sermon about being courageous and helping others.

Directions: While you are watching the movie, please answer the following questions.

1. When Aibileen tries to give Skeeter answers, she struggles. So, she suggests

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. So, she suggests writing her stories and giving them to Skeeter.

1. Who is Minny’s new employer? She now works for Celia Foote.
2. How is Celia different from the other white women? She is nice to Minny. She offers her soda and gives her a hug.
3. Why doesn’t Celia want her husband to know that she hired a maid? She wants him to think she can do it all on her own.
4. How does Aibileen really feel about Elizabeth Leefolt, her employer? She says that Ms. Leefolt should not be allowed to have babies. She doesn’t take care of Mae Mobley.
5. How did Minny’s first session with Skeeter work? They ended up talking all night and then deciding that they needed to recruit more maids.
6. Why does Skeeter storm away from her date, Stuart? He insults her and says she is just after a husband.
7. How does Ms. Stein feel about the book/interviews? She loves it/them, but she wants more.
8. What happened to Aibileen’s son? He fell at work, people trampled him, and the white foreman dumped him at the “colored” hospital. He honked the horn as he left.
9. Every time Hilly asks about her “initiative”, Skeeter says she’s been busy with her mama. What is the real excuse for ignoring Hilly and her “initiative”? Skeeter doesn’t agree with Hilly.
10. How did Skeeter humiliate Hilly? She put in the newsletter to drop off old commodes at Hilly’s house.
11. Instead of riding the bus home, why did Aibileen and Henry have to run? A black man was shot by the KKK.

Directions: While you are watching the movie, please answer the following questions.

1. Minny breaks in on Celia one morning. What does she find? Celia lost the baby.
2. Why does Celia think Johnny will be upset? He wants children, but she can’t have them.
3. Why did Hilly have Yule Mae arrested? When Yule Mae tried to pawn the ring, Hilly found out her property had been stolen. So, she had the guilty party arrested.
4. How do “the help” react to the arrest? They all decide to tell their stories and help Skeeter.
5. How does Celia resolve to make things right with Hilly? She is going to explain that she is not a boyfriend stealer.
6. What advice does Celia give Minny? She should fight back against her husband.
7. What’s Minny’s idea of “insurance”? She wants to talk about the “terrible, awful” thing she did to Miss Hilly. She made a chocolate pie, and put some of her feces in it. Hilly ate two slices.
8. What mistake does Celia make at the auction? (There are multiple answers. You only have to give one.) She gets drunk and humiliates herself in front of Hilly. She tears Hilly’s sleeve. She (thinks she) buys Minny’s pie for Hilly. She vomits all over the place.
9. Why did Mrs. Walters sign up Hilly for Minny’s pie? She’s mad that Hilly put her in a nursing home. She wanted to embarrass Hilly.
10. Why did Charlotte, Skeeter’s mother, really fire Constantine? Rachel, Constantine’s daughter, barged in during a Daughter’s of America luncheon and she embarrassed Charlotte. She asked Rachel to leave, but Constantine had to go too because the club president all but demanded it.
11. Why can’t Skeeter go to Constantine? Constantine already passed away.
12. What did Skeeter do with the money she earned from the publication of her book? She split it up between the maids. She gave them all $46.

Directions: While you are watching the movie, please answer the following questions.

1. How does Stuart react to Skeeter’s book? He’s upset. He thinks she’s selfish. He doesn’t agree with her, so they break up right away.
2. When Hilly comes to confront Skeeter, how does it turn out? Skeeter’s mom tells Hilly off and forces her to leave the property.
3. Why does Charlotte, Skeeter’s mom, want to take Skeeter shopping? She wants to buy her a new wardrobe for New York. It is her way of showing that she supports her daughter.
4. Why is Charlotte proud of Skeeter? She was courageous.
5. What does Johnny believe Minny did for Celia? Minny saved her.
6. How did the meal Celia cooked inspire Minny? It gave her the strength to take the kids and leave Leroy, her husband.
7. Why do Aibileen and Minny tell Skeeter to take the job in NYC? (There are multiple answers. You only have to give one.) She has burned her bridges in this town. Her mother is getting better, so she isn’t needed at home. She won’t be able to find another man in Jackson. They can take care of each other. They say, “Go find your life, Miss Skeeter.”
8. How does Hilly take out her rage on Aibileen? She tries to frame her for stealing silverware. She fires her from Elizabeth’s house.
9. How does Aibileen threaten Hilly? She says she will tell what she knows about Hilly.
10. What made Aibileen feel free? Telling the truth helped set her free.

Post-viewing:

1. Which character did you like best? Why?
2. Make a prediction: What do you think happened to Skeeter after she left Jackson?

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Directions: After you have finished watching the movie, meet in a small group. With your group members, answer the following questions. One person in the group should record the answers.

1. Who is the “hero” in this story? (Explain your answer.)
2. Who is the “villain” of the movie? (Be sure to provide a reason why you selected this character.)
3. What is the theme of the movie?
4. What do you think the director or the screenplay writer wanted you to take away from this viewing experience?

1. Consider the setting of the story. How would the movie be different if the setting were changed?

(For instance, what if the movie were set in Ohio in the year 2016?)

1. How would the story change if Skeeter had first approached Minny for help with the book? (Be sure to thoroughly explain your reaction.)
2. Think about the relationships presented throughout the film. Select two of them. (That’s four characters total.) Summarize the relationship. Then, analyze how the relationship changed over the course of the film.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Who is the “hero” in this story? (Explain your answer.)

# RL. 11-12. 1

*Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.*

Depth of Knowledge Level 3 (Strategic Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 2 (Understand)

1. Who is the “villain” of the movie? (Be sure to provide a reason why you selected this character.) RL. 11-12. 1

*Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.*

Depth of Knowledge Level 3 (Strategic Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 2 (Understand)

1. What is the theme of the movie?

# RL. 11-12. 2

*Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.* Depth of Knowledge Level 4 (Extended Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 4 (Analyze)

4. What do you think the director or the screenplay writer wanted you to take away from this viewing experience?

# RL. 11-12. 3

*Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).*

Depth of Knowledge Level 4 (Extended Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 4 (Analyze)

5. Consider the setting of the story. How would the movie be different if the setting were changed? (For instance, what if the movie were set in Ohio in the year 2016?)

# RL. 11-12. 3

*Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).*

Depth of Knowledge Level 4 (Extended Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 4 (Analyze)

1. How would the story change if Skeeter had first approached Minny for help with the book? (Be sure to thoroughly explain your reaction.) RL. 11-12. 5

Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact. Depth of Knowledge Level 4 (Extended Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 4 (Analyze)

1. Think about the relationships presented throughout the film. Select two of them. (That’s four characters total.) Summarize the relationship. Then, analyze how the relationship changed over the course of the film.

# RL. 11-12. 2

*Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.* Depth of Knowledge Level 4 (Extended Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 4 (Analyze)

**By watching the film, and answering the questions, students will be completing:**

RL. 9-10. 7; RL. 11-12.7

Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem (e.g., recorded or live production of a play or recorded novel or poetry), evaluating how each version interprets the source text. (Include at least one play by Shakespeare and one play by an American dramatist.)

Depth of Knowledge Level 4 (Extended Thinking); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 4 (Analyze)

Directions: After you have finished watching the movie, write an essay in which you explore the following concepts:

* Stereotypes
* Stigmas (that result from these stereotypes)

In your essay, be sure to document at least three different characters who are stereotyped within the content.

* How are those people “different”?
* How are those people treated?
* What do you learn about the characters, based on the way they handle themselves?
* What do you learn about the bullies, based on the way they use stereotypes to create stigmas?
* Overall, what does the director/ screenwriter seem to want the viewer to learn about stereotypes and the role they play in society?

In writing the essay, students will accomplish:

W. 11-12. 4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Depth of Knowledge Level 2 (Skills/ Concepts); Revised Bloom’s Taxonomy Level 6 (Create)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Directions: After you have finished watching the movie, write an essay in which you explore the following concepts:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CATEGORY | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Introduction (Organization)** | The introduction is inviting, states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper. | The introduction clearly states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper, but is not particularly inviting to the reader. | The introduction states the main topic, but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper nor is it particularly inviting to the reader. | There is no clear introduction of the main topic or structure of the paper. |
| **Focus on Topic (Content)** | There is one clear, well-focused topic. Main idea stands out and is supported by detailed information. | Main idea is clear but the supporting information is general. | Main idea is somewhat clear but there is a need for more supporting information. | The main idea is not clear. There is a seemingly random collection of information. |
| **Support for Topic (Content)** | Relevant, telling, quality details give the reader important information that goes beyond the obvious or predictable. | Supporting details and information are relevant, but one key issue or portion of the storyline is unsupported. | Supporting details and information are relevant, but several key issues or portions of the storyline are unsupported. | Supporting details and information are typically unclear or not related to the topic. |
| **Word Choice** | Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind, and the choice and placement of the words seems accurate, natural and not forced. | Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind, but occasionally the words are used inaccurately or seem overdone. The writer uses cliché ideas. | Writer uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety, punch or flair. The writer relies on clichés.  | Writer uses a limited vocabulary that does not communicate strongly or capture the reader's interest.  |
| **Sentence Structure (Sentence Fluency)** | All sentences are wellconstructed with varied structure. | Most sentences are well-constructed with varied structure. | Most sentences are well-constructed but have a similar structure. | Sentences lack structure and appear incomplete or rambling. |
| **Grammar & Spelling (Conventions)** | Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. |  Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. |  Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. |
| **Conclusion (Organization)** | The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader with a feeling that they understand what the writer is "getting at." | The conclusion is recognizable and ties up almost all the loose ends. | The conclusion is recognizable, but does not tie up several loose ends. | There is no clear conclusion, the paper just ends. |

Change begins with a whisper.

Movie Viewing Guide

Thank you for purchasing this product.

I hope you enjoy using it in your classroom.