**Lord of the Flies - Chpt. 1 Notes**

\*\* These notes are categorized by topic in left column not by chronological order.

Author’s style

Symbolism - conch

Ralph

Piggy

Savagery vs. Civilization

Jack

* Uses description of beach, lagoon, and platform to break up the plot development and create setting
* To establish the personification of the island, its status as a living creature, describes the island remainder of the island as a whole (25-31)
* Finding, description , and obvious purpose of the conch (15-17)
* Tries to escape from Piggy
* No adults around, the reality of the situation – “the delight of a realized ambition overcame him” (), “forced at last to believe in the reality of the island” ()
* Confidence in humanity – “He’ll [the pilot] be back all right” (), “when he [Ralph’s father] gets leave he’ll come and rescue us . . . Soon as he can” ()
* Doesn’t seem hopeful they’ll be rescued – logical reasoning
* “We was attacked!” (), “There were flames coming out”
* “When’ll your dad rescue us? . . . How does he know we’re here? . . . Not them. Didn’t you hear what the pilot said? About the atom bomb? They’re all dead.” ()
* “They’re all dead . . . Nobody don’t know we’re here. Your dad don’t know, nobody don’t know . . . We may stay here till we die.” ()
* The children maintain civilian status w/ clothing
	+ Ralph carries shirt w/ him, then strips his clothing upon realization of no adults
	+ Piggy struggles w/ decision to strip clothes, takes off only his windbreaker, finally strips to swim only (not rebellion instead sensibility of not getting clothes wet)

\*\*Both boys redress for assembly w/ other kids.

* 1st child from forest – pants fell off, didn’t put them back on
* Choir – Jack won’t allow them to take off “togs” – he is there leadership/dictator – only under his command may they – he finally relents when he regains control (after Ralph’s election as “chief”) – it is his decision, not Ralph’s nor the boys’ decision
* Natural violence/savagery of the island
	+ “witchlike cry” of the bird ()
	+ “the skull –like coconuts” ()
	+ “the sun’s enmity” ()
	+ The “contaminated fruit” – gives them diarrhea
	+ “the rocks get worse”
	+ Ralph, Piggy, boys “badly scratched” by creepers
	+ Pig – “throwing itself . . . in all the madness of extreme terror” ()
* Takes it upon himself to begin a discovery of the island w/ choir boys
* Maintains expectations of society/school on his group (clothing , regiment, authority)
* Commanding presence upon 1st addressing gathered kids
* Unconcerned about the welfare of “his” group – heat, fainting, needs, etc.
* Wants to be considered adult – “Merridew,” not Jack
* Considers running away/leaving after election but stays – to save face?
* Why does Jack have a HUGE knife?
* Observant of landscapes – especially dangerous aspects of the island
* He knows animal tracks.

Jack (continued)

 commit to killan'rviving on an island - hopeful of finding food

* Initiates the knocking down of the boulder off mountain – destructive - regardless of safety
* Excited about prospect of surviving on an island - hopeful of finding food
* Quick to attack pig – can’t commit to kill
* Dares Ralph/Simon to think he is weak