



TEACHER'S PET PUBLICATIONS

LitPlan Teacher Pack™
for
Their Eyes Were Watching God
based on the book by
Zora Neale Hurston

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Their Eyes Were Watching God
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SHORT ANSWER STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS
Their Eyes Were Watching God

Chapters 1-4

1. Who is the main character?
2. What is her situation at the beginning of the novel?
3. What was Janie's most noticeable physical characteristic?
4. Who was Janie's best friend?
5. After Chapter 1, how is the story told?
6. Why did Janie marry Logan Killicks?
7. What was Janie's idea of love before she was married?
8. What happened to Nanny shortly after Janie was married?
9. How did Janie's and Logan's relationship change?
10. What did Janie discover about love?
11. Describe Joe Starks.
12. What did Janie do shortly after she met Joe Starks?

Chapters 5 & 6

1. Who was Joe looking for when he and Janie got to town?
2. What were the two names of the town?
3. What actions did Joe take when he got to town?
4. How did Joe want Janie to look and act?
5. What was the result of Joe's suggestion that the town incorporate and elect a mayor?
6. What was Janie's reaction when Joe said she couldn't make a speech?
7. Which of Joe's innovations was the first in a colored town?
8. How did Joe's position affect Janie's relationship with other town residents?
9. What was the "rock" against which Janie was battered?
10. What did Joe do about the mule?
11. What happened to Joe and Janie's relationship during the seventh year of their marriage?
12. What was Janie's comment to the men during their conversation about Mrs. Tony?

ANSWER KEY: SHORT ANSWER STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS
Their Eyes Were Watching God

Chapters 1-4

1. Who is the main character?
The main character is Janie Mae Crawford.
2. What is her situation at the beginning of the novel?
She is returning home after having been gone for some time.
3. What was Janie's most noticeable physical characteristic?
She had beautiful, long dark hair.
4. Who was Janie's best friend?
It was Phoeby Watson.
5. After Chapter 1, how is the story told?
It is told as a flashback.
6. Why did Janie marry Logan Killicks?
Her grandmother made her marry him. Nanny was concerned that Janie be taken care of before she (Nanny) died.
7. What was Janie's idea of love before she was married?
She thought she would grow to love her husband, because husbands and wives always loved each other.
8. What happened to Nanny shortly after Janie was married?
She died.
9. How did Janie's and Logan's relationship change?
At first he talked in rhymes and did things for her. Then he told her she had to do more work.
10. What did Janie discover about love?
She discovered that marriage did not make love.
11. Describe Joe Starks.
He was civilized, stylishly dressed, and had money and ambitions.

12. What did Janie do shortly after she met Joe Starks?
She left Logan and ran off with Joe Starks.

Chapters 5 & 6

1. Who was Joe looking for when he and Janie got to town?
He was looking for the mayor.
2. What were the two names of the town?
It was called West Maitland and Eatonville.
3. What actions did Joe take when he got to town?
He paid cash for 200 acres of land. He opened a store and a post office. He bought the town's first street lamp. He organized the men and built a road. He had a drainage ditch built.
4. How did Joe want Janie to look and act?
He wanted her to be "the bell-cow;" to look and act better than the other women.
5. What was the result of Joe's suggestion that the town incorporate and elect a mayor?
He was elected mayor.
6. What was Janie's reaction when Joe said she couldn't make a speech?
She felt cold; his remarks took the bloom off things.
7. Which of Joe's innovations was the first in a colored town?
It was the street lamp.
8. How did Joe's position affect Janie's relationship with other town residents?
She couldn't get close to most of them. They felt jealous and awestruck.
9. What was the "rock" against which Janie was battered?
She was frustrated in the store when she had to deal with the math involved in the customers' purchases. Joe said she could do it if she wanted to, and he wanted her to use her privileges.
10. What did Joe do about the mule?
He bought it so it could stay in the pasture and rest.