

Put Your Title Here

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The two are in a dimly light room. There is no definite sign of where they are: there are no distinguishing features indicating anything regarding the typical cultural options for the afterlife. In fact, it could be all in someone's imagination.

- Hobbes** Jean-Jacques, what are you doing here? I'm surprised to find you here.
- Rousseau** Well, human nature being what it is, I'm surprised to find you here, too.
- Hobbes** There are lots of us philosophers here.
- Rousseau** Yes, there are. I ran into Plato just the other day.
- Hobbes** I'll bet he's still mumbling about being completely off with his Forms theory.
- Rousseau** It really is bothering him.
- Hobbes** Say, I ran into William Golding the other day.
- Rousseau** The author of *Lord of the Flies*?
- Hobbes** Yes, the author who so eloquently showed that I was exactly right when I said that humanity without civilization is doomed to chaos.
- Rousseau** Well, I don't know that I'd go that far. I think an argument can be made that it was the society itself that crushed all the boys, that turned Jack, Roger, and the other "hunters" into the beasts the later became.
- Hobbes** How so?
- Rousseau** They were free spirits. They didn't need anyone telling them what to do. They would have been happy living alone.
- Hobbes** You couldn't be more wrong. There were signs from the beginning that Jack and Roger were bad seeds from the start.
- Rousseau** Really? Name one.
- Hobbes** Look at the way Jack seems to relish ordering his choir boys around. He keeps them in their jackets for so long one boy seems to fall over from heat exhaustion. They have the complexion of "newly washed plums." (19) When he finally tells them to take the jackets off, they all seem so relieved. Jack seems to keep them in their uniform just to show he's in command.
- Rousseau** True, but it was society that created that ridiculous uniform...

Things to Notice

1. The first example (Rousseau's) does not mention a specific event in the novel. This is *bad*.
2. The second example (Hobbes') *does* mention a specific event. This is *good*.
3. Notice that Hobbes actually quotes the book, and he provides the page number as well.
4. All references to the novel are in present tense (he puts the pig's head on a stake) not past

tense (he put the pigs head on a stake). When discussing the events of a novel, always use present tense.