

Discussion Questions

Over Spring Break, you should finalize section 3 from the novel *The Sound and the Fury* by William Faulkner—and begin finalizing section 4. Answer **all** of the following discussion questions. If you want to use elbow partners that is fine. **For each question you should have 5 or more sentence response.**

- A. Jason is an embittered young man with a nasty sense of humor. Nonetheless, he is the obvious favorite of Mrs. Compson, the son upon whom she depends. He imagines people saying of his siblings, “one of them is crazy and another one drowned himself and the other one was turned out into the street by her husband...” Do you think he succeeds in preserving the appearance of normality that is so important to him? How would you describe Jason's mode of thinking and reasoning? Does a reader learn more about himself or the family in his first-person section?
- B. Jason has been described as the “perfect villain.” There is little to admire about him or his personality. Why is it important for such a character to be placed in a novel such as this? Keep in mind, despite all their flaws, readers typically feel sympathy for both Caddy and her brother Quentin. Why not Jason?
- C. Considering your answers to previous discussions, and to the previous questions above, if Benjy is considered a Christ-like figure, what Biblical symbol or role could Jason represent? Keep in mind that the events Jason narrates are on Good Friday, 1928—a day which commemorates the actual Crucifixion of Jesus.

Due: Wednesday 03.21.18, end of class
