***The Poisonwood Bible* Reader’s Journal Prompts**

There are 20 journal prompts for this novel. Each response will be worth 5 points. Please write approximately a paragraph for each. These should be about ½ a page in length.

You will share these with me via Google docs upon my request. My email is [dgugerty@morrishs.org](mailto:dgugerty@morrishs.org) Please do not share until I request them. When you prepare them to share, please label them as follows:

Your Name PWB Journal #X - #Y.

1. After reading the Genesis Quote and through page 10

*Define Genesis. What application to the story do you see?*

*What part of the quotation do you think Orleanna’s story will emphasize?*

2. After page 19.

*If you were to live in remote, jungle Africa for the next year, assuming there would*

*be no signal for your phone, what five things would you be sure to bring?*

*Why do you consider these five essential?*

3. After page 82

*Predict which character will adjust most readily to Africa and which will have the*

*most difficult time adjusting to Africa. Explain your predictions.*

4. After page 124

*How does Ruth May’s passage show the reader a naïve understanding of the politics of*

*the time?*

*How do Nathan’s reactions prove his own naiveté?*

5. After page 169

*What is revealed about Orleanna and Nathan’s marriage and mission in the*

*conversation with the Underdowns?*

6. After page 201

*Explain the metaphor found in the last sentence on page 201.*

7. After page 258

*How does Brother Fowles’ visit introduce a different kind of faith to the girls?*

*What effect do you think his visit will have on Orleanna?*

8. After page 300

*Who is your favorite sister? Why?*

9. After page 342

*The novel is getting darker and relationships are growing tense. Write a letter to a*

*character with advice.*

10. After page 375

*Explain the symbolism in the final chapter of “Bel and the Serpent.”*

11. After page 375

*Do you blame anyone for the girl’s death?*

*If so, who, and why? If not, why not?*

12. After page 385

*Define the following terms as applied to literature:*

*macrocosm*

*microcosm*

13. After page 391

*Why might Barbara Kingsolver have wanted to contrast the two deaths in this way?*

*(Hint: Know what happened in the Congo on January 17, 1961.)*

14. After page 428

*Who has surprised you in your reading of the last 30-40 pages? Why?*

15. After page 453

*What does Leah mean by the lines, “This is not a poor nation…It is only a nation of*

*poor?*

16. After page 465

*As you think about what Rachel has said about her life, how do you interpret the last*

*two sentences?*

17. After page 474

*How does Kingsolver compare and contrast the two “homes” Leah knows in this last*

*chapter? Why do you think Leah feels more comfortable in Africa than in her native*

*home?*

18. After page 490

*How has Rachel changed over the last 20 years?*

*How has Rachel remained the same over the last 20 years?*

*Would you consider her a static or dynamic character?*

19. After completion of the novel

*Do you think Kingsolver’s method of multiple narrators was effective for this story? Why or why not?*

20. After completion of the novel

*Something I still have a question about is…*

*OR*

*Something I wish about this story is…*