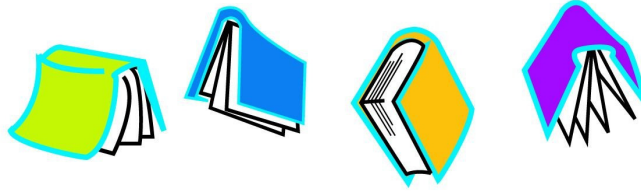


Midday Book Club



The Old Man and The Sea Questions for Midday Connection Book Club

1. What is the role of the sea in *The Old Man and the Sea*?
3. Read looking for religious symbolism in *The Old Man and the Sea*. This includes numbers, Christ-allusions etc. To what effect does Hemingway employ such images? Is his agenda a Christian one, or is he supporting some other world view.
4. *The Old Man and the Sea* is, essentially, the story of a single character. Indeed, other than the old man, only one human being receives any kind of prolonged attention. Discuss the role of Manolin in the novella. Is he necessary to the book?
5. Note key quotations that stand out to you in the book and describe why they are significant.
6. Note the old man's dreams in the book and think about the symbols employed.
7. Some critics think that Santiago's pride is the reason for his downfall (if it is a downfall) in the story. Do you agree with this assessment?
8. Hemingway has a very distinctive writing style which has remained influential over the decades. What are your observations about this style?