



# ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY: POST-READING RESPONSE PROMPTS



After you finish reading *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, choose five of the following prompts to respond to.

A.	In <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> , the Logan family’s land plays a significant role in the story. What does the land represent for them?
B.	Name three of Cassie’s character traits, and evaluate how they help or hinder her throughout the story. Choose specific instances or events in the story that demonstrate each character trait, and explain whether it helps Cassie or causes her problems.
C.	Describe the relationship between the Logan family and Mr. Morrison. How do the Logans help him? In what ways does Mr. Morrison help the Logans?
D.	Think about the different ways the Logan children and Logan adults experience racial injustice. What are some of the similarities and differences in how they respond? Cite specific events in the story that illustrate their responses.
E.	Many people living in rural Mississippi during the Great Depression faced extreme poverty, and in many situations, Black families experienced more severe poverty because of their race. In the story, Mr. Granger, a wealthy white landowner, drives an expensive car—a symbol of wealth and status. Uncle Hammer comes to town driving the same type of car. How is owning the car different for someone like Mr. Granger and someone like Uncle Hammer?
F.	T.J. Avery is consistently involved in conflict throughout the story, which affects his relationships with others. Evaluate T.J.’s friendship with Stacey and his friendship with R.W. and Melvin Simms. Why does T.J. behave the way he does, and what consequences does he face? Explain your response with reasons and evidence from the text.
G.	Describe Jeremy Simms’s attitude toward the Logan children. How is his attitude different from that of his other family members and the other white children in the community? How does Jeremy show friendship to the Logans? Why do you think the author included this character in the story?
H.	Stacey Logan, the oldest Logan child, is forced to grow up quickly because his father works out of town. How does Stacey demonstrate his responsibility, and how does he handle his role? Cite a moment in the story when Stacey’s actions were most admirable and explain why you chose it.
I.	Chapter 11 begins with lyrics from an African American spiritual, which is a type of song that enslaved people sang. Why do you think the author used a phrase from this song in the book’s title and included the lyrics in the story?
J.	The author Mildred T. Taylor uses the word “thunder” several times in the book—fourteen to be exact! Most uses of the word occur in the context of storms that happen during major events in the story, like on the night Papa gets shot by the Wallaces and when the night men come to take T.J. away. What idea or mood do you think the author is trying to convey with the use of this word? What comparisons or connections can you make between a thunderstorm and the events in the story?