

Honors Global Studies I

READ the first two chapters of **The Source** by James Michener (1-111). You will have a specific assignment to complete over the summer for both of the chapters. In addition, you will be given a comprehension quiz on those chapters on the second day of Global Studies. Throughout the course, you will be reading other chapters from **The Source**. Therefore, you will need your own copy of the book. Below are some notes that might help in your reading.

In the opening chapter, the three archaeologists meet at Makor to begin their work (aided by a group of local kibbutzniks). As they excavate the two main shafts, or tunnels, down through seventy-one feet of debris that comprise the tell, they discover fifteen objects from fifteen different historical levels. The objects are recorded and diagramed by Cullinane, and each offers the basis for a dramatized episode of the people and events that successively built and destroyed Makor throughout its history. In this way, the true focus of the novel starts taking shape, and the dig becomes a way of telling the story of past centuries. Interspersed throughout the historical narratives are returns to the present, giving Cullinane and his colleagues a chance to discuss various historical and philosophical questions regarding the formation of the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim religions, and their oftentimes stormy relationship in the past and present.

The frame of the novel—the “Tell” sections at the beginning and at the end—takes place in 1964. Flashbacks—all the chapters in between—cover approximately 12,000 years of Israel’s history, starting in 9831 B.C.E. (before common era). The story is set at the Tell of Makor (meaning “the source”) in western Galilee. The word “tell” comes from an Arab word meaning “an artificial hill or mound, usually one covering the ruins of an ancient city.”

The main characters of the novel are the following:

- Dr. John Cullinane, an Irish Catholic scholar and archaeologist who heads the dig at Tell Makor
- Jemail Tabari, an Arab trained at Oxford, who assists at the dig in the role of a “scientific archaeologist”
- Dr. Ilan Eliav, a Jewish statesman and archaeologist who acts as the official “watchdog,” or chief administrator, of the dig
- Dr. Vered Bar-El, a Jewish archaeologist and Israel’s “top expert in dating pottery sherds;” she is the only woman on the dig and is engaged to Dr. Eliav
- Paul J. Zodman, a wealthy Jew from Chicago who is financing the dig

The Family of Ur, the original ancestors of Makor, whose genealogy begins with Ur in 9831 B.C.E. and ends with Jemail Tabari in 1964 C.E. (common era)

Assignments

1. For Chapter One, “The Tell,” write two well-developed reaction paragraphs. Here are some questions to ponder:

- First paragraph
 - Who is your favorite character? Find a quote about this character and explain how it is significant. Also, explain why you like this character.
- Second paragraph
 - What do you like/dislike about the book so far? Why?
 - Is it easy/difficult to understand? Why?

Your reaction should be in MLA format and be a minimum of one page typed.

2. For Chapter Two, “Level XV: The Bee Eater,” you are required to create an eight panel storyboard. First, divide an 8 ½ X 11” piece of paper into 8 panels. Second, illustrate the most important 8 scenes of the chapter by drawing or using clip art. The illustrations must be colorful and there must be captions on each panel explaining the art.

Both of these assignments are due THE FIRST DAY OF GLOBAL STUDIES.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact either of us over the summer.

Jason Brisini
Jason_Brisini@charleston.k12.sc.us

Lisa Cain
Elizabeth_Cain@charleston.k12.sc.us