

The destructors questions

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1 Destroyers differ from other stories in the way the main character and antagonist are represented. As? Typically, the main character of a story or novel is a person we sympathize with - a traditional good person - and an antagonist who we don't really like - an obvious bad one. In Destroyers, a friend is turned upside down. Trevor, the main character, destroys the house and savings of an innocent man without much purpose. The antagonist, Mr. Thomas, does nothing to deserve the misfortune that befalls him, and we desperately regret him. Trevor is almost impossible to love as a character, which makes him an unusual hero. Even if the main character is deeply flawed, they have a redeeming quality or feature that at least makes them sympathetic. Trevor doesn't have that. This is a completely different presentation of the main character. Mr. Thomas is an unwitting drop guy for a group of boys he's good at and feels like him. It makes us very sorry for him. His savings are burned. He's not a typical antagonist. The story turns the main character/antagonist relationship around, making our feelings about the characters difficult to organize. 2 Trevor to await Mr. Thomas's savings. Why would he do that? Would we feel differently about him if he stole the money? If Trevor had stolen money from Mr. Thomas's mistress, it would have been wrong, but that would have been understandable from his point of view. He is a boy who grew up with a wealthy family, only to see his parents fall on hard times. They are now hard for money, and because he was once rich he knows about the changes, this extra money will bring his family. While theft would be wrong (and illegal) it would also make sense, especially given the life circumstances that Trevor is experiencing. Burning money, on the other hand, seems much worse than stealing it. Trevor setting the money on fire as an esoteric protest. He hates the upper classes. He hates the class system. He is deeply indignant at the way society reveres money (he is very similar to Gordon Cornstock's character in George Orwell's film *Keep Aspidistra Flying*) His answer to this question is to burn money as a symbol that he has no respect for it. In doing so, he also chastises Mr. Thomas for not loving and resenting the entire sociological group. It is much more difficult to sympathize with someone who destroys someone's life on a philosophical basis, rather than on financial necessity, or even out of revenge for personal offense or resentment. Mr. Thomas has always been friendly towards the boys, and the patient with the noise they make in the lot next door to his house, which is what makes burning his savings even more reprehensible. 3 Green's story *Alas, poor Malina* was meant to raise the morale of war-ravaged London. How does he do that? *Alas, poor Malina* is a comedic story that takes moralizing situations like the Blitz in World War II, and puts a funny and eccentric spin on it. his stomach rumbles so loud that his colleagues believe that there is an explosion. He is very embarrassed by this condition, and instead of admitting that strange crashes are coming from him, he lets his entire company trudge down to the underground air raid shelter to wait out the raid they think is happening over them. Such a story retained morale because it helped Londoners influence the Blitz to see humor in their situation. The blitz was a series of German bombings over London's dock areas, by their air force, the Luftwaffe. Huge swathes of houses were bombed overnight, and bomb shelters underground were built so that people would be safe from air raids, even if their homes were destroyed. There were always too many people in every air raid shelter and the whole experience was terrifying. By putting a funny spin on the experience, Green was able to raise morale a bit, and also give parents the opportunity to tell their children the story of Malin with a rumble tummy as a way to explain the loud sounds of bombs falling overhead. Interpretive questions: Answer all questions in full sentences, use quotes for support. 1.) Why does Trevor want to completely destroy Mr. Thomas' house? - Trevor wants to destroy Mr. Thomas's house because he is jealous that his house was in order after the war and all the explosions, while everyone else did not survive and was completely destroyed: It is proposed that tomorrow and Monday we destroy the house of Old Miserable. (p. 169) 2.) If Trevor thinks the house is beautiful, why does he want to destroy it? (p. 166) If he thinks the house is beautiful, he wants to destroy it because he is jealous of the house beautiful and beautiful house, so Trevor wants to destroy it. It is a beautiful house, and still looks at the earth, meeting the eyes of no one, he licked his lips first to one side, then on the other hand . (p. 166) 3.) Why does Trevor burn Mr. Thomas's savings instead of stealing them? Trevor burns Mr. Thomas's savings instead of stealing them because they're not there to take the money or steal, they're just there to send a message. We'll burn them, he said, one by one, and taking it one by one they held the note up and lit the top corner, so the flames burned slowly to their fingers. (p. 173) 4.) Why does Trevor say : Wouldn't it be any fun if he hated Mr. Thomas? (p. 174) - Trevor says that it would be no pleasure if he hated Mr. Thomas, because if he hated him, he would avenge him and only be hate, not hate. Fun he destroys his house, of course I don't hate it, said T. There would be no fun if I hated it. (p. 174) 5.) When Mr. Thomas returns early, why Trevor protest, Isn't it fair? (p. 175) - Trevor protests that it's not fair when Mr. Thomas returns early because they didn't get to finish his job to completely destroy his house, he told me... He protested with the fury of a child he never was, that's not fair. (p. 175) 6.) Why is the gang working to destroy the house with the seriousness of the creators? (p. 172) - The gang is working to destroy the house with the seriousness of the creators because they really want to destroy every inch of the house and all hope of restoration. The gang wants to give Mr. Thomas the same feelings that they had when their homes were bombed and destroyed, the stripes of light came through a closed shutter where they worked with the seriousness of the creators and destruction was eventually a form of creation. (p. 172) 7.) Why can Trevor force the gang to carry out his plan to destroy the house? - Trevor is able to force the gang to carry out his plan to destroy the house, because he is more grandiose and more daring than the usual trivial things that the gang usually does, free trips, said T. Children's Things. You can back off, Blackie, if you want to... (p. 169) 8.) Why are we told that destruction is after all a form of creation? (p. 172-173) - We are told that because destruction and chaos required creation or rebuilding, as in the case of the gang destroying his house, but it was possible because someone created it, the stripes of light came through a closed shutter, where they worked with the seriousness of the creators and destruction was eventually a form of creation. (p. 172) 9.) What does the author mean when he says that Trevor had a kind of imagination that saw this house as it is now? (p. 173) - The author means that Trevor saw and planned from the beginning everything as the house would be destroyed, a kind of imagination saw this house as it has now become. (p. 173) 10.) Why is the strange excitement gripping the boys when they look down into a partially destroyed house? (p. 174) - Boys feel this strange excitement when they look at a destroyed house because it is something new, and it is strange, because they realize the seriousness of what they have done, and they also realize what they are able to do. They risked and made mistakes: When they thought about the windows it was too late to reach them. (p. 174) Vocabulary in context: 1.) Unambiguous - page 165 quote: As a leader he had responsibilities. Suppose we? He said ambiguously. (p. 165) Definition (based on context/in your own words): open to or having multiple possible answers or interpretations Synonym: a mysterious, puzzling sentence (emphasize the word terminology): The teacher did not specify when stated directions ambiguously to 2.) Daunted - page 168 quote: Citation: gave one beep of laughter, and then, like Mike, fell quietly, stunned by a serious irreconcilable look. (p. 168) Definition (based on context/in your own words): to make someone or something feel intimidated by Synonym: discourage, demoralize the sentence (emphasize the vocabulary of the word): She was stunned after her guard scolded her heavily. 3.) Altruistic - page 169 quote: Guided by pure, simple and altruistic ambitions of fame for the gang, Blackie returned to where T. stood in the shadow of the wall of Old Misery. Definition (based on context/in your own words): selflessly concerned about the well-being of others. Synonym: Charitable, generous verdict (emphasize vocabulary of words): She had an altruistic personality that attracted many friends. 4.) Superficial - page 173 quote: By the time Mike returned, they were on the top floor, and by six the superficial damage had been completed. (p.173) Definition (based on context/in your own words): existing/occurring on the outside or surface is synonymous: outside, external sentence (emphasize the dictionary word): The damage done to care was only superficial. 5.) Excitement - p. 174 quote: By the evening a strange excitement had captured them as they looked down on the large hollow of the house. (p. 174) Definition (based on context/in your own words): Happiness or Excitement Synonym: Delight, Excitement, Delight Proposal (emphasize the vocabulary of the word): It felt a thrill of excitement on the fall on the roller coaster. Thinking Map: Use textual evidence to show examples of when Trevor is trying to be part of a gang or when Trevor is trying to separate himself from the gang. Include 5 examples and support with page numbers and opinion for each column. Being part of a gang - Trevor participates in voting in a gang (b. 168) - He answers and says his name when they ask (p. 163) - He takes orders from Blackie (p. 164) - He proposes to destroy the house (p. 169) - He asserts his power and gives everyone a job to prepare for the plan (p. 170) Separate from the gang - Trevor panics and whines, When Mr. Thomas returns, showing his weak side and loses respect (p. 175) - Burns money without gang consent or knowledge, only with Blackie (p. 173) - Trevor never spoke or said much at the beginning when he was with the gang (p. 164) - He plans to destroy the house himself and visit it alone without a gang (p. 166) - He decides to continue to destroy the house, Mr. Thomas returns to the house, risking a gang in getting in trouble/being arrested for their own selfish reasons (p. 175) 175) the destructors essay questions. the destructors multiple choice questions

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