

When Rain Clouds Gather

Chapter Six Questions

1. In When Rain Clouds Gather Bessie Head creates several characters who are magnetic, whose sense of conviction and presence makes them stand out from the crowd. Do you know anyone who you could describe as having a captivating personality? Explain what makes that person stand out.

2. Another episode where Head is critical of tribalism again rears its head at the start of chapter six. The Rhodesian man, Paulina's husband takes his life because

3. Paulina is described as 'Perhaps _____ woman?'

4. What is the intended effect of the word 'perhaps'?

5. Paulina considers Maria to be her only competition in gaining Makhaya's attention. Find the quote that supports this statement.

6. There was much more than South Africa that he was running from, and it included _____
_____ standstill"

7. Makhaya's personal philosophy, ideals and his views on Africa are raised again throughout page 82. Explain in bullet points what these are.

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8. Makhaya considers Gilbert's views on African and world politics to be "extremely _____"
_____"
9. Gilbert thinks _____ is the temporary solution to Africa's political problems. Whereas Makhaya thinks that Africa should be left to "_____ and _____" but would prefer _____.

10. Homework (thoroughly please, Due Monday)

- A. What did happen in Africa politics?
- B. What did happen to Botswana politically?
- C. Find an example of Gilbert's political ideal in action in Africa and find an example of Makhaya's.
- D. With the benefit of history whose position would you prefer?

Here is a place to start your research http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Africa (Postcolonial Era)

11. Maria was aloof to everyone but _____
12. Gilbert's life was _____.
_____ work"
13. Gilbert and Makhaya are called "ancient blood brothers" in this chapter. In light of this, explain the reference to Kipling's 'Thousandth Man'
14. Mma Millipede both scolds and comforts Maria – Why
15. The name of Gilbert's lizard is _____
16. Did you foresee the proposal and upcoming marriage? Thinking back to the chapter two questions (20) – What was your answer?
17. Why does the chapter six finish with Paulina? As an African woman, why does she stand out?