

Lord of the Rings by J.R. Tolkien

The Fellowship (Summary)

Set in a time of uncertainty in the land of Middle-Earth:

The future of civilization rests in the fate of the One Ring, which has been lost for centuries. Sauron, the Dark Lord of the Rings, is unrelenting in his search for it. But fate has placed it in the hands of a young Hobbit named Frodo Baggins, who inherits the Ring. A daunting task lies ahead for Frodo when he becomes the Ringbearer as his assigned duty is to destroy the One Ring in the fires of Mount Doom where it was forged. But he can't accomplish this task alone. A Fellowship bands together to lend Frodo all that he needs to carry out his mission: the wisdom of Gandalf; the loyalty of his friends Sam, Merry, and Pippin; the courage of Aragorn and Boromir; the precision of Legolas; and the strength of Gimli. They are aided in their quest by Arwen, Galadriel and Elrond, whose knowledge of the Ring brings to light the true danger and importance of their journey.

The Two Towers (Summary)

In "The Two Towers" Frodo and Sam venture alone in the land of Mordor, where they meet up with Gollum.... The rest of the Fellowship becomes involved in the the larger events that are starting to take place in Middle-Earth. Sauron's forces are massing for a huge war, the first skirmish of which will be the Battle at Helm's Deep. The help of the Rohirrim, horse-loving humans, is desperately needed, but their king Theoden is old and cursed with a wicked advisor. Meanwhile, the wizard Saruman's evil continues, though an unexpected force appears to challenge him...

Return of the King (Summary)

The final part of J.R.R. Tolkien's phantasy trilogy follows hobbits Frodo and Sam as they push further into the land of Mordor to destroy the ring of power. Traveling with them, in an uneasy alliance, is the deceitful Gollum, who brings them to the very heart of Mount Doom. The warrior Aragorn, revealed to be the lost King of Gondor, travels to Minas Tirith with an army of undead soldiers and the remaining members of the fellowship to rescue the ancient city from Lord Sauron's grasp.

Unterrichtsmaterial zur Vorbereitung auf "Lord of the Rings III"

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Discussion topics, Role-Play, Online-Quiz, Beyond the Movie

Discussion topics

- *The noblest characters in the book seem to be those who resist the power of the Ring and thus the Dark Lord. Who are those characters and how are they able to resist the temptations of the power of the Ring?*
- *Why is it that evil characters are often the most interesting?*
- *Lost treasure has a long, legendary past associated with it. Pirates, treasure maps and great quests are included in the stories that surround lost treasures. Would you consider the Ring Frodo is guarding as a treasure? How does the power of the ring affect its owner?*
- *Think of the major themes in the Lord of the Rings Trilogy (battle between good and evil, struggle for power, race discrimination...) Do you see any similarities between the situation on Middle-Earth then and the situation in today's world nowadays?*

Role-Play

Assign a character, Frodo, Gandalf, etc., to each student. The student will then have to find out personal traits of the character assigned. The student then "becomes" the character. Give an 8 to 10 minute period to showcase the character. Each student will present his character to the class. He may do this in one of the suggested ways below, according to level:

- 1. role play the character*
- 2. first person dialogue, "I, who snort at my hoard . . . "*
- 3. draw a picture of the character on large paper and give a brief description orally*

When all of the students have completed their presentations, you can tie together the assemblage of characters and review them with the class audience. Students can then understand how important each character is to the tale (part of the whole) and how it comes to life in the story spun by Tolkien.

Online-Quiz

Visit the following homepage and try the ultimate Lord of the Rings Quiz.

<http://www.lordoftherings.com/noflash/quiz.asp>

Beyond the Movie

Explore the history, myths and culture that shaped The Lord of the Rings. This multimedia website includes information about J.R.R Tolkien, the history behind the story, images from the movie, and links to further information.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngbeyond>