

QUESTIONS ABOUT
JAWS
Part 3

This book is about a vacation resort town in New York called Amity that is reeling from a series of shark attacks. It falls to Chief of Police Martin Brody to decide how to respond. The life of the town depends on income from summer vacationers who surely will not come if they fear being eaten by a shark.

The questions below cover chapters 8 through 10, which contain 75 pages.

Chapter 8

1. Chapter 8 is almost entirely about Brody's wife Ellen and how she spends this rainy day. She begins by making sure her boys will be taken care of. What does each of them have planned?
2. What does Ellen claim she has planned for herself? What does she tell Brody to do for lunch?
3. After she retreats to her upstairs bedroom, whom does she phone?
4. Ellen intends to have an affair with Hooper the marine biologist, nothing that leads to anything further, something we might call a fling. Why does she want to do this?
5. She makes elaborate plans so nobody will be suspicious. What are some of these plans?
6. After they each describe their fantasies, they leave the restaurant with the intent of carrying them out. They go to a motel. What name do they give the motel clerk? What significance does this name have?
7. That evening Brody asks why he couldn't reach her by phone. What does she tell him? Does he believe her?

Chapter 9

8. What is the purpose of the noon meeting of the Board of Selectmen?
9. What does Chief Brody want to do? Why?
10. What does Mayor Vaughan want to do? Why?
11. What does Brody learn from Vaughan's secretary about Daisy Wicker?
12. What does Brody learn about Vaughan from the editor of the newspaper?
13. How much money will Vaughan probably lose if the beaches stay closed??

14. What is Brody's final decision about opening the beaches? What does Vaughan think of his decision?
15. Somebody kills Brody's son's cat and leaves Brody a message. What is the message? What does Brody do?

Chapter 10

16. Brody is very distracted by what might be happening between his wife and Hooper the marine biologist. How does the relationship between the two men?
17. On page 96 we read, "The weather report was for clear and sunny, southwest winds to five and ten knots." What is a knot?
18. From p 198 to p 216, Brody watches Amity's private beach. List all the events that take place beginning with the first time he meets the man from the Winnebago camper until that man and his family finally leave.
19. After these events, does Brody leave the beaches open to swimmers or does he close them?
20. How is the relationship between Amity's summer visitors and Amity's permanent residents like a dog with ticks?
21. Describe Quint, whom Brody asks for help next. What does Quint have to offer? If Brody lacks confidence in him, why does he ask him? What terms does Quint offer? Who will accompany him when they look for the shark?
22. Almost no one went swimming on this weekend even though the beaches were open. Yet the town had lots of visitors and did a very good business. Why were there so many visitors?