

The Body in the Library

by Agatha Christie

Study Questions for June 21st meeting,

Chapter One

1. What are Mrs. and Colonel Bantry doing as the story begins?
2. Why does Mrs. Bantry call Miss Marple?
3. Who do Mrs. Bantry and Miss Marple first suspect in the murder and why?

Chapter Two

4. Who is Colonel Melchett (Chief Constable) first suspect in the murder? Why?
5. Who does Basil Blake suspect without hesitation?

Chapter Three

6. Describe Colonel Melchett and describe Inspector Slack.
7. Who is Josephine Turner? What does she do and where does she work?
8. Why didn't Josephine report Ruby missing? Who did?

Chapter Four

9. In St. Mary Mead, a town close to Gossington Hall, what rumors are circulating about the body?
10. Where is Colonel Bantry when Colonel Melchett arrives at Gossington Hall? Why?
11. Who is Conway Jefferson and what interesting thing did Miss Marple notice when the Jeffersons are mentioned?

Chapter Five

12. What does Colonel Melchett learn from the hotel manager?
13. What did the police learn from Mrs. Adelaide Jefferson?
14. Why do the police interview George Bartlett?

Chapter Six

15. What does small Peter Carmody have to tell the police?
16. What had Mr. Jefferson planned to do for Ruby Keene?

Chapter Seven

17. Today 50,000 pounds in the story would be worth approximately 2,300,000 pounds. Is that a large enough sum of money to murder a person for so that you could get it? Who might inherit the money if Ruby Keene does not?
18. Who loses a car? What kind of car is it?
19. What did the police find in Ruby's room of most interest to them?
20. Describe Superintendent Harper.
21. Who had Raymond Starr seen Ruby dance with last? Who is Raymond Starr?
22. What is found in Venn's Quarry? (quarry is a pit in the ground for mining minerals)
23. Who is Sir Henry Clithering and why has he come to the hotel?
24. Who does Sir Clithering see at the hotel besides Mr. Jefferson?
25. What theory does Miss Marple have about the murder?
26. What theory