

Lit & Geo for TOG Co-op #12

Memorize the definitions for the following literature terms: science fiction, tragedy, parable, comedy.

Finish reading *Dragon's Gate* and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Otter is shocked by the environmental impact of the trains and tunnels carved right through the mountains: "...any people clever enough to come up with this machine should know that it was only a question of time before the land itself became angry at such treatment." Do you think this reflects a superstition, or a recognition of something real? Explain your answer.
2. How does Uncle Foxfire's "crew of misfits" change over the course of the book? What events pull the group together?
3. Describe the relationship between Otter and Sean. Why does Otter see Sean in some way as "more my kind than any of the T'ang men on the tunnel." What differences are their friendship unable to bridge?
4. What is Kilroy's relationship to the mountain? How do you think he would justify the way he treats the workers? What is your opinion of this? What role does alcohol addiction play in shaping his character?
5. Why don't the Chinese workers accept the argument that they outnumber the westerners on the mountain and should stand up against abuse? What happens when they do?
6. What finally motivates the Chinese workers to strike for their rights?
7. Otter wins the right to leave the mountain. But he passes up his chance to leave in order to find Foxfire's bones. What decision do you think you would make in his position?

Geography

Now that we've learned to sketch all 50 states, let's turn our attention to learning all of the state capitals over the course of the next two co-ops. I recommend starting with the midwest and northeast states — which are already loaded into the geography folder on Quizlet for your review. There are LOTS of fun ways to do this including SONGS and Quizlet and other fun games — there are tons of different ways to do it. Find what works for you and get those state capitals memorized!

[Quizlet link to Midwest and Northeast states and capitals](#)

[Fun song with video to learn the capitals](#)

[This little ditty might get in your head to learn the whole song.](#)

This [Sheppard Software website](#) has fun geography games that I've used with my older kids to learn the capitals.