

“The Monkey’s Paw” Questions

1. How does Mr. White approach the game of chess that he plays with his son? What might this reveal about his personality?

2. Why do you think Sergeant-Major Morris, knowing what he does, still brings the paw to the White’s house and shows it to the family?

3. Situational irony occurs when what happens is the opposite of what is expected. How is the end of chapter two an example of situational irony?

4. What are three examples of foreshadowing in the story? Why are they important?

Example of Foreshadowing	Significance of Foreshadowing

5. There is a famous saying, “bad luck comes in threes.” What are three examples of things that are related to the number three in the story? Why do you think that the author repeats this number throughout the story?

6. Who do you think is most responsible (Sergeant-Major Morris, Herbert White, Mrs. White, or Mr. White) for the sorrows that resulted from wishing on the monkey’s paw? Why?