

Name _____ **Lord of the Flies**

Figurative Language in Symbolism Answer Key

Passage 1 - Conch

- Figurative Language: Metaphor (shattering conch = collapse of order).
- Quote: "The conch exploded into a thousand white fragments."
- Interpretation: Civilization and democracy have been irreparably destroyed.

Passage 2 - Island

- Figurative Language: Imagery + Personification (island described as idyllic, overflowing with life).
- Quote: "Flower and fruit grew together ... booming of a million bees."
- Interpretation: Island as Edenic paradise → contrasts with boys' descent into savagery.

Passage 3 - Lord of the Flies

- Figurative Language: Personification (pig's head given human qualities of cynicism).
- Quote: "Eyes ... dim with the infinite cynicism of adult life."
- Interpretation: Symbol of inner evil; suggests corruption is inherent, not external.

Passage 4 - Fire

- Figurative Language: Personification (fire as living, creeping creature).
- Quote: "The creeping fire lifted a shaggy arm."
- Interpretation: Fire = dual symbol: human innovation (controlled) vs. destruction (uncontrolled).