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American Studies English

*The Color Purple*

**Guided Reading Questions**

**Pages 100-118**

As you read *The Color Purple*, respond to the following questions. These questions will help you identify key ideas and details from the text. **When you respond,** **please write down the page number where you located the answer to each question.**  This will help you during activities, writing assignments, and class discussions.

1. It has been three years since Sofia was beaten and put in jail. What her punishment is now?
2. What happens to Billy’s foot?
3. In the letter on page 102, Celie includes passages of Sofia telling a story about Miz Millie. What does Miz Millie want Sofia to teach her?
4. Why does Sofia consider herself to be a slave?
5. Where does Miz Millie want to take Sofia?
6. Where does the Mayor’s wife make Sofia sit?
7. When Miz Millie causes the car to break down, she refuses to be driven home “in a pick up with a strange colored man” (106). How is Sofia victimized by Miz Millie’s prejudice?
8. Who does Shug bring with her when she comes home for Christmas?
9. How do both Mr. and Celie react to this?
10. How has Mr.’s treatment of Celie changed as a result of Shug’s influence?
11. Shug asks Celie if she can share a bed with her because “She cold in her and Grady bed all alone”(111). How would you describe the way Shug treats the people in her life?
12. When Celie tells Shug the story about Fonso’s abuse it allows her to have a human outlet for the experience and express her emotions. How is this different from the oppression and fear she experiences at the beginning of the novel?
13. What does the sexual encounter between Celie and Shug suggest about Celie developing her own identity and independence?
14. What does Shug encourage Mary Agnes to do?
15. Why does Grady say to Shug, “Mama you don’t miss a thing” (116)?
16. In the letter Celie writes to God on page 117, what does she include inside her letter?
17. Why does Nettie say in her own letter that she thinks Celie won’t be able to get it?
18. What does Shug say Albert has been doing with the letters that have funny stamps?
19. What reason does Shug give as to why she is asking Celie so many questions about Nettie?