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American Studies English

*The Color Purple*

**Guided Reading Questions**

**Pages 241-277**

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. When Nettie returns to Africa, Tashi is missing. When she is found, what does her face look like?
2. What does Fonso leave Celie and Nettie when he dies?
3. What does Shug reveal to Celie when they go out for Chinese food?
4. How does Celie react to this information?
5. What is Grady doing in Panama?
6. How do you feel about Shug’s treatment of Celie in this letter?
7. What does Celie reveal to Mr. in their conversation on pages 253-254? Why else is this conversation significant?
8. What does the only piece of mail that Mr. puts directly in Celie’s hands say?
9. How is God different to Nettie and Samuel now that they have spent time in Africa?
10. What are the reasons Celie gives for not hating Mr?
11. When Eleanor Jane brings Reynolds Stanley to Sofia’s and expects Sofia to fawn over her baby, how might Eleanor Jane be considered to be ignorant?
12. Celie reflects on her relationship with Mr. and says, “Here us is, I thought, two old fools left over from love, keeping each other company under the stars” (271). What does Celie offer Mr. that allows their relationship to evolve?
13. What does Mr. like to do with Celie?
14. In a conversation with Mr. about the African belief that Adam from the Bible was the first white man, Celie explains that the reason Adam is attributed as being the first man is because he was noticed for being white. In the African belief, all other men before him were black. She says, “And wherever a white person is found he’ll be crush by somebody not white, just like they do to us today” (275). What commentary is Walker making on the nature of oppression through this DQ?