**SHORT ANSWER STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS - *The Pearl***

Answer these questions on a separate piece of paper, using COMPLETE sentences. Make sure to indicate the chapter number above the questions.

**Chapter 1**

1. What, in general, happens in the first chapter? Write a brief paragraph summarizing the main events.
2. Why was it such a remarkable thing that Juana wanted the doctor for the baby?
3. Notice that the townspeople follow Kino. What does that tell you?
4. How does the author describe the character of the doctor? (Direct characterization)
5. Kino went to the doctor for help, yet the author writes that Kino could “kill the doctor more easily than he could talk to him.” Explain this seeming contradiction.
6. Why did the doctor refuse to treat Coyotito? What does that tell you about the doctor's personality?
7. The doctor informs his servant that he has no time to “cure insect bites for little Indians” and that he is not a “veterinary” doctor. What new element is added here to his character?
8. What is the Song of the Family and what sounds make it up? Find a phrase that tells what the Song of the Family means to Kino.
9. What is the Song of Evil? When does it first appear?
10. What are the conflicts in the story so far?

**Chapter 2**

1. Why did Steinbeck include the first section about the life in the Gulf waters?
2. The canoe is mentioned quite often. Why is it so important to Kino? What might the canoe symbolize?
3. To what new Song are we introduced?
4. What is the main event of this chapter?
5. What is the mood out on the water when Kino gets back into the boat (and before they return to civilization)?
6. What is ironic about the reason Kino was so desperate to achieve success in his efforts, and what he noticed when he actually achieved the desired result?

**Chapter 3**

1. To what does Steinbeck compare the town?
2. News of Kino's pearl spread quickly across town. What did each person think of when he heard it?
   1. The priest
   2. The shopkeepers
   3. The doctor
   4. The beggars
   5. The pearl buyers
3. Why does the priest wonder “whether he had baptized Kino’s baby” or married him?
4. What was the author’s purpose for having the doctor see himself “sitting in a restaurant in Paris,” after hearing of The Pearl of the World?
5. How did Kino become “everyone’s enemy”?
6. What metaphors are used to show the growing evil in the town once they hear about the pearl?
7. What would Kino do with his riches?
8. What was so important about Coyotito going to school?
9. How were the priest and doctor similar in their treatment of Kino?
10. What foreshadowing event helps to show the priest’s greedy interests in the pearl? (Consider what makes Kino suspicious all of a sudden.)
11. Why does the doctor say he came? Why did he really come?
12. How is the pearl beginning to change Kino’s personality?
13. What bad thing happened to make Juana want to throw away the pearl?

**Chapter 4**

1. In the description of the pearl buyers, what do we find out about the market in Kino's village?
2. What story does Juan Tomás tell Kino? What sermon did the priest offer about that story? Why?
3. What is the significance of the pearl dealer playing with the gold coin?
4. What happened when Kino went to sell his pearl? What arrangement had the pearl sellers made between themselves in order to cheat Kino?
5. What did the buyers tell Kino about the pearl?
6. Juan Tomás says to Kino, "You have defied not the pearl buyers, but the whole structure, the whole way of life. I am afraid for you." What does he mean?
7. What replaced The Song of the Family after the meeting with the pearl dealers?
8. Again at the end of the chapter, Juana wants to throw away the pearl because it is evil. What evil thing happened?

**Chapter 5**

1. Where did Juana go early in the morning?
2. What did Kino do when he figured out where she went?
3. What happened to Kino up the beach through the brushline on the path?
4. How does Juana show her strength in this chapter?
5. Why was the damage to Kino’s boat so devastating?
6. What happened to their hut while they were away?
7. Now light is danger to Kino. Why is this significant? What might it symbolize?
8. How does Juan Tomás help Kino and Juana?
9. What does Juan Tomás urge Kino to do?
10. Why did they leave the village?

**Chapter 6**

1. What was the mood and setting like when Kino’s family exited the town? How did this connect with events of the story?
2. Why was it good that the wind was blowing?
3. What "songs" does Kino hear on the first part of their journey?
4. What convinces Kino that the pearl was not valueless as Juana suggested to him?
5. What made the music of the pearl become "sinister in his ears, . . . interwoven with the music of evil?" What does he see when he looks into the pearl and what does he realize about the effects of the pearl?
6. Why did Juana feel it would be a mistake for Kino to give himself up?
7. Read the passage that describes the pool and the animals that visit it. What does this description foreshadow?
8. What happens to Coyotito?
9. What happens to the trackers?
10. What happens to Kino and Juana?
11. What do they do with the pearl?
12. What does the return of Kino and Juana and their throwing away the pearl mean symbolically?