**The Cone Gatherers-= Chapter Two**

1. The character of Doctor Mathieson is introduced: What are our first impressions of him? (pages 13-14)
2. On page 16 the doctor asks Duror about his wife, Peggy, which allows us to gain knowledge of Duror’s home situation, and also to see Duror from another point of view- an outside view.

* What do we learn about Peggy, and why is this important in terms of what we learned about Duror’s feelings about anything with a “deformity or lack” in Chapter One?
* On pages 16-17 we see the doctor’s thoughts about Duror. Explain what they are, and comment on the imagery used to describe what the doctor sees as Duror’s probable state of mind.
* The doctor feels pity for Duror at this point. Explain why. Do you think the reader is also intended to feel pity for Duror at this point ( despite what we may have thought of him because of his thoughts about Calum in Chapter One)?

1. After the doctor is gone, we are again accessing Duror’s mind .Read the section beginning “At his usual easy assured pace (p18)……to “burden of endurance” on page 19.

* Explain Duror’s thoughts and feelings at this point and comment on the writer’s word choice and imagery to explain how it gives us a clear indication of Duror’s state of mind.

1. On pages 20-21 we meet Peggy. How does Duror feel about her? How does the way she is now, and their life together contrast with how things were for them in the past?
2. On pages 20-23 there are indications that Duror is completely obsessed with the cone gatherers: how do we know this, and what is his own explanation for his feelings?
3. Do we feel sympathy for Duror at this point, in terms of his marriage and the how he is treated by Mrs Lochie? Explain why.
4. What is Duror’s plan for getting rid of the cone gatherers after he hears about the deer drive? (page 27)
5. Why is the phrase “ a conscious surrender to evil” so important? (page 27)
6. Comment on the final paragraph of the chapter.