

Socratic Seminar Alternative Assignment: “Food That Pleases, Food to Take Home”

(for absent students only)

Answer the following prompts thoughtfully and thoroughly. You should be able to write about a paragraph in response to each prompt. You may type or hand-write your responses. Staple them to the completed Prep Sheet (front only) and turn it in upon your return to class.

1. Who does Annie think she looks like at the beginning of the story? How does this discussion characterize both Mary and Annie in terms of their feelings towards white people?
2. What does Mary *really* want out of the peaceful protest at May’s Drugstore? Do not just rely on what she says she wants to Sally (the woman working the counter). What is her ultimate goal? Does she get what she wants out of the protest? Why/why not?
3. Why can’t Sally *really* serve Mary and Annie? Again, do not just rely on her initial response to the girls. Who is she protecting and why? Why does she react the way she does when she begins throwing food at them?
4. Who represents the most marginalized (def: pushed to the outside of society by not allowing a place within it) group in this short story? In what way is this evidenced in the story? Do you see any hypocrisy here; if so, by whom?
5. “Food That Pleases, Food to Take Home” and the nonfiction article, “In the ‘Land of the Free,’ Are You Free to Sit Out the National Anthem” both focus on peaceful protests in reaction to the violent treatment of African Americans. Discuss the similarities and differences you see in these scenarios. What is the message of both about protest?