

## AFTER YOU HAVE READ THE NOVEL

You are now going to consider the novel as a whole to help you consolidate your ideas. Remember to revise all the notes you have taken.

### Genre

Read the definitions below. Try to fit 'The Cone-Gatherers' into each one. Which do you think is the most appropriate description of the novel and why? (E)

**Allegory**- a story that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden moral, spiritual or political meaning.

**Fable** - a story, typically supernatural, that incorporates elements of myth and legend.

**Tragedy** - a story that deals with an event that causes suffering and destruction and involves the downfall of the main character.

Is 'The Cone-Gatherers' a typically Scottish novel? Justify your answer. (E)

### Structure

You noted in Chaps 12-16 that the story comes a full circle. What does this structure add to the mood of the novel? (E)

Look at the focus of chapter endings from 1 - 9 and then from 10 - 16. Note your findings. (A)

Can you relate this aspect of form to the theme of good and evil? (E)

### Characters

The characters are not realistic or psychologically convincing. They embody ideas.' Apply this statement to each of the main characters assessing how far you agree with it. (E)

'... in a way, aye, the innocent have to be sacrificed...' Chap 12. What evidence is there to suggest that Tulloch is the moral voice of the novel? (A)

Why does Duror's madness go undetected until it is too late? Consider both his nature and the attitudes of the other characters to him. (A)

'The Runcie-Campbells are despicable.' How far do you agree? (E)

### Themes

Make notes on how each of these themes is explored in the novel:

war class isolation good v evil love duty endurance change. (U)

Pick the **two** themes you consider to be most important and study these in detail.

Present your ideas to other members of your class. (A/E)

'The real evil of the class system is that it separates individuals who have much in common.' What do you think Jenkins is saying about class? (A)

### Setting

Explore the relationship between the wood on the estate and the forest at Ardmore. What does each represent? (A)

Paradise lost or gained? Are either of these fitting descriptions of the novel at its conclusion? (E)

What are the effects of war on the characters and society of the novel? (A/E)