Flush by Carl Hiaasen
Study Guide
6th Grade English

Marine Terms to know:
Skiff - a small boat
Johnboat -
Stern - towards the back of a boat
Bow - the front of a boat
Bucktail Jig - a type of fishing lure

Others:
Miccosukee Indians

Literary terms to know:
- Simile
- Metaphor
- Personification
- Hyperbole
- Allusion
- Foreshadowing
- Plot
- Exposition
- Climax
- Rising and Falling Action
- Resolution
- Point of View
- Conflict (Internal vs. External)
- Irony - when words are used to convey the opposite result or response of what is expected to happen.

Chapter Titles
Carl Hiaasen does not include chapter titles in this book. In the table below, use your marginal notes in the book to come up with a creative, but fitting title for each chapter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
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Crafty Characters

There are quite a few interesting characters in this book. Imagine you are a detective. What do you know about each character below? How are these characters connected to each other? The narrator? The problem in the story? For each character, write down as much as you can.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Relationship to Narrator</th>
<th>Character Traits: What is the person like? Can they be trusted?</th>
<th>Important Info: How is this person connected to the problem of the book?</th>
<th>Possible leads: What predictions can you make about the character's role in the story?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noah Underwood</td>
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<td>Paine Underwood</td>
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<td>Abbey Underwood</td>
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<td>Dusty Muleman</td>
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<td>Jasper Jr.</td>
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<td>Lice Peeking</td>
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<td>Shelley</td>
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<td>Miles Umlatt</td>
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Taking Effective Marginal Notes

(These are notes in your book)

While reading the passage, complete these steps:

1) Circle unknown words to look up in the dictionary or to determine by context clues.

2) Underline Proper nouns, dates and numbers.
   - These often include important information you may want to remember such as names, places, time period, etc.

3) * Star * important details.
   - Especially when they concern the setting and characters of the story.

4) Illustrate. Use icons such as a happy or sad face to indicate the tone/mood of the passage. 😊 or 😞

5) Question
   - Write any questions you have next to the paragraph that prompted your question while reading. Then you can remember to discuss them in class or with a friend.

6) Identify Figurative Language
   Using the first letter of the word, make a note of any similes (with an S), metaphors (M), personification (p), imagery (I), hyperbole (H)...

7) SUMMARIZE. Use the information you have noted to come up with a 3-4 word marginal note/summary for each page.
Chapter 1:

1. Why is Noah's Dad in jail?
2. Who owns the Coral Queen?
3. How did Noah's parents meet?
4. Who is Grandpa Bobby and what happened to him?
5. What does Noah's dad think Dusty Muleman has been doing illegally?
6. What is the setting (time of year and place) of Flush?

Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences...
6. Describe the relationship between Noah and Abbey.
7. Describe the relationship between Noah, Abbey and their father.

8. "It's not his heart I'm worried about, it's his brain," she said. What does Noah's sister mean by this statement? What can the reader infer about her relationship with her father at this point in the novel?

Chapter 2:

1. Who is Jasper Muleman, Jr.?
2. Describe Lice Peeking.
3. What did Lice Peeking steal from Mr. Muleman?
4. What does Noah and his father want from Lice Peeking?
5. Why was Noah's mother chopping onions?
6. Why did the family think that Grandpa Bobby was dead?

Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences
7. "He told Dad and the other guides that he'd inherited some money from a rich uncle who'd died in an elephant stampede in Africa. I remember Mom's eyes narrowing when Dad told us the story- it was the same look I got whenever I tell her I'm done with my homework and she knows better." (Page 15) What can you infer/conclude about Dusty from this passage?

8. "There, lying open on the bed, was my mother's suitcase. Not her vacation suitcase, either, but the big plaid one." (Page 23) What can you infer from this passage?

Chapter 3:

1. Who are Thom and Rado?
2. What did Shelly bury with the shovel?

3. A Metaphor compares two things by calling one thing another. Page 34 - Shelly thumped him with both heels and said, "Get up, you sorry sack of beans, before I park that slimy aquarium on your head."
Underline the metaphor above. What two things are being compared with this metaphor?

4. Personification is when nonhumans (such as a rock or a stapler) are given human traits or attributes.

(Page 28) "... when a summer storm rumbles across Florida Bay. If you’re on the ocean side of the islands, it can sneak up on you from behind, which happens a lot to tourists.”

What is being personified in this sentence?

Drawing Conclusions and Making Inferences

5. "Sometimes, late in the afternoon, my father would take me and Abbey out fishing. Even if the snappers weren’t biting, we’d stay until sunset, hoping to see the green flash on the horizon. The flash was kind of a legend in the Keys—some people believed in it and some didn’t. Dad claimed that he’d actually seen it once, on a cruise to Fort Jefferson. For our fishing expeditions, either Abbey or I always brought a camera, just in case. We had a stack of pretty sunset pictures, but no green flash.”

What can you conclude about this “green flash”? What do you think it is?

Chapter 4:

1. How did Bull get his nickname?
2. What did Jasper do to Noah after he hit him?
3. What did Noah do to Jasper after Bull and Jasper left?
4. What happened to Jasper’s johnboat?
5. Why is Abbey crying at the end of this chapter?
6. "Too many people these days, they just turn their backs or close their eyes, pretending everything is wonderful in the world." (Page 47).

What do you think about this statement? Is it true? Do you think there should be more people like Noah’s father? Could you be like Noah’s father?

7. What do you predict will happen in the next chapter?

Chapter 5:

1. Why wouldn’t the deputy allow Noah in to visit his father?
2. What did Lice Peeking do to Jasper Jr.?
3. What did Noah and Abbey witness as they hid and watched the workers on the Coral Queen?
4. What happened to Abbey at the end of this chapter?
5. Imagery is Language that creates a sensory impression within the reader’s mind. Throughout this chapter and the entire novel, Carl Hiaasen uses imagery to help the readers feel like they are there. He describes the characters so that the reader has a complete picture of what the person is like. Read the following two passages and underline the words that allow you to “see” Lice Peeking.
Chapter 6:
1. What did Abbey do to the stranger who had her by the neck?
2. Why didn’t Lice Peeking show up at Noah’s house to get the skiff?
3. Who is going to help Noah?
4. Bias is a one-sided judgment or opinion, either for or against a particular person, position, or thing.
   In order to locate bias, one must look at word choice and the exclusion and inclusion of particular information. Headline news articles should not be biased, neither should news reported on television. However, sometimes bias is still evident. Look at the following passages from page 62.
   - Miles Umlatt described my father as “passionate about the environment,” but also “volatile and impulsive.”
   Are these statements biased? Is it a one-sided view, or does it show both sides of Paine Underwood?
   - “Half the article is Dusty Muleman saying Dad’s a liar and a crackpot,” I said.
   - “Dusty plays golf every Sunday with the newspaper’s publisher,” my mother said.
   Do these statements show that the newspaper article was biased? If so, how?

Chapter 7:
1. What did Noah and Abbey do to the television, and why did they do it?
2. What did Noah find out about the sewage tank?

Chapter 8:
1. What did Shelly’s “pistol” turn out to be?
2. What does Shelly believe happened to Lice Peeking?
3. Where does Shelly decide to go work, and why?
4. Approximately how much money does Dusty Muleman make each night from the Coral Queen?
5. How did Noah’s dad get out of jail?
6. What motivates Shelly to help Noah? (pgs. 88-89)

Chapter 9:
1. According to Paine, why did he escape from jail?
2. What is a gag order? Why does the sheriff enforce it?
3. How was Paine able to get out, past the guards?
4. What deal does Dusty Muleman try to make with Paine (p. 98)? Why does Paine think Dusty is offering this deal (p. 103)?
5. What did Paine think would happen to him when the deputy came over? How did he react?
6. How did Thunder Beach get its name? (p. 101)
7. Why did Noah tell Dad about “the d word”?
8. Who does Noah run into on his way home and what happens?
9. What did Jasper Jr. hurt on himself?
Chapter 10:

1. What does Mr. Shine advise Paine to do after escaping jail?
2. What did the judge do to Paine to keep track of him until the case was settled?
3. Why does Shelly come to visit the Underwood’s house?
4. What happens to Abbey in this chapter?

5. Foreshadowing is when the author gives the reader a hint of something that is going to happen before it actually happens. Foreshadowing is used to build suspense or create anxiety.

   At the end of this chapter, we find out that Abbey is missing. There were clues that led up to this. Go back and look at page 113. Find the foreshadowing on that page.

   Foreshadowing on p. 113

Chapter 11:

1. Where did Noah and his parents go to look for Abbey?
2. Where did they find Abbey?
3. Where do you think Abbey has been?

Chapter 12:

1. Where was Abbey when she recorded the video?
2. What was wrong with the tape?
3. What happened to Paine when the police came to the house?
4. Why does Noah go into the filthy water the first time? Why the second time?
5. Who is Billy Babcock and where does he work? Why is this important?
6. Why does Dusty never get caught emptying the tank?
7. Who shows up at the beach right when Noah, Abbey and Shelly are about to leave?
8. What do Noah and Abbey decide to do at the end of the chapter?
9. An allusion is a reference to a person, a historical event, or a fictional character or story.

   Writers usually expect the readers to recognize an allusion. This chapter contains three allusions to famous people. Let’s see if you can find them and identify who these people are.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allusion</th>
<th>Page number</th>
<th>Who is this person?</th>
<th>Why was this allusion used? What emphasis is made by referring to this person?</th>
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Chapter 13:

1. What did Paine Underwood get a new job doing?
2. What do you think Noah and Abbey’s plan is?
3. What did Abbey do to Bull?
3. Who came to the rescue for Abbey and Noah? What does he look like?
Chapter 14:
1. What do Abbey and Noah plan to buy with the fifty-seven dollars and sixteen cents?
2. What is the code name for their secret mission?
3. What does Bull have to say to Abbey and Noah?
4. Why does Bull say what he says to Abbey and Noah?
5. Idioms are made up of words used in a special way that may be different from their literal meaning (e.g., It's raining cats and dogs.)
   Underline the idioms in the following sentences from chapter fourteen. Then, tell what each idiom means.
   1. "Now don't get your shorts in a knot," she said. "I'll tell Dusty I got sick off the shrimp salad " what's he gonna do, make me go in a bucket?"
      Meaning:
   2. Shelly tossed her head. "Oh no you don't, James Bond Jr. It's too hairy."
      Meaning:
      (What other literary device is used in this sentence?

Chapter 15:
1. Who is Godzilla?
2. How did Noah get onto the Coral Queen?
3. What was Abbey doing while Noah was on the Coral Queen?
4. Where are Noah's and Abbey's parents?

Chapter 16:
1. What does Noah run into under the water?
2. Why was Abbey late picking up Noah in the boat?
3. Who helps Abbey and Noah after Dusty Muleman and the "bald goon" pull a gun on them?
4. What happens to Noah and Abbey once they get away from Dusty Muleman and the "bald goon"?
5. Who is the old sailor/pirate?

Chapter 17:
1. What was Grandpa Bobby smuggling to South America?
2. How did he get his scar?
3. Why did the government tell Noah's family that Grandpa Bobby was dead?
4. What made Grandpa Bobby return to help?
5. What kind of gun did Dusty Muleman have?

Chapter 18:
1. Who did Noah and Abbey find asleep on the floor at Shelly's house?
2. What did the "blood stain" in Shelly's jeep turn out to be?
3. What does Noah show Jasper Jr. and Bull that makes them afraid?
Chapter 19:
1. How does Paine teach his children about standing up for what's right?
2. Why is Grandpa Bobby going back to South America?

Chapter 20:
1. How much money did Noah's father receive in his cash reward?
2. Why did Paine punch holes in the doors?
3. How much did Dusty Muleman get fined?
4. What is Paine being accused of at the end of this chapter?

Chapter 21:
1. What did Noah's mom show Lieutenant Shucker that proved that Paine could not have committed the arson?
2. Who was responsible for burning down the Coral Queen?
3. How did the fine get started?
4. What did Noah and his family see as they sat watching the sun set?