

ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. What human qualities does Linda Wails exhibit in her behavior toward Corey? Discuss.
2. Compare and contrast Linda Wails and Roland Wails as parents.
3. Discuss the novel as a coming-of-age story. How does Corey's character change during the course of the novel?
4. Discuss how each of the minor characters are important to the entire novel: Emily; Coach Cavanaugh; Mr. Torant; Royal; Mr. Stewart.
5. Based on what you know of Corey, what do you think he will do next in his life? How do you think his story will shape who he becomes as an adult? What do you think becomes of Corey? Describe.
6. Symbolism is apparent throughout the novel. Chose one of the following and discuss the symbolism: The Time Keeper; the butterflies; dreams; baseball.
7. Citing specifics from their conversations, discuss Corey's relationship with his mother. Do the same for his relationship with his father, and Emily.
8. Discuss the theme of death in the novel, citing specific events or passages.
9. There are many lessons to be learned in the novel. Choose the most important lesson to you and discuss specific examples.
10. What are several main themes of the novel? Choose one and discuss it in a critical essay.

