

The Lost World—Study Questions
Reading Fiction 106

Have brief summaries for each chapter, at the beginning of each chapter in your novella or in your notebook/laptop

1. How does chapter one develop the idea of romance (as a literary genre) and heroism? (romance: quest—chivalric ideals of courage, loyalty, and honor that includes encounters that are mysterious, fantastic, usual, magical, supernatural, extraordinary)
2. Write profiles of each of the four characters who travel to the lost world: Professor Challenger, Professor Summerlee, Edward Malone, and Lord John Roxton. Find passages of physical description as well as passages that reveal each character's psychology. Consider each character's progression through the narrative's dramatic arc to the conclusion. Are these characters round and dynamic? Round and static?
3. Discuss the minor characters: Sambo, Gomez, Manuel, the Indians. How are they characterized? Also, what about McArdle, Tarp Henry, Mrs. Challenger?
4. Assess the descriptions (e.g., landscape) of the lost world and its contrasts. How would you characterize this world, its wonders and dangers?
5. What scientific principles and concepts does the novella engage? A key one is Darwinian evolution.
6. How would you assess the scenes with dinosaurs? Do they compare with the Jurassic Park movies, e.g., *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*?
6. What commentary arises from the battle of the Accala Indians and the Ape-men?
7. How do you assess the final chapter and the character of Gladys. (Also see the opening chapter.)?
8. How fitting are the novella's dedication and foreward?
9. How would you characterize Edward Malone as a narrator? His narrative perspective as a journalist?