

English 1 / Study Skills: Summer Reading Questions 200

The Tale of Despereaux

1. Explain the character of Despereaux and how his personality was different from the other mice.
2. How was Despereaux falling in love with Princess Pea the focal point of this story.
3. The mouse council convicted Despereaux to the dungeon. How does this compare to our court justice.
4. Despereaux's role in this story is as the hero. What qualities of character does he show?
5. Despereaux breaks one of the important mice rules – he speaks to a human. Many brave and good people have broken the rules of their society in a similar way, can you name one and explain what s/he did.
6. How does Despereaux compare to one of the knights in King Arthur's court in saving the princess?
7. Explain how the light transforms Roscuro who was born in the filth and darkness of the dungeon. He thinks that light gives life meaning. Explain this feeling and how it relates to our Christian belief in that light brings hope.
8. How are Despereaux's parents supportive or not supportive in his wanting to be different and follow his heart.
9. Explain how Roscuro upon his escape from the dungeon promises Miggery that she will become a princess.
10. How does Roscuro use Miggery in aiding his own plan for revenge to make the Princess Pea suffer?
11. Why does Mig's father sell her?
12. What does Roscuro mean when says to Migs "Aspirations my dear are those things that would make you a princess."
13. Why does it make Despereaux feel better to hear his dad say "I was wrong forgive me"?
14. Love is ridiculous but love is also wonderful and powerful. How does this play out in Despereaux's love for princess Pea?
15. How do you see our own ESLRS of Reverence, Respect and Responsibility compare with those of Despereaux in his own personal quest?