

“The Fisherman and the Jinnee” Study Questions

1. With what famous opening line does the story begin?
2. What things does the fisherman catch?
3. What is unrealistic or exaggerated about the catches?
4. Describe the jinnee.
5. Who does the Jinnee think the fisherman is at first?
6. What does the jinnee ask for and promise to do at first?
7. What news does the jinnee give the fisherman?
8. What choice does the jinnee give the fisherman?
9. Why did Solomon imprison the jinnee in the first place?
10. Why does the jinnee want to kill the fisherman?
11. What did the jinnee plan on doing for his liberator at first?
12. How does the fisherman escape the jinnee’s wrath?
13. How does the jinnee’s attitude change when he gets put in the bottle?
14. Why does the fisherman refuse to let the jinnee go?
15. Who narrates the story of King Yunan and Doctor Duban?
16. With what disease is King Yunan diagnosed?
17. With what method does Duban aim to cure the king?
18. Describe the vizier.
19. Why might the vizier want the doctor “out of the way”?
20. How does the vizier approach the king to begin his plan?
21. Why does he approach him in this manner?
22. The vizier tells King Yunan “he who does not weigh the consequences of his actions will never prosper.” How is this statement ironic?
23. Who tells the story of King Sinbad?
24. What does King Sinbad say to his men regarding the capture of the gazelle?
25. Why do his men wink at one another?
26. How does King Sinbad react to the falcon’s tipping of the bowl?
27. What does he realize after he killed the bird?
28. What point is King Yunan trying to make to his vizier with the story of King Sinbad?
29. What does King Yunan say to Duban before he kills him?
30. What common thread connects the tale of King Sinbad to the story of King Yunan to the story of the fisherman and the jinnee?