

IPE Common Reading: The Other Wes Moore

Guided Reading Questions

Write response directly across from the question in your notes.

Suggested Notes Guidelines: These notes are to help you during the large group discussion.

- Note page numbers of examples.
- Describe the example using enough detail to help you remember.
- Identify key words or phrases.

1. Describe three critical factors in the lives of the two Wes Moore characters that created vast differences in their lives, despite their similar beginnings.

2. Discuss the role of family in the book (father, mother, siblings, and extended family).

3. Discuss the relationship between education and poverty. In your discussion, consider the education levels of both Weses' mothers, the educational opportunities that each Wes had, how their educational experiences opened different doors, and their reasons for continuing or discontinuing their studies.

4. During their youth, Wes and Wes spent most of their time in crime-ridden Baltimore and the Bronx. How important was that environment in shaping their stories and personalities and why?

5. What are two ethical dilemmas presented in the book?

Self-Reflection

These questions are designed to encourage you to reflect on the overall meaning of the book and how it can influence your life and/ or profession.

Think of examples in your own life that made you consider...

- The ethics of a situation?
- A time when you jumped to conclusions without knowing someone? How did the book help you to challenge your thoughts on this and to be more self-aware?
- A role model or mentor that has helped you?