Questions for Discussion and Basic Analysis of And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie

Chapters 1 & 2
1. Who are the characters we encounter in chapters I and II? (Hint: more than 10).
2. What page does the nursery rhyme appear upon? Why does Vera think it is in her room?
3. Why do you think the author chose to quote the bible on page 38? What do you think the passage means?
4. Prediction: Who do you think will die first?

Chapters 3 & 4
1. What is on the center of the table “on a circular glass stand?” How many are there?
2. What happens on page 42? What does it reveal?
3. Who is accused of killing whom?
4. How did “the Voice” talk to them? Who put the record on the gramophone? What was the record titled?
5. Were they all contacted in the same way? How were they contacted?
6. Who lied about his identity? What is his real name?
7. Who hired the man who lied about his identity? What is this person’s name? What does it really stand for?
8. What do they all say about the accusations made against them?
9. Can they leave the island? Why or why not?
10. Who chokes on page 67?

Chapters 5 & 6
1. How did Anthony Marston die? What does his face look like?
2. What does Dr. Armstrong suspect killed him? What type of death does it look like? Why?
3. Why does the judge think about Edward Seton? What happened to Seton?
4. What is Rogers referring to when he says, “I could have sworn there were ten of them?”
5. Who was Leslie? Why is General MacArthur upset about a letter? What did he do to Arthur? How does Leslie die?
6. Who decides he does not want to leave the island? Why do you think he does not want to leave?
7. What happened to Cyril? Who is Hugo?
8. What does Miss Claythorne read on page 81? Why is it disturbing?
9. Who does Dr. Armstrong dream about operating on? Who does it change to in the dream?
10. What does Rogers want Dr. Armstrong to help with? Why?
11. What happens to Mrs. Rogers? How do the others, except Rogers and Armstrong, find out?
13. Do you think the motor boat will come? Why or why not?
14. Who says the boat will never come to the island? Why?
15. What does Rogers tell Dr. Armstrong? Why is that disturbing?

Chapters 7 & 8
1. Who goes for a walk on the beach together? What do they talk about?
2. Where does “Be sure thy sin will find thee out” get mentioned from? Do the two conversing with one another believe the accusations? Why or why not?
3. Who does Armstrong ask to consult with him? Why? What do they decide is the purpose of being on Indian Island?
4. What does Armstrong recite on page 107? What does it fit?
5. What do Armstrong and his companion plan to do? How do they think they will accomplish this?
6. What theory do the two form about Marston’s death?
7. Who has a revolver? What does he/she have it?
8. What is the general doing? What does he say to the three men?
9. What does MacArthur tell Vera? How does she react?
10. Do Blore and Armstrong think MacArthur is homicidal? Why or why not?
11. What does Lombard discover at the cliff? Where is the murderer hiding?
12. Who was in the bedroom with Mrs. Rogers’ body? Why?
13. After the search of the house, what do the men discover?

Chapters 9 & 10
1. What does Dr. Armstrong get accused of doing?
2. Why did Lombard bring a revolver with him? Who does he say hired him? What makes his comment racist?

3. Why does Rogers bang the gong? Who isn't there? What is being served?

4. Who is the third person who dies? What do Vera and Rogers discover? Where do they put the body?

5. How did the third person die? Who delivers the information? Who takes over the situation? Why?

6. Where do they believe Mr. Owen is? Who do they think he is? What does Emily Brent say about the situation?

7. What position does the judge say they are in? What does he propose to do about it?

8. Who asks if women will be left out of it? Why? What caused the first 3 deaths? Is a woman capable of those murders?

9. Who could have poisoned Anthony Marston? Who does Blore accuse of killing Rogers?

10. What possibility does Wargrave mention about Mrs. Rogers' death? Why could it have happened?

11. Does anyone have a fool proof alibi for the third death? Why or why not?

12. Who makes fun of Justice Wargrave? What does he say on page 149? 150?

13. What events occur during chapter 10? What impact do these events have on the plot line?

14. Has anything confused you about the novel so far? If so, what has? If not, why not?

Chapters 11 & 12

1. Who is missing on page 165? What do they notice on page 167?

2. Who is the fourth victim? How did he/she die?

3. What does Vera Claythorne ask? Why does she ask that question?

4. Who does Vera think of while she's cooking breakfast? What does she ask Emily Brent?

5. What did they do after breakfast? Why?

6. Who gets giddy after breakfast? What does she hear when she gets sleepy?

7. Who do they accuse of the killings in the drawing room? Why? Why is it impossible?

8. What does Emily Brent's face look like on page 182?

9. What do they say killed her? What is on the windowsill? Who had a syringe? Where is it now?

10. What does Justice Wargrave suggest they do? Who reacts poorly? What does Wargraves say to persuade him/her?

11. Whose room do they search first? What don't they find in any of the rooms?

12. Who leads them to the hypodermic syringe and the sixth smashed China figure?

13. Which four are still alive? Which six are dead?

Chapters 13 & 14

1. What is the weather like? How were they behaving? What was their "tacit consent?"

2. What are their thoughts like? What emotion(s) do their thoughts reveal?

3. What happens to Vera? What actually touched her? Who's missing after she drinks the brandy?

4. What happens to the missing person? How is he/she dressed?

5. Why was Vera terrorized? Why do they think no one heard the shot?

6. Who finds the revolver? Where does he/she find it?

7. What is revealed about Vera? Are you surprised? Why or why not?

8. Who is obsessing about the revolver? Why? Who does he think left his room? Why?

9. Who reveals he has the revolver? Who does he go after?

10. Who disappears? How many little Indian figures are left?

11. Predict: Who do you think the murderer is? Why?

Chapters 15 & 16

1. What are they going to do on the highest point of the island? Why? What else do they consider doing at night?

2. Whose body haven't they found yet? What does Blore say to Lombard? How does Lombard react? What does he say to Blore?

3. What is the fourth line of the nursery rhyme? What is a "red herring?"

4. Where does Vera want to say? Why? What do they decide about lunch?

5. Who thinks Armstrong's the killer? Why?

6. Why do Lombard and Vera go back to the house? Do they enter? Why or why not?

7. Who believes they are the last person left on the island? How does this person feel?

8. What do they do with the body? What does Vera take from Lombard? Why?

9. Who believes they are the last person left on the island? How does this person feel?
10. What is the last verse of the nursery rhyme? What does the survivor do? Why?

**Epilogue and Manuscript Questions**
1. What bothers Sir Thomas Legge?
2. Who bought the island according to the locals? Who provisioned the island? What happened to him?
3. Who saw the SOS signals? When? When did they get to the island?
4. What information did the record provide? What about the typescript included with it?
5. How did Morris die? What does that do to the investigation? Why?
6. What does the position of Dr. Armstrong's body prove? When did the police surgeon arrive? How did Blore die?
7. What proves someone was alive after Vera Claythorne's death? Who killed everyone?
8. How does the murderer confess?
9. What else does the murderer confess to doing? What did he say he had a reputation for being? Based on the confession, who is the murderer?
10. What did he want to do? How did he get this idea? Who was his tenth victim?
11. Why did he decide to commit the murders when he did? Who was his accomplice? How did Dr. Armstrong help him the most?
12. What did the murderer change his mind about? What are the three clues he mentions?
13. What did the murderer count on to make his plan work? Did it work out the way he wanted it to do?