

In the Time of the Butterflies - Pre-Reading Questionnaire



1. Where is the Dominican Republic? _____

2. Briefly describe family norms/customs in the Dominican Republic (generally speaking).

↳ **Connection:** How does Dominican family structure/ family tradition compare to your own family?

3. To what religion do most Dominicans belong (generally speaking)? _____

4. Who was Rafael Leonidas Trujillo? When and how did he rise to power in the Dominican Republic?

↳ **Connection:** This reminds me of ...because...

5. Which group of people did Trujillo conspire against and have killed in 1937? _____

6. Briefly describe the social and political climate (mood) in the Dominican Republic during the Trujillo Era.

↳ **Connection:** How do you feel about our current leader? What can you, as an American, do if you are unhappy with our political leadership?

7. What is meant by the phrase "Cult of Personality"? _____

8. What were some of the organized opposition groups who worked against Trujillo? Why were many of the attempts to overthrow Trujillo unsuccessful?

↳ **Connection:** Describe a time in your life when you rebelled against something. What was the outcome? How did you feel during and after your rebellion?

9. What does *Las Mariposas* translate to in English? _____

10. Who were the Mirabal sisters? _____

↳ **Connection:** Do you have brothers or sisters? How have they helped shape your identity? How do you think your life would be different with or without siblings?

Predictions: Now that you have conducted your research, make predictions about the novel, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, based on what you have learned.

Category	I predict...	because...
Character	that the main characters will be a family during the Trujillo Era	our pre-reading research asked questions about family structure and Trujillo's reign.
Plot		
Theme		
Tone		

Helpful Websites and Databases for *In the Time of the Butterflies* Pre-reading:

Culture Grams

Address: <http://online.culturegrams.com>

Username: francis

Password: howell

The Dominican Republic and Trujillo's Dictatorship

Address: <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/~eliswong/trujillo/index.html>