

Tablet V

1. In tablet V, as the battle with Humbaba begins, Enkidu is scared. Gilgamesh repeats back to Enkidu the exact quote that Enkidu had given as encouragement to a worried Gilgamesh in the previous tablet. Write in the quote and explain why it is so significant to the story.
2. What does Humbaba say to Gilgamesh while trying to convince Gilgamesh to let him live?
3. Using context clues, explain what you think the word **clemency** means.
4. At the end of tablet V, there is a bit of foreshadowing. What's the hint or clue?

Tablet VI

5. The goddess Ishtar wanted Gilgamesh for her husband and he refused! What were his reasons?
6. The Bull of Heaven apparently did some serious damage in Uruk. What natural disaster might this story be used to explain?

Table VII

7. When Gilgamesh found out that the gods were striking down Enkidu, did he feel bad for Enkidu or himself? Support your answer with proof from the text.
8. As Enkidu lies sick and dying, what is his main concern? Why does he think he is cursed?
9. Why did the gods choose to kill Enkidu but spare Gilgamesh?

Tablet VIII

10. After reading Tablet VIII and the information below, describe what you will (or might) find in Enkidu's tomb and why it would be there.

Lapis lazuli and gold: According to the website SumerianShakespeare:

The Sumerians believed it was necessary to bring gifts (bribes) for the gods and goddesses of the underworld to insure the deceased had a comfortable stay in the afterlife. For instance, King Ur-Namma made sure to bring many expensive gifts for the deities of the netherworld. This is the reason why many feminine articles (jewelry) were found in the graves of men, and many masculine articles (daggers) were found in the graves of women.



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