

## ***Tess of the D'Urbervilles* Group Discussion Questions**

**Be prepared to present your question to the class in some interesting, visual way. (One different question per group)**

1. We enjoy Tess's murder of Alex because we feel he's been "asking for it" since the beginning of the novel. However, it brings about Tess's final doom. Figure out a plausible way for Hardy to happily end the novel. Which way works better-- yours or Hardy's? Why?
2. Is Angel really the one responsible for Alec's murder? List 5 reasons why or why not.
3. Hardy implies that, as in Greek tragedy, the gods fated Tess for her sad ending. Give three reasons arguing that this is true, then three reasons arguing why this is not true.
4. Hindsight is 20-20. Name at least five times when Tess could have changed her fate. If she could have seen her end in a crystal ball, would she have chosen to make the changes?
5. Tess's d'Urberville pride was the fatal flaw that led to her fall. Support this statement with five pieces of evidence from the novel.
6. Give five reasons that Tess is a novel whose theme is still relevant today, in spite of the change in morality.