

LORD OF THE FLIES • READING COMPANION

CIVILIZATION UNDER PRESSURE

Society Stability Tracker

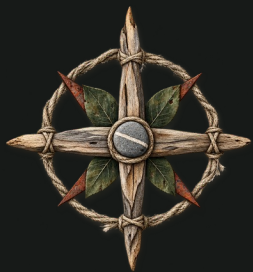
Track how shared authority, responsibility, reason, restraint, and common purpose change as Golding's island society develops.

6 CHECKPOINTS

GRADES 9-12

LOW PREP

EDITABLE PPT



STABLE → STRAINED → FRAGILE → BREAKING →
COLLAPSED



Plotting Something



What Are We Tracking?

Five indicators help you judge the strength of the boys' shared society.

SHARED AUTHORITY

A common system for making decisions still matters to the group.

Who gets heard? Who decides? Do people still accept the process?

RESPONSIBILITY

People carry out the work the group depends on.

Are necessary jobs getting done - even when they are boring or difficult?

REASON & EVIDENCE

Claims are questioned and decisions are not driven mainly by rumor or panic.

What counts as proof? What happens when fear and evidence conflict?

RESTRAINT

Something still limits harmful, selfish, or violent action.

Rules? Shame? Habit? Conscience? Fear of consequences?

COMMON PURPOSE

Enough shared goals remain to hold people together.

Rescue? Safety? Food? Belonging? What goal still matters to most people?

Rate the boys' shared society—not how organized one faction may become. These indicators can rise or fall at different speeds.

CHECKPOINT 1

After Chapters 1-2

Watch the gap between the rules the boys create and what they actually do.

Rate each indicator 1-5. Circle one number per row, then support your overall judgment with evidence.

SHARED AUTHORITY

Do people still accept a common process for decisions?

1 2 3 4 5

weak strong

RESPONSIBILITY

Are people carrying out obligations the group depends on?

1 2 3 4 5

weak strong

REASON & EVIDENCE

Are claims being tested against evidence rather than fear or rumor?

1 2 3 4 5

weak strong

RESTRAINT

Are there still accepted limits on harmful or selfish action?

1 2 3 4 5

weak strong

COMMON PURPOSE

Are shared goals still serving the group as a whole?

1 2 3 4 5

weak strong

STRONGEST EVIDENCE OF STABILITY

STRONGEST EVIDENCE OF INSTABILITY

OVERALL STATUS

STABLE

STRAINED

FRAGILE

BREAKING

COLLAPSED

One-sentence judgment: _____

Stability Over Time

Plot your overall rating from each checkpoint. Then look at the shape of the decline - or recovery.



Where is the steepest change?

What does the graph make visible that a chapter-by-chapter summary does not?

What Actually Held Them Together?

Return to the five indicators. Which mattered most - and which failed first?

1

Which indicator remained strongest for the longest? What kept it alive?

2

Which indicator failed first? What followed from that failure?

3

Was fear a cause of collapse, a symptom of collapse, or both?

4

Did the boys lose civilization - or reveal how dependent civilization is on shared restraint?

FINAL CLAIM

The novel suggests that a society remains stable only when...

Ways to Use the Tracker

Keep it light enough that it supports the novel rather than becoming another reading guide. Throughout, rate the shared island society rather than the internal order of one faction.

5-MINUTE CALLBACK

Use the one-page Quick Tracker. Students score only the overall status and one indicator, then defend the choice aloud.

FULL CHECKPOINT

Use the six checkpoint pages. Students score all five indicators, record evidence, and write the one-sentence judgment.

WITH STRANDED!

Remind students that STRANDED! asked them to build a society. This tracker asks them to observe one changing. Do not replay the simulation.

WITH A READING GUIDE

Let the reading guide handle comprehension and close-reading questions. Use this only after students have finished the assigned chapters.

WITH A DISCUSSION DECK

Open with the stability rating, then use chapter discussion slides to test the evidence behind it. Or reverse the order and rate at the end.

Suggested grading: completion or evidence/reasoning - not agreement with a teacher-preferred rating.