Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CP 9 Period: \_\_\_\_

**Directions: Read this paragraph and answer the questions as you read. This paragraph is *essential* to understanding the chapter. Answer the questions in complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. Assesses standard RI-10.4**

*Lord of the Flies* Chapter 5 Close-reading

*Paragraph 1 of “Beast From Water”*

The tide was coming in and there was only a narrow strip of firm beach between the water and the white, **stumbling stuff** near the palm terrace. Ralph **chose** the firm strip as a path because he needed to think, and only here could he allow his feet to move without having to watch them. Suddenly, pacing by the water, he was overcome with **astonishment**. He found himself understanding the wearisomeness of this life, *where every path was an* ***improvisation*** *and a considerable part of one’s waking life was spent watching one’s feet.* He stopped, facing the strip; and remembering that first enthusiastic exploration as though it were part of a brighter childhood, he smiled jeeringly. He turned then and walked back toward the platform with the sun in his face. The time had come for the assembly and as he walked into the concealing splendors of the sunlight he went carefully over the points of his speech. There must be no mistake about this assembly, **no chasing imaginary…**

**What do you suppose the “stumbling stuff” is? What about the “firm strip”?**

“stumbling stuff”= sand firm= wet sand

**Why does Ralph choose to walk on the “firm strip” instead of in the “stumbling stuff”?**

So that he could think

**What does “astonishment” mean? Why does he feel this way?** Amazed by his thought that he had

He realizes how much of a struggle it has been, b/c he’s the leader

**What does improvisation mean?** Makes it up as he goes along

**What does the phrase that is italicized mean?** If you spend your life watching where your feet go, you won’t look ahead. In life, we don’t live life to the fullest b/c we don’t think ahead and we live in the present.

**What must “chasing imaginary” mean in relation to the “exploration” that he was thinking of before?**

There will no messing around at this assembly

**What is Ralph’s plan for the assembly and why?**

Needs to make sure that they get things done and make sure the fire stays lit!