

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE

by Mitch Albom

GUIDE QUESTIONS

THE CURRICULUM

1. At what college did Morrie and Mitch first meet?
2. In what type of class is Mitch Albom enrolled?
3. How is life like a “classroom?” Think of a time in your own life where you learned something from your life instead of in a classroom.

THE SYLLABUS

4. What is wrong with Morrie?
5. What was one of Morrie’s favorite activities?
6. How did Morrie respond to his diagnosis? What did he decide to do?
7. Why did Morrie decide to have a “living funeral?” Describe the event.

THE STUDENT

8. What did Mitch originally want to do with his life?
9. Instead of doing what he wanted with his life, what did Mitch do for work?
11. How did Mitch respond to his uncle’s death? Describe how Mitch lived his life after his uncle’s death.
12. Think about a life-changing moment for you.

THE AUDIOVISUAL

13. How does Mitch discover Morrie is ill?

THE PROFESSOR

14. What tragedy occurred in Morrie’s youth?
15. What things did Morrie’s stepmother teach him were most important in life?

THE ORIENTATION

16. According to Mitch, what had he become best at doing?
17. Why do you think we choose to make such decisions even though we seem to know the “better choice?”
18. When Mitch first knew Morrie, what nicknames did Morrie and Mitch use for each other? What did these nicknames indicate about their relationship?

THE CLASSROOM

19. Why does Morrie have so many friends? How does this fact strike you?
20. Why is Mitch asking himself, “What happened to me?” What does Mitch realize had happened to him?
21. According to Morrie, what should we be teaching in the classroom called “life?” Do you agree with him? Why or why not?
22. Reflect on Morrie’s comment, “Dying...is the only thing to be sad over, Mitch. Living unhappily is something else.”
23. Think about the things that make you happy.

TAKING ATTENDANCE

24. In their first visit Morrie had said that our culture “does not make people feel good about themselves.” Instead of buying into the culture, Morrie rejected popular culture and developed his own culture. What things are important in the culture Morrie developed?
25. What important things were included in Mitch’s culture?
26. Think about this quote: “So many people walk around with a meaningless life....The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning.” What do you think about Morrie’s statement? How can you apply it to yourself? How can such a statement “change” the world?
27. What circumstances change in Mitch’s life that allow him to make another visit to Morrie?

THE FIRST TUESDAY

29. Through his illness, what has Morrie discovered is the most important thing in life to learn? Explain what he means.

THE SECOND TUESDAY

30. What is Morrie’s perspective on self pity?
31. In what ways do you agree or disagree with Morrie’s perspective?

THE THIRD TUESDAY

32. What does Morrie suggest that we should do to avoid having regrets?

THE FOURTH TUESDAY

33. "Learn how to die, and you learn how to live." What does this statement mean?

THE FIFTH TUESDAY

34. How is Morrie's family important to him?

35. According to Morrie, why is family important?

36. In what ways is your family important to you?

THE SIXTH TUESDAY.

37. Write a statement said by Morrie that you find to be important. Explain why this statement is important to you.

THE PROFESSOR

38. What kind of professor was Morrie?

THE SEVENTH TUESDAY / THE EIGHTH TUESDAY

39. Pick one idea from one of these two chapters to reflect on.

THE NINTH TUESDAY

40. What does Morrie plan to have written on his tombstone?

41. What does Morrie mean when he says, "I believe in being fully present?" How is Morrie's belief different from what the culture teaches?

42. How does Morrie's father die?

THE TENTH TUESDAY

43. Who does Mitch bring to visit Morrie on this Tuesday?

44. What do you think makes Morrie such a likeable person?

THE ELEVENTH TUESDAY

45. What does Morrie mean by, "People are only mean when they're threatened....and that's what our culture does." Explain how you find this statement to be true.

AUDIOVISUAL PART THREE

46. Morrie tells Ted Koppel that he's less afraid of dying now than earlier. What does he pay less attention to? What does he pay more attention to?

47. When Ted Koppel asks Morrie if he wanted to say anything to the audience, what did Morrie say? What is Morrie's mantra?

48. What did Morrie admit for the first time?

THE TWELFTH TUESDAY

49. What is Morrie's concept of forgiveness?
50. How can you apply Morrie's concept of forgiveness to yourself?
51. What does Morrie mean by "the tension of opposites?"

THE THIRTEENTH TUESDAY

52. According to Morrie, how are we different from plants and animals? Do you agree with him? Explain why or why not.
53. According to Morrie, what are the important questions?
54. What do you see as the important questions?
55. Morrie describes his perfect day as an ordinary day. What is a perfect day to you?

THE FOURTEENTH TUESDAY

56. What did Morrie and Mitch tell each other the Mitch's last Tuesday visit?

GRADUATION / CONCLUSION

57. After years of distance from his brother, Peter, Mitch finally reaches his brother. How does his brother respond?
58. From the impression left on you after completing the book, what are those things that make life worthwhile?