

**Due Thursday by 10pm for ALL classes:**

Watch this clip from *The Daily Show*, where Trevor Noah interviews Yaa Gyasi:

<http://www.cc.com/video-clips/3rbep4/the-daily-show-with-trevor-noah-yaa-gyasi---connecting-african-and-american-history-in--homegoing->

**You have already read Abena's chapter:**

Abena is the first character on Effia's side to be ignorant of her history. Not only does her father, James, keep his ancestry a secret, but he also enforces different cultural rules and values on his daughter, which separates her from the community. James has shed his English name in his Asanti community, but has NOT taken another, and is therefore nameless. The community calls him "unlucky" because he is a failed farmer for whom things will not grow. He only has one child, too, which means he cannot grow his family as well. Abena carries on this *fruitlessness* by not conceiving a child for the years she carries on a sexual relationship with her childhood best friend, the married Ohene Nyarko.

If you haven't already, fill out the Discussion Prep Questions for Abena's chapter. This assignment worksheet is available on Schoology, and has the following questions:

1. *In what ways do the themes of drought, sterility, and namelessness carry through Abena's chapter?*
2. *Has this break in Effia's family story, intentionally caused by James, been as complete as the break in Esi's? Why or why not? Justify your answer with specific evidence from the novel.*
3. *Why do James and Akosua raise their child differently than the other parents in the community? Do you think they were right to treat a child as an equal? In what ways do their choices benefit Abena? In what ways do they cause problems for her?*
4. *The stone returns to the story at the end of Abena's chapter. What does it represent?*

**I have broken you into groups to hold online discussions about these questions. Take notes on a google doc as you discuss, and make sure you share them with me. Please have this discussion with your group by this Wednesday, and send me the notes. Here are the groups:**

Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Patrick Billy Theo Ben Vivi Frankie	Tait Mia Thomas Angela Georgia Carson Rose	Luke Jack B Ben Kate Aaron Toby
Adhi Avery Lucas Elizabeth Sophia Ana	Sophia Raydan Wesley Omri Sarone Eliza Joyce	Katharine Cameryn Ila Josh Noah Evan Audrey
Nina	Mason	Bronte

Isa Liam Jacob Oliver	Nico Atticus Ethan Anabel Chiara Alyssa	Jack M Scott Raina Juliette Zia Kiril
August Charlotte Nathan Erik Hamilton	Jason Theo Graham Kienen Izzy Ruby	Arjun Luis Maya Gabe Ella Sophia Nathan