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| “I am a beast at bay” (pg. 27) | Climax, indirect characterization  When Rainsford says this to Zaroff, I feel like he’s an animal. He’s been pushed and now he’s willing to kill.  Is he any different from Zaroff now?  - **Discussion Question – Is the author trying to tell us that anyone can become a monster?** |
| “I hunt the scum of the earth” (pg. 18) | Connotation, Direct Characterization  The word choice here is scary! It’s like the author is trying to tell us Zaroff is a monster because he sees himself as better than everyone. “Scum” has a really negative connotation – lower than animals. But he’s talking about PEOPLE!  **Discussion Question – Is the author trying to tell us that all wealthy people can be like this? Or is it anyone?**  **Discussion Question – does this fit into a conflict? The main conflict in the story is man vs. man, but that hasn’t started yet here. It’s so big that it has to fit in somewhere.** |
| “ship trap island” (pg. 12) | Physical Setting, atmosphere  Whoa. That’s just weird. The island has a creepy name…and it’s described like skull island from king kong. I can’t even imagine something like this really existing.  Discussion Question – how is the author using atmosphere to raise suspense? |