**Read The Prologue and pp. 1-11. Then answer these questions:**

1. The novel opens with Santiago thinking about his sheep. (a) What does he observe about their existence? (b) How might the sheep symbolize the way some people live their lives? (c) How does his observation that they “have forgotten to rely on their own instincts” foreshadow later events in the story (what we anticipate will happen)?

2. What is meant by “We have to be prepared for change”?

3. (a) How does Santiago’s father react when his son tells him that he wants to travel?

(b) To what degree is his father’s observation about travelers (“They come in search of new things, but when they leave they are basically the same people they were when they arrived.”) teach a lesson about humanity? (c) What message is he trying to offer Santiago?