Chapter 7: Shadows and Tall Trees • What is Ralph

Then there were his nails – Ralph turned his hand over and examined them. They were bitten down to the quick though he could not remember when he had resumed this habit nor any time when he indulged it.

'Be sucking my thumb next -'

He looked around furtively. Apparently no one had heard.

- What is Ralph thinking about at the start of this chapter?
- Why does he look around "furtively" after he makes this statement?



Ralph v Jack (again)

- Ralph is in a very thoughtful and reflective mood in this chapter
- Ralph tries to take part in the hunt for the boar – but it doesn't come naturally to him
- Ralph tries to take charge and worries about Piggy

- Jack is ready for action and alert, hunting for the beast in this chapter
- Jack leads the group in hunting for the wild boar and is slightly injured by Ralph's throw
 Jack challenges Ralph's leadership

Exam style question:

- Plan your response to this essay question.
- Complete the essay for homework
- Time limit 45 minutes.

How does this part of the novel prepare the reader for events later on?
In your answer, you should comment on:
The techniques the writer uses to describe the scene
How the characters behave in this scene (20 marks)