

## Whale Rider Discussion Questions

1. Describe the cultural landscape seen in the film. Give specific examples of how the landscape expresses the folk culture of the island.
2. How does the conflict between the grandfather, Koro, and Pai's father, Porourangi, express a threat to the Maori culture?
3. Discuss the cultural forces that compel Pai and her grandfather to believe and act as they do in the film.
4. Based on the events of the movie, compare the role of men and women in the Maori culture. Cite specific incidents where gender was a catalyst for conflict.
5. In the film, the grandfather makes a reference to wanting his son to help his people. In what ways do you think the Maori people need help?
6. On the back of this paper, write three, good, analytical questions for the discussion.

