

**Study Questions for Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience"**

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1. What reasons does Thoreau give for **needing** to disobey the government? Find at least three examples and explain them.
2. What are the central issues that Thoreau is opposed to and more importantly **WHY is he opposed to them?**
3. What kind of relationship does Thoreau think the **individual** should have with the **government?** Additionally, what role does Thoreau think the government should have in the life of an individual?
4. Laws are an important topic for Thoreau in "Civil Disobedience." To what extent are laws necessary in Thoreau's view?
5. What is the significance of **conscience** to Thoreau as he uses the term in his essay?

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6. Thoreau uses both **logical** and **emotional** appeals to his readers. Find at least 3 instances of emotional appeal (pride, patriotism, guilt, etc.).
7. Thoreau makes reference to "self-reliance" in both direct and indirect ways. Find at least 3 passages and **comment** on how they relate to his essay on "Civil Disobedience".
8. Why do you **agree or disagree** that Thoreau made the right decision even though he spent time in jail for his actions?
9. What issues are you willing to stand up for despite any repercussions that you might have to endure? (The repercussion does not have to be as severe as going to jail.) Be sure you know the definition of "slacktivism."