**Amos Fortune, Free Man** from Los Angeles City College Cyber Writing Center  
  
by Elizabeth Yates

Please discuss the following questions regarding pp. 109-130 of Amos Fortune in your groups.

1. How would you describe Amos’s family’s life in their new home? How was Violet and Celyndia’s life different?

2. What did Celyndia do with her friends?

3. How is Amos’s business going?

4. What does Amos dream about? What else does he want from life?

5. What was Amos’s weekly routine? (p.119-120)

6. What was the church like? How were the blacks treated in church? (p. 120-22)

7. Who is Lois? What kind of problems does she have?

8. What kind of story does Amos tell Lois’s children?

9. How does Amos offer to help Lois and her family?

10. Why does Violet bury the iron kettle? What do you think Amos will do when he finds out?

Vocabulary: There are a lot of words used to describe how Amos tans the hides and does his work. They are too numerous for me to define here, and I hope you got the general idea that it is a long process of several different steps using chemicals and liquids. That’s all you really need to know! Here are the definitions of a few other words in this chapter:

p. 109 mallet--hammer   
p. 110 loom--a tool that Violet used to make cloth for clothing   
erect-build   
p. 111 basin--a big pot or tub   
p. 112 pliable--soft and movable   
p. 113 hemlock, spruce and larch are all herbs or plants from the forest   
p. 114 coins--round money like dimes or quarters here in the US   
plot--piece   
p. 116 cantering--trotting or running on a horse   
p. 117 waist--the middle point of your body   
p. 120--pew--the chairs or benches in the church   
p. 121--congregation--the people who regularly go to the church   
p. 123--scorn-to think badly of, mournful--sad   
p. 125-chief--a kind of king or ruler, tribe--a group of people who share culture   
p. 126 weep--cry,   
p. 127 whip-poor-will---a small bird which comes out at night   
p. 128--soothingly--calming