**Comprehension Questions:**

**“*Utopia*” by Sir Thomas More**

Answer the following questions in our journals. Be sure to *cite specific references from the text when explaining your answers:*

**Chapter 4: *“Of Their Traffic”***

1. What is the composition of the families? What happens when one family gets too small or too large?
2. What happens to cities that breed too fast, or too slowly?
3. If the natives of the cities refuse to conform to the laws, what happens to them**?**
4. What is the role of 1) the man, 2) the wives, and 3) the children? Give at least 2 examples of each. *(You must draw information from various paragraphs to answer).*
5. What does the author mean by “But by the laws of the Utopians, there is no room for this?” *(Pg. 2, paragraph 4)*
6. What is the role of the slaves? Give at least 2 examples. Why do you think the author included slaves in a “Utopia?” *(You must draw information from various paragraphs to answer).*
7. Describe the hospitals.
8. How are people organized at the hours of dinner and supper? Give at least 2 examples. *(You must draw information from various paragraphs to answer).*
9. Describe the process of meals (dinner/supper). Why are they pleasant? Give at least 2 examples.
10. Describe the process of nursing a child.
11. What does the author mean by “old men are honored with a particular respect, yet all the rest fare as well as they.” *(Last paragraph).*

**Chapter 1: *“Of Their Towns, Particularly Amaurot”***

1. Summarize the general composition of the landscape of Amaurot
2. What aspects of the town serve to protect its inhabitants? Give at least 2 examples.
3. Why are the doors easily opened and every man may enter freely into any house? What happens to residency periodically?
4. What is the purpose of the gardens?
5. Describe the current houses and buildings.

**Chapter 3: *“Of Their Trades, and Manner of Life”***

1. What is the significance of agriculture?
2. Why do you think the author states “there is no sort of trade that is not in great esteem among them” *(Paragraph 1)*
3. How do they handle the production and wearing of clothing? How is clothing valued? *(first and last paragraphs)*
4. How do people choose and take a trade/career? What happens if a “man’s genius lies another way?” *(Paragraph 1)*
5. How are people expected to work? What are the work hours? *(Paragraph 2)*
6. What are people expected to do in their leisure time (time not working)? Give at least 2 examples. *(Paragraph 2)*
7. What does the author mean by “if others, that are not made for contemplation, choose rather to employ themselves at that time in their trades, as many of them do, they are not hindered, but are rather commended, as men that take care to serve their country.” *(Paragraph 2)*
8. How does the author distinguish between the “current” practice of “labors that are a real service” and “trades that are both vain and superfluous?” Why does he do this? *(Paragraph 3)*.
9. What is the work ethic of the people in Utopia? How is labor organized? How is their productivity? How does the author explain the reason for this? *(Paragraphs 4 & 5)*
10. Why do you think the author thinks people in Utopia should “content themselves with fewer things?” *(Last paragraph)*