

Candide

Voltaire

Why does Candide answer Pangloss's final theory with work instead of another argument?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Cultivate our garden
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter XXX · The Conclusion
START	I know also, said Candide, that we must cultivate our garden.
END	All that is very well, answered Candide, but let us cultivate our garden.
PASSAGE ID	sec-can-04

THE MOVE

Compare abstract explanation with practical action

WHY THIS PASSAGE

At the end, Pangloss still explains events through abstract systems, while Candide answers with a practical task: cultivate the garden. The contrast suggests that useful action can matter more than a theory capable of explaining everything after the fact.

MARK

Underline Pangloss's final abstract explanation. Circle Candide's repeated response about the garden. In the margin, write EXPLAINS beside one and DOES beside the other.

NOTICE

- What does Pangloss's theory offer the group at the end?

- What does work in the garden produce that explanation does not?
- Why does Candide repeat the practical answer instead of trying to defeat Pangloss in another argument?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Candide answer Pangloss's final theory with work instead of another argument? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Candide answer Pangloss's final theory with work instead of another argument? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Candide answers with work because practical labor produces food, order, and a livable community while Pangloss's theories continue explaining everything without changing anything. Action becomes a better response than total explanation.
EVIDENCE	Use Pangloss's final abstract reasoning and contrast it with the repeated command to cultivate the garden and the group's concrete work.
WATCH FOR	Do not interpret 'cultivate our garden' as simple anti-intellectualism. The contrast is between explanation without effect and useful action.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

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Why does Candide answer Pangloss's final theory with work instead of another argument?

START ANCHOR	I know also, said Candide, that we must cultivate our garden.
END ANCHOR	All that is very well, answered Candide, but let us cultivate our garden.

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline Pangloss's final abstract explanation. Circle Candide's repeated response about the garden. In the margin, write EXPLAINS beside one and DOES beside the other.
2. NOTICE - What does Pangloss's theory offer the group at the end? What does work in the garden produce that explanation does not? Why does Candide repeat the practical answer instead of trying to defeat Pangloss in another argument?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Candide answer Pangloss's final theory with work instead of another argument?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.