

The Great Farini

These questions can help to guide a student's viewing of The Great Farini biography.

1. What was the Great Farini's real name? When was he born?
2. Where did the Hunt family settle? Why?
3. How did Willy become interested in daredevil acts?
4. Why would circus performers refer to one another as "family?"
5. Why did circuses draw so much attention in the 1850s?
6. What deal was struck in the Hunt household?
7. Where did the name, "The Great Farini," come from?
8. Who was the renowned acrobat that Farini challenged?
9. What were some of the tricks Farini performed on his walk?
10. What impact did the Prince of Wales' visit have on the duel between Blondin and Farini?
11. What do you think the narrator of the film meant by saying that Farini had, "shown the world that superman was human?" Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
12. Why did Farini go to Havana?
13. Where does Farini resurface?
14. What is a pangymnastikonaerostationist?
15. Who was El Nino?
16. What happened to Farini when he reached his 30s?
17. Who was Lulu? Why were audiences drawn to her?
18. What did Farini invent?
19. What was the intent of the Dangerous Performances Act?
20. What were some of the problems that adventurers like Lee Haldeman encountered while searching for Farini's lost city?

21. What lends credence to Farini's lost city?
22. Why did Farini move back to Canada?
23. Norman Strong described Farini as small and slight. Why would this surprise him?
24. Who were Farini's biggest fans? Why? Explain.