Anticipation Guide
Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer

1. What experiences have you had being in the wilderness?
2. Is there really any wilderness left in America?
3. How long have you ever spent without human contact?
4. How long have you gone without enjoying the conveniences of civilization?
5. Do you consider McCandless heroic? In what sense?
7. Why should we care about Chris McCandless and his fate?
8. Why do we seem to have such a fascination with disaster? With ill-fate explorations?
9. How do you assess McCandless' impact on others (family and friends)?
10. What is the importance of the father-son relationship in this story?
11. What is Krakauer's role in McCandless' story? Why does he include his own personal experiences?
12. How does McCandless treat the world around him (other people, material possessions, land, nature)?
13. What books would you take with you "into the wild"?
14. McCandless takes on an alternative identity in his travels. What alternative identity would you assume?
15. Re-write the last paragraph of the story (before the epilogue) to reflect your own conclusions about McCandless.