

Pre-reading anticipation questions

Date: _____ Class: _____

1. What makes an effective witness?
2. How can stereotypes impact our opinions of others?
3. How can experience influence perspective?
4. How can prejudice(s) impact judgment?

12 Angry Men
Vocabulary List

Name: _____
Date: _____ Class: _____

DIRECTIONS: Define the following words which appear in the play *12 Angry Men*.

1. Abstain
2. Appall
3. Bigot
4. Burden of proof
5. Coroner
6. Cross-examine
7. Defendant
8. Defense
9. Deliberate
10. Dogged

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11. Elevated Train/ El train

12. Evidence

13. Homicide

14. Hung Jury

15. Insignificant

16. Intimidate

17. Jury

18. Premeditated

19. Prosecution

20. Reasonable doubt

21. Riffle

22. Sadist

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23. Subservient

24. Superficial

25. Switchblade knife

26. Testimony

27. Trial

28. Unanimous

29. Verdict

12 Angry Men
Jury Duty Scavenger Hunt

Name: _____
Date: _____ Class: _____

DIRECTIONS: Use the jury handbook or website provided to answer the following questions.

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. What are the qualifications for jury service?	
2. How many alternate jurors are there?	
3. Who decides if note-taking is allowed by the jurors?	
4. What is the consequence for skipping jury duty?	
5. What percent of jurors are assigned to serve on the grand jury?	
6. What official documents are used to choose potential jurors?	
7. What is the length of the average trial?	
8. What is the role of the: a. Court clerk? b. Court officer? c. Interpreter?	

<p>9. Put the following in the correct chronological order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Deliberations b. Jury selection c. Jury instructions d. Oath e. Closing arguments f. Opening statements g. Testimony/ evidence presentation 	
10. What four rights does every juror have?	
11. Are jurors paid travel expenses?	
12. What is the daily payment for jurors?	
<p>13. Who pays the daily juror payment to jurors who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Employed? b. Unemployed ? c. Employed by a large company? d. Employed by a small company? 	
14. Can employers keep their employees from serving on a jury?	
15. Are evening and night workers paid for jury duty?	
16. Name TWO things a juror should NOT do.	
17. Are spectators allowed in court?	
19. Does serving on a jury require any certain education level?	

Name _____ Per _____

Twelve Angry men – Act 1 Study guide

Holub

Twelve Angry Men takes place in a _____ room in the late afternoon on a hot summer's day in _____ (city). After the curtain rises, the _____ voice is heard offstage, giving instructions to the jury. He says that the defendant is being tried for _____, which carries a mandatory _____ sentence. The judge adds that if the jury has _____ about the guilt of the accused, they must acquit him. The verdict must be _____.

The jurors, all men, file into the _____ and sit in straight-backed chairs around a long conference table. The weather is hot, and there is no _____; some of the men are irritable. The guard _____ the door. From the initial chitchat, it is clear that most members of the jury regard the man as _____. Jurors Seven and _____ ridicule the defendant's story. Apparently, a young man has stabbed his _____ to death with a knife. He admits that he bought a knife that night but claims that he _____.

The jury takes a vote. Eleven jurors vote _____, and one juror, Juror Eight, votes _____. Jurors Three, Seven, and Twelve criticize him, but Juror Eight says that he does not know whether the man is guilty or not but that it is not easy for him to _____ without discussing it first. After some argument, they agree to discuss the facts of the case. Juror Three reviews what they know. An old man who lives _____ where the murder took place heard _____ just after _____ (time). He heard the son yell at the father that he was going to _____. Then he heard a _____ and moments later, saw the boy running out of the house. Juror Four says the boy's story is flimsy. He said that he was at _____ at the time of the murder, but no one remembers seeing him there. Also, a woman living opposite looked out of her window and saw the murder through the _____. During the trial, it was verified that this was possible. Further facts emerge: the father regularly _____, and the son had been arrested for _____, mugging, and _____. He had been sent to _____ for knifing someone.

Juror Eight insists that, during the trial, too many questions were left _____. He asks for the _____ to be brought in and says that it is possible that someone else stabbed the boy's father with a _____. Several jurors insist the _____ is a very unusual one, but then Juror Eight produces from his pocket a _____. He says that it is possible the boy is telling the truth. The other jurors scoff at this, but Juror Eight calls for another vote, a secret one this time. He says that he will abstain. When the votes are counted, there are ten guilty votes and one not guilty.

Notes:

Name _____ Per _____

Twelve Angry men – Act 2 Study guide

Holub

Act 2 Juror Three is angry with Juror _____ because he thinks that he's the one who changed his vote. It transpires that the not-guilty vote was actually cast by Juror _____. This juror says that he wants to hear more discussion of the case, even though there is still a strong feeling among the other jurors that the defendant is guilty. Jurors _____ and _____ start to play a game of _____ to pass the time, but Juror _____ angrily snatches the piece of paper away, saying that jury deliberations are not a game. Pressured by Juror Eight, the jury agrees that it would take about _____ seconds for the train to pass by the apartment. Juror Eight also establishes that the train is noisy, so the old man could not have heard the boy yell (what) _____, as the old man testified. Juror Nine suggests that the old man may have convinced himself that he heard the words because _____ (what reason). Juror Three responds to this with hostility, but Juror Eight argues additionally that even if the boy had said he was going to _____, that does not mean he intended to do so, since people often use that or similar phrases without meaning them. Convinced by these arguments, Juror _____ changes his vote to not guilty, making the vote _____ to _____.

Juror Eight then questions the old man's testimony that he took only _____ seconds to get downstairs, open the front door, and see the boy fleeing. He says that bearing in mind that the man cannot _____ well, it probably took longer. Using a diagram of the _____, Juror Eight acts out the old man's steps and is timed at _____ seconds. He says that the old man must have _____, rather than seen, someone racing down the stairs and assumed it was the boy. An argument erupts between Jurors Three and _____, as Juror Three insists the boy is guilty and must be executed. Juror Eight accuses him of being a _____. Juror Three lunges at him, screaming that he will _____. Juror Eight replies softly, suggesting that perhaps Juror Three does not really mean what he is saying.

Notes:

Name _____ Per _____

Twelve Angry men – Act 3 Study guide

Holub

Act 3 The jurors take another vote, this time an open one, which is _____ to _____. Jurors Two, Six, and Eleven have switched their votes, to the annoyance of Jurors Three and _____. The possibility of being a _____ jury is brought up, but Juror Eight refuses to accept the possibility. They take a vote on that, too. _____ jurors vote in favor of declaring themselves a hung jury; _____ vote against. Juror Four changes his vote, so it is seven to five against declaring a _____. Juror _____ then argues persuasively for a guilty verdict, based on the evidence. He raises the possibility that although the old man may have taken longer to get to the door than he testified, the murderer might also have taken longer to escape. Reenacting the actions of the murderer, the jurors time it at _____ seconds. This suggests that the old man's testimony that he saw the boy fleeing may be correct after all. As a result, three jurors change their votes back, leaving the tally at _____ to _____ in favor of guilt.

Juror Two raises a question about the fact that the fatal wound was caused by a _____ thrust of the knife. How could that be, since the son is _____ shorter than his father, which would make such an action very awkward? Juror _____ demonstrates on Juror Eight how it could be done, crouching down to approximate the boy's height and then raising the knife and making a downward stabbing motion. But Juror Five, who has witnessed _____, says that anyone using a switchblade would use it _____, stabbing _____, thus making it unlikely that the boy, who was an experienced knife fighter, could have caused the fatal wound. Another vote is taken, and it is _____ to _____ in favor of acquittal. Juror _____ goes off on a prejudiced rant about how all people from the slums are _____ and violent and have no respect for human life. Disgusted with his views, most of the other jurors get up and walk to _____, where they turn their backs on him.

Juror _____ still insists that the boy is guilty. He says the most important testimony is that of the woman who says she saw the murder. She was in bed, unable to sleep, when she looked out the window and saw _____. Juror _____ reminds them that the woman wears glasses, but she would not wear them in bed and would not have had time to put them on to see what she claims to have seen. He contends that she could have seen only a _____. At this, Jurors Four and _____ change their votes to not guilty, leaving the tally at _____ to _____. Only Juror _____ insists on a guilty verdict, but when he sees that he stands alone and cannot change anyone else's opinion, he begrudgingly votes not guilty. The jury has reached a _____ decision, and the defendant is _____.

Notes:

12 Angry Men: Verdict Votes & Tallies

Name _____ Date _____ Block _____

	Vote in Act I	Vote in Act II	1 st Vote in Act III	2 nd Vote in Act III	Comments/ Notes
Juror #1					
Juror # 2					
Juror # 3					
Juror # 4					
Juror # 5					
Juror # 6					
Juror # 7					
Juror # 8					
Juror # 9					
Juror # 10					
Juror # 11					
Juror # 12					
Total Guilty					
Total Not Guilty					



Evidence Fact Sheet for *12 Angry Men*

Write the facts that relate to each item of evidence in the play. You may make notes on which jurors find each item important also. Reference how each item lends to reasonable doubt.

The Knife	The L-Train
The Man Downstairs	The Old Lady

Which item or testimony would be the most convincing if you were a jury member for this trial? Fully explain the implications of the one you choose and explain why it could convince you.



12 Angry Men

Review Questions: Act I

Name: _____

Date: _____ Class: _____

1. Who is the defendant in this trial?
2. Of what crime is the defendant accused?
3. What specific instructions does the judge give the jury?
4. How does the "time of day" and environment of the jury room affect how the jury feels?
5. Why is juror #7 in such a hurry to leave?
6. What is the result of the **first** vote?
7. Which juror is least sure of his vote?
8. What explanation does juror #8 give for his vote?

Continue onto the next page

9. How do jurors #3, #7, and #10 feel about the explanation given by #8?

10. When they decide to discuss the case, what evidence do the following jurors bring up?

#3 –

#6 –

#10 –

11. What are the prejudices of the following jurors?

#3 -

#4 -

#7 –

12. How does juror #5 react to their prejudices?

13. Describe the defendant's testimony about the knife in several sentences.

14. Why is the knife so important?

12 Angry Men
Review Questions: Act II

Name: _____
Date: _____ Class: _____

1. Which juror has changed his vote?
2. How does the result of the second vote create conflict between #3 and #s 5, 11 and 9?
3. Why does juror #11 object to being questioned about how they all voted?
4. How does juror #8 discount the old man's (witness) testimony?
5. When juror #9 says, "I speak from experience," what is he really saying about himself?
6. What is significant about juror #10 saying, "He don't even speak good English?"
7. Is #10's behavior consistent? Why or why not?
8. How has #3 contradicted himself?

12 Angry Men
Review Questions: Act III

Name: _____
Date: _____ Class: _____

1. What is the result of the **third** vote?
2. Which four jurors changed their votes?
3. What does juror #5 now contribute about knife fighting and how does he know this?
4. How is #7's willingness to change his vote now consistent with his earlier behavior?
5. Why does #11 question #7 so closely about his willingness to change his vote?
6. How do the other jurors react to #10s saying "those people?"
7. What is the result of the **fourth** vote?
8. Why does juror #4 still feel he cannot vote for acquittal?
9. How does juror #6 help juror #4 change his vote?
10. At the end of the play, how has the defendant been proven "not guilty"?

12 Angry Men
Discussion prompts

Name: _____
Date: _____ Class: _____

DIRECTIONS: Prepare notes for your particular position on each of the statements below, or as assigned by your teacher. Use specific evidence and examples from the play and your knowledge of the judicial system to support your point of view. Be prepared to discuss your ideas with the class.

1. Why would a superficial examination of the facts presented in a trial serve as an injustice to the defendant?
2. One of the jurors was a refugee from a foreign country. Explain how this provided him with a unique perspective and insight that the other jurors did not have.
3. Which piece of information or evidence do you feel offered the greatest proof for the argument of reasonable doubt?
4. The defendant's upbringing and environment is a point of discussion among the jurors. Do you feel that a person's background is a valid consideration in deciding whether they are guilty of a crime?
5. Twice during the play, #9 says, "It takes courage to stand alone." Explain how this idea is important to the play.
6. The play never fully establishes the defendant's innocence. The jury merely decides that there is reasonable doubt about his guilt. Do you feel this is just?
7. Prejudice among some of the jurors impacts their decision making process. Choose one such juror and explain how prejudice was a factor in his thought process.

1

Please answer ~~All three~~ essay questions using your own notebook paper.

ESSAY #1

Imagine you are one of the 12-jury members in the play. Pretend that the trial has just ended, and after a long discussion, the jury has finally made its decision. Write a letter to your best friend, describing the events of the trial, the jury's discussion, and the outcome, all from your character's perspective. Write at least five paragraphs. Each paragraph should be at least three sentences long. Pay close attention to spelling and grammar.

ESSAY#2

In your opinion, is justice served in 12 Angry Men or did the jury set a guilty man free?

Write at least three paragraphs. Each paragraph should be at least four sentences long. Pay close attention to spelling and grammar.

ESSAY#3

In 12 Angry Men, the conditions under which the jurors deliberated were very uncomfortable. Explain how things may have been different had the jurors been seated in comfortable chairs in a larger room with air conditioning. Would the case have been discussed in the same way? Would the jurors have been kinder to each other? Would the final decision have changed? Write at least three paragraphs. Each paragraph should be at least four sentences long. Pay close attention to spelling and grammar.