**“The Lottery” Questions**

Directions: *Read the following questions and answer each question in complete sentences. You must type your answers in blue ink. Your font and size must remain the same as the one displayed in the questions. Do not erase the questions; just begin writing your response for each question under the question.*

1. The young boys in the town are collecting and stockpiling rocks before the lottery takes place in the town square. How does Jackson use this event as an element of foreshadowing to the culminating events?

2. Mr. Summers asks, “Watson boy drawing this year?” Watson responded, “I’m drawing for my mother and me.” In a town that thrives on tradition and family structure what can you infer about the father in the Watson family? (Pay attention to the responses in the crowd and the history of this town.)

3. In literature, the color black often symbolizes death. Explain the symbolism of the black box and elaborate on the symbolism of the box’s battered condition.

4. Why do the village people keep their distance from the black box? Why are they hesitant in giving Mr. Summers a hand with the stool and box?

5. When Mr. Summers makes mention of someone making a new black box no one responds. According to Jackson no wants to create a new black box because, “no one liked to upset even as much tradition.” Based on this information about the people in the town, what can you infer about the yearly lottery and why it is still held every year?

6. How does Old Man Warner feel about the lottery? What is his response to the north village no longer having a lottery?

7. Mrs. Hutchinson was late to the lottery. Mr. Summers said, “Thought we were going to have to get on without you Tessie.” Explain how Jackson’s use of this statement is the use of foreshadowing.

8. What do you understand to be the writer's own attitude toward the lottery and the stoning? Exactly what in the story makes her attitude clear to us?

9. This story satirizes a number of social issues, including the reluctance of people to reject outdated traditions, ideas, rules, laws, and practices. What kinds of traditions, practices, laws, etc. might "The Lottery" represent?

10. This story was published in 1948, just after World War II. What other cultural or historical events, attitudes, institutions, or rituals might Jackson be satirizing in this story?