

"TWELVE ANGRY MEN" QUESTIONS
BUS 110 (Business Law) – Fall 2017

Name: _____
Section: _____

1. In your own words, state what instructions the judge gives to the jurors. How many jurors must vote guilty for the accused to be convicted?

2. Before the jurors are locked in the deliberation room, what is the last thing they hear that might influence their thinking when deciding the defendant's guilt or innocence?

3. Of what crime is the defendant accused and, briefly, what evidence is there against him?

4. To quickly identify and differentiate among his characters, the playwright uses a number of stereotypes. Identify at least three of them.

5. What reasons does Juror Eight originally give for voting not guilty?

6. What does Juror Ten's following comment reveal about him? "I lived among 'em all my life. You can't believe a word they say."

7. After the first vote, the jurors start giving their reasons for thinking the defendant is guilty, starting with Juror Two. Which of the jurors seem to have good reasons for their judgment and which don't?

8. Who is the first juror to switch his vote to "not guilty"? What is his reason to do so?

9. At one point, Juror Eleven makes a suggestion that Juror Seven does not understand “reasonable doubt.” How does Juror Seven respond?

10. How does Juror Five become convinced that the boy did not stab his father?

11. To Juror Four, what is the most convincing evidence that the boy is guilty? Why does he ultimately change his vote to not guilty?

12. In the end, did Juror Three finally believe the boy was not guilty, or did he vote just to get it over with? Support your answer.

13. The jury ultimately reaches a unanimous “not guilty” verdict. Despite this, do you think that any of the jurors thought that the boy probably had killed his father? Should they have voted to convict if they had that belief?

14. How do the requirements of a unanimous verdict and proof beyond a reasonable doubt relate to the personal concerns that some jurors will bring to the jury room?

15. What do you think is the major point of this play?
