**The Lottery**

**Student Name:**

1. Were you surprised by the ending of the story? If not, at what point did you know what was going to happen?
2. How does Jackson start to foreshadow the ending in paragraphs 2 and 3? Conversely, how does Jackson lull us into thinking that this is just an ordinary story with an ordinary town?

1. Where does the story take place? In what way does the setting affect the story? Does it make you more or less likely to anticipate the ending?

1. In what ways are the characters differentiated from one another? Looking back at the story, can you see why Tessie Hutchinson is singled out as the "winner"?

1. What are some examples of irony in this story? For example, why might the title, "The Lottery," or the opening description in paragraph one, be considered ironic?

1. 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?
2. This story satirizes a number of social issues, including the reluctance of people to reject outdated traditions, ideas, rules, laws, and practices.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?
3. 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?
4. How has this story influenced teen novels – what examples of contemporary teen novels or movies adaptions can you think of that use the basic idea of this story?