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English 10 Mrs. Filor

*Twelve Angry Men* Act I Reading Guide

1. What is the setting of the play?
2. Who are the characters?
3. What is the conflict? What type of conflict is it?
4. How is the young man on trial characterized?
5. Which three testimonies are the men basing their decision on? Who testified and what did these people say?
6. What evidence is there to help determine whether the young man committed the crime?
7. How does the conflict of the play shift by the end of the Act?
8. What are the thematic undertones at the end of Act I? What does Reginald Rose seem to be saying about justice?
9. If you were a juror, how would you vote at the end of Act I? Guilty or not guilty? Why?

*Twelve Angry Men* Act II Reading Guide

1. Who has changed his mind about the guilty verdict since the end of Act I?
2. Why does he change his mind?
3. What fault with whose testimony does juror #8 first find?
4. What reason does juror #9 give for the inaccuracy of the testimony?
5. Why else is the phrase “I’m going to kill you” suspect, according to juror #8?
6. Who else changes his vote to not guilty?
7. Why else is the testimony inaccurate?
8. What does juror #3 criticize the men who believe the boy is not guilty for?
9. What does juror #3 say at the end of Act II? What point does he prove?
10. How does the conflict shift at the end of Act II?

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_

English 10 Mrs. Filor

*Twelve Angry Men* Act III Reading Guide

1. How do the jurors vote at the beginning of Act III?
2. Why do the jurors decide to reenact the stabbing?
3. What contradictions does juror #5 see regarding the knife?
4. After they discuss the contradictions, how do the jurors vote?
5. Who is still voting guilty? Based on their characteristics, are their votes surprising?
6. What is the gist of juror #10’s long speech? What does it show?
7. What is wrong with the testimony given by the woman across the street?
8. Who is holding out in changing his vote to not guilty? Why do you think he refuses to change?
9. How is the conflict resolved? How does the play end?
10. Do you feel justice has been served? Why or why not?