

Name: _____

Interpreting and Applying Drama to Persuasion

Act I of *Twelve Angry Men*
(pages 310-320) in Prentice Hall text

Interpretation

- Juror 2 thinks the defendant is guilty because “nobody proved otherwise.” In what way is his thinking in conflict with the legal system?

- Juror 8 believes that the court appointed defense attorney did not thoroughly cross-examine witnesses for the prosecution. If Juror 8 is right, how might this situation affect the defendant’s chances? Explain your answer.

- What are some of the problems jurors must resolve before they can reach a verdict?

Application

How would criminal trials be different if defendants were considered guilty until proven innocent? Write a paragraph using the basic argumentative writing formula: counterclaim -- evidence -- rebuttal -- elaboration -- evidence -- elaboration -- conclusion.