

English 1302

Questions to Consider

"A & P"
John Updike

Choose one of the following questions to answer and use the notes section on the back of this page to outline your ideas.

Questions

1. Other than the tension between Sammy and Lengel, what tensions are evident in the store or in the town?
2. From the language and descriptions in the first two paragraphs, can you imagine the kind of person our narrator is and how he looks at his job? Why, for instance, does he see one woman as a "witch" and the others as "sheep," and the store as a "pinball machine"?
3. What do you think about Sammy's decision to quit? Is it heroic as he claims?
4. Consider one or two of these points of view and discuss what it reveals about society at this time and/or from this narrator's perspective.
 - How do men regard women in this story?
 - How do women regard men in this story?
 - How do men view themselves in this story?
 - How do women view themselves in this story?
5. Do you think the girls mean to cause trouble by coming to the store in bathing suits? What evidence is there for or against that? If the answer is "yes," how does that affect the theme of the story? If "no," what does it say about the other characters in the story?

<p>Your answer to the question you're using from the handout. Write it out in a clear and complete sentence that clearly relates to the question. Include the author's name and the story's title.</p>		
<p>Quote or moment which supports your answer. Write it out in a sentence and cite correctly.</p>	<p>How that supports your thesis idea. Explain in how this connects to your main point in a sentence or two.</p>	
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<p>Concluding ideas: One or two sentence summary of your points, and then discussion of what this shows about the specific question, element you looked at, or what it shows about the human experience.</p>		