English 9

"The Father" by Hugh Garner Questions

1.) Identify the following elements: protagonist, antagonist, inciting incident, climax.

2.) Identify and describe the *two* central conflicts in this story. Which one do you think is more significant? Explain.

3.) The father in this story admits that he purposely doesn't spend a lot of time with his son. Find evidence in the story that explains the father's **motivation.** Explain how the father ideas about parenting are **ironic.**

4.) What type of character is the father? The son? Give evidence to support your answers.

5.) Describe THREE traits of the father and THREE traits of the son. Use evidence from the story to support your ideas.

6.) Describe the **epiphany** the father has at the end of the story. What do you think he will do to try and make up for the way he behaved? Do you think the son will forgive him? Explain.

7.) The father in this story also has a daughter, but she is only mentioned once. In what ways is the relationship between a father and son different than the relationship between a father and daughter? Between a mother and son? Mother and daughter?

8.) The father is an alcoholic, and his son is embarrassed by this fact; furthermore, the father knows almost nothing about his son's life. What are some common sources of tension and/or embarrassment between parents and children?