Twelve Angry Men

Act 1

1. In what state does this drama take place?
2. How can the reader infer that the boy on trial is not of Caucasian decent? (Find a piece of textual support to support your inference.)
3. What type of figurative language is used in the following sentence from page 12?

“You couldn’t change my mind if you talked for a hundred years.”

1. In the following lines, said by Juror #2 on page 14, why does the author chose to use the dash? What effect does it create?

“Well, it’s hard to put into words. I just—think he’s guilty.”

“I—what I meant—well, the man is guilty. I mean, somebody saw him do it.”

1. Based on the following stage directions on page 16, what can the reader infer about Juror #5?

5TH JUROR: [*looking nervously around]*: “I’ll pass it.”

1. Based on the context, what does the word “**diverge**” on page 22 most likely mean?

“The boy arrived home at about ten o’clock. Now this is where the stories offered by the boy and the state begin to **diverge** slightly. He claims that he stayed home until eleven thirty and then went to one of those all-night movies.”

1. Provide an example of a round character and a flat character. (For your round character, be sure to give a minimum of two character traits.)
2. The following example (said by Juror #3 on page 24) is of which type of irony?

“So how come our noble lad bought this knife one half-hour after his father smacked him...”

1. In the following lines of dialogue between the 10th and 11th Jurors on page 25, what is the effect of the ellipses?

11TH JUROR: “The knife was very important to the district attorney. He spent one whole morning...”

10TH JUROR: “He’s a fifteenth assistant, or something. What does he know.”

1. Based on the following lines said by Juror #12, what vocabulary word would best describe the state of the jury?

“Looks like we’re really hung up here. I mean, that thing with the old man was pretty unexpected. I wish I knew how we could break this up...”

1. On page 29 the 6th Juror says: “What a **murderous** day. You think we’ll be here much longer?” The word **murderous** is used as a pun here. What are its two different meanings in this context?
2. On page 30, the 8th Juror in dealing with an internal conflict. What is his conflict?
3. On page 31, the 8th Juror says: “By a bookmaker. By a man he’d beaten up. By a woman he’d picked up. By any one of the people he was known to hang out with.” What type of syntax (sentence structure) is being used here?
4. What type of figurative language is used in the following sentence from page 32?

“How do you like him? It’s like talking into a dead phone.”

1. On page 36, the 11th Juror says: “Facts may be colored by the personalities of the people who present them.” What do you think he means?
2. On page 37, what is ironic about the dialogue between the 10th and 11th Jurors?

10th JUROR: “Bright? He’s a common, ignorant slob. He don’t even speak good English.”

11TH JUROR: “He doesn’t even speak good English.”

1. Based on the context, what does the word “**sanctimonious**” on page 47 most likely mean?

“You come in here with your **sanctimonious** talk about slum kids and injustice, and you make up some wild stories, and all of a sudden you start getting through to some of these old ladies in here.”