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|  | **Exceeds** | **Meets** | **Nearly** | **Beginning** |
| **Quality of Comments** | In-depth and insightful comments that make strong connections to the text and contemporary or historical evidence.  Provokes questions and comments from the group. | Comments are appropriate and reflect logical connections to the text and contemporary or historical evidence. | Comments lack depth and are general or limited.  Connections to the text and contemporary or historical evidence are obvious or inaccurate. | Comments when directly questioned.  Restates previous comments.  Adds nothing new to the discussion. |
| **Textual Evidence** | Strong and thorough textual evidence reveals an original, unique insight and a deep understanding of the text. | Relevant and accurate textual evidence supports an adequate understanding of the text. | Obvious and/or limited textual evidence reveals a basic understanding of the text. | A lack of textual evidence reveals that the student does not have a basic understanding of the text. |

1. Which story can you relate to the most and why? (Can you connect to a character, conflict, theme?) Provide specific examples from the text (paraphrase).
2. The number one benefit to technology is… (be prepared to explain why).
3. Why are sacrifices such a prevalent theme in stories? Do we still believe in sacrifice as a society? Provide examples.
4. The number one hindrance (or negative aspect) to technology is… (be prepared to explain why).
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the most courageous character. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
6. How does change (aging, technological advancements, etc.) affect our ability to be our own person?
7. Of the communities we have read about, which one do you think you could have made the biggest impact in and why? (Pedestrian’s, the village “The Lottery”, or the classroom “Children’s Story”)
8. What lessons are we supposed to learn about life from reading these stories (theme)? Discuss at least one lesson you learned.
9. Of all the short story characters we have read about, which one is the **least** likeable and why?

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| The Pedestrian (Leonard Mead) | Tessie Hutchinson “The Lottery” |
| The Teacher “Children’s Story” | Mr. Warner (77 year-old) “The Lottery” |
| Johnny “Children’s Story” | Sheila Mant |
| Lizzie “Marigolds” | Narrator from “Sheila Mant” |