

Name _____



Unfair Ending

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Pay attention to the **ending** of the story and how Jackson leaves room for interpretation. Answer the questions below, exploring at least **two different interpretations** of the ending. Support your ideas with **textual evidence** and thoughtful reasoning.

The Lottery (Excerpt, Final Lines)

"It isn't fair, it isn't right," Mrs. Hutchinson screamed, and then they were upon her."

1. What literally happens at the end of the story?

2. Why might Jackson have chosen to end the story so abruptly?

3. One interpretation is that the story criticizes **blind tradition**. What details support this reading?

4. Another interpretation is that the story reflects **violence within human nature**. What evidence supports this view?

5. Which interpretation do you find more convincing? Explain why, using both the text and your reasoning.

