

Symbolism: The lottery symbolizes a ritual that has outlived its usefulness and is kept for all the wrong reasons: “There’s always been a lottery”.

1. The lottery date
2. The children’s attitude
3. The names and roles of “Summers” and “Graves”
4. The mispronunciation of Delacroix
5. The shabbiness of the black box
6. The treatment of the box during the year
7. The substitution of paper for wood chips
8. The change to the ritual chant and salute
9. The way in which the winner is selected/determined
10. The stoning finale

Theme: “The Lottery” is about the price paid by individuals for their unquestioning acceptance of tradition or barbaric rituals. How do these symbols reflect the main theme of the story?

Irony: Find 2 examples of irony in the story and explain why they are ironic.