**“Gentlemen, your verdict” by Michael Bruce p 21**

Questions and Assignments- Answer all of these questions in **full sentences**. (see example) If the question asks for an opinion then you must give a reason, an example and an explanation, with support. Use quotes from the story if it is appropriate to do so.

Example: Question: Do you think the title of the story is appropriate?

Answer: I think the title of the story is appropriate because

Reason: the story is about the trial of the captain of the submarine.

Example: To illustrate, the captain in the story has to make a decision about who lives and

who dies as a matter of survival.

Explanation: By choosing this title the author intends to have us make a decision as to whether what the captain did was wrong

or right, by rendering a verdict, which makes the title suit the story.

Questions

1. How does the story start?
2. Is this confusing? Why or why not?
3. Describe the courtroom. What is the mood/atmosphere like? How do you know?
4. What happened to the submarine according to Torpedoman Preece?
5. How many people had told their story before him, according to Lieutenant Paull?
6. Describe how and when the submarine was hit.
7. What happened to the submarine that caused it to be impossible to reverse engines?
8. What would have happened if they hadn`t managed to solve that problem?
9. By the time they got the problem under control what shape was the ship in? Describe it.
10. How much air did the submarine have at this time? How much time would it take for a rescue?
11. What is a moral dilemma?
12. What is the dilemma faced by Commander Oram?
13. What was the job that only men with families could do? How did they decide who would do it?
14. What was the job? How do you know?
15. What did Commander Oram tell the remaining crew members once the job was done?
16. What did Commander Oram report?
17. Why do you think there was a horrified squawk ?
18. How would you have felt if you had been the one receiving Commander Oram`s report?
19. What did Commander Oram do after making his report? How do you know?
20. What is a sense of duty? Do the submariners recognize their sense of duty?
21. How does the author create a sense of tension or urgency regarding the crash?
22. What effect doe the flashback sequence have on the reader?
23. Did the Captain make a good decision? Was it right?
24. What would you have done if you were the Captain? How would you have decided?
25. Do you think it was right for the Captain to decide this on his own or should he have involved the

crew? Why or why not?

1. . Identify examples of the following literary terms in the story and explain why they are examples: antagonist, atmosphere, character, climax, complication, internal conflict, external conflict, crisis, direct presentation, dynamic character, exposition, action, round character, setting, static character, stereotyped character, suspense, theme

Creative writing assignment- Choose one of the following choices. Your writing must following all the writing steps, and should be a minimum of 2 pages single spaced. (brainstorming step- should be a list of events to talk about- outline step should be putting these events in an order that makes sense)

A. Write a diary about the incident pretending you are one of the characters in the story. Explain what has happened and how you felt about it. Explain your actions in the story as well. (In other words, why did you do what you did, and how did you feel about it?)

B. Write a diary from the perspective of one of the family members of the men who were killed. Explain what happened and how you feel about it. Describe what you think about the actions of Commander Oram and whether you think what he did was right or not.

C. Write a diary from the perspective of a family member of Commander Oram. Explain what happened and how you feel about it. Describe what you think of his actions and whether you think he was right to do what he did, and why.

Persuasive Paragraph Writing- Write a persuasive paragraph that follows all the writing steps and must include 3 reasons, 3 examples and 3 explanations.

1. Commander Oram did the right thing. (agree or disagree in a paragraph)
2. Doing the right thing can be hard at times. (agree or disagree in a paragraph)