**Lamb to the Slaughter Questions**

Questions (20)

1. Provide some descriptive words to show your first impressions of Mary Maloney. (1)
2. How do you know that she is happiest in her husband’s presence? (1)
3. Pick out several points that build up the idea of a comfortable routine and a genuine looking forward to her husband's return. (1)
4. What is the first sign that something is different that Thursday night? (1)
5. How does Mary react to her husband when he says he does not want to go out? (1)
6. What is it that finally makes her frightened? (1)
7. What do you think it was that Patrick told his wife? Explain why you think this. (2)
8. What is her reaction to the news? What tells you this? (1)
9. Do you think Mary *planned* to murder her husband with the leg of lamb? (1)
10. Explain in detail how she goes about covering up what she has done. (3)
11. What do the police do when they arrive? (2)
12. How do you know that they are completely taken in by Mary? (1)
13. What helps confirm Mary’s story to the police? (1)
14. How do you feel when you read the ending - where the police eat the murder weapon? (1)
15. How does a male stereotype of women work to Mary’s advantage in her story? (1)

16. Explain why this murder could be classed as a 'perfect murder'. (1)

Story Response

Respond to ONE of the following…

1. What do you think life was like prior to the murder? What evidence do we have of this? Do you think the Maloney’s had a healthy marriage?
2. Write a creative paragraph putting yourself in the shoes of the police in the time after they had dinner with Mrs. Maloney.
3. Would Mary be able to get away with this murder now? Why or why not?