

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Independent Reading: Short Story

\*Due \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

*The Sniper* by Liam O'Flaherty

1. What are the names of the two sides? What are they fighting about?
2. Setting: What time of day is the story set? Where does the action take place?
3. What side is the protagonist on?
4. Why hadn't the sniper eaten since morning?
5. What risk does the sniper decide to take?
6. What pulls up in front of the building?
7. Why is it impossible for the sniper to leave the roof?
8. What happens to the driver and the old woman? Why did this "have to" happen?
9. How is the sniper injured? How does this injury affect him?
10. Describe the sniper's ruse (trick) to kill the other sniper.
11. How does the sniper feel about war after he had killed the other sniper? Explain.
12. What happened when the sniper threw the revolver down?
13. Who was the dead sniper?
14. What types of conflict appear in the story "The Sniper"? List as many conflicts (4-5) as you can find with examples from the story to support your response. Identify the conflicts as internal/external, Man v. ...

15. Themes: Discuss how each of the following themes play out in *The Sniper*.

- *War reduces human beings to mere objects.*
- *War knows no boundaries—age, gender, location, time of day, family ties.*

16. Provide examples from *The Sniper* which show suspense.

17. What is the point of view of *The Sniper*?

18. How does the sniper's **specific location** shape his decisions?

19. Cite three examples (direct quotes) where O'Flaherty uses words and images to reinforce the pervasiveness of death in the story.

20. Cite three examples where O'Flaherty uses words that are onomatopoeic. Remember that words that are onomatopoeic are words that vocally imitate the sounds they denote (ex: bang).

Four Courts along the Liffey River



Four Courts

