

## **Contents of a Dead Man's Pocket**

### *Close Reading Questions*

1. The story was set in the 1950's. What evidence from the text would support this?
2. What type of conflict is Tom facing? (hint: internal or external) Justify your answer using evidence from the text.
3. What caused the sheet of paper to fly out the window? Use a direct quote from the text to answer the question.
4. The author creates a sense of suspense. List at least 2 quotes that from the story that contribute to this feeling for the reader.
5. Why is Tom upset about the loss of the paper? Select two cd's from the text that support your opinion.
6. Tom experiences a second conflict. Is it internal or external? Select a quote that shows this conflict.



12. After purposely trying to avoid looking at the street below, Tom accidentally does so. Select a quote that shows the impact that this has on Tom. Then describe what you think he is feeling in your own words.
  
13. Find a cd that shows Tom' response to having the paper in his hand. Why do think it is significant?
  
14. What is the only thing keeping Tom from reaching his apartment? Support your opinion with a cd from the text.
  
15. Why is Tom stuck outside the window? What caused it to jam closed?
  
16. How does the mention of what Clare is doing affect the reader's perception of time?
  
17. What effect does the realization that Tom is the only one who would understand the yellow sheet have on him? Use a Cd to support your claim.

18. How has Tom resolved his conflict. Use evidence from the text to show this.

1. We know the story is set in the 1950's, because Tom "roll[s] two sheets of flimsy and a heavier top sheet [of] carbon paper" to make a copy. If the story were set in modern times, Tom would have photocopied his memo.