

# *All My Sons*

Theme Activities

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_



## Key Quotes Analysis - Act 1

**Directions:** Read each quote below and identify its speaker and the character(s) who relate to it. Then, circle the theme(s) listed in the Themes Key that apply to each quote. Some quotes may lack a direct speaker (such as if the quote is an unnamed narrator) or have no related characters. In those cases it is fine to leave the "Speaker" or "Related character(s)" fields blank.

### Themes Key

- 1** Family and Familial Obligation
- 2** Loss and Memory
- 3** War, Morality, and Consequences
- 4** Wealth and Its Accumulation
- 5** Liability, Culpability, and Guilt



Well, a favorable day for a person is a fortunate day, according to his stars. In other words it would be practically impossible for him to have died on his favorable day.

Speakers:

Related character(s):

Related  
Themes:

1

2

3

4

5

It's so strange—Annie's here and not even married. And I've got three babies. I always thought it'd be the other way around.

Speakers:

Related character(s):

Related  
Themes:

1

2

3

4

5

She was out here when it broke.  
When?

About four this morning. I heart it cracking and I woke up and looked out. She was standing right here when it cracked.

Speakers:

Related character(s):

Related  
Themes:

1

2

3

4

5

The trouble is, you don't see enough women. You never did.  
So what? I'm not fast with women.  
I don't see why it has to be Annie.  
Because it is.

Speakers:					
Related character(s):					
Related Themes:	1	2	3	4	5

But I'll always love that girl. She's one that didn't jump into bed with somebody else as soon as it happened with her fella.

Speakers:					
Related character(s):					
Related Themes:	1	2	3	4	5

See? We should have never planted that tree. I said so in the first place; it was too soon to plan a tree for him.  
Too soon!  
We rushed into it . . . .

Speakers:					
Related character(s):					
Related Themes:	1	2	3	4	5

I've only met you, Ann, but if I may offer you a piece of advice—When you marry, never—even in your mind—never count your husband's money.

Speakers:					
Related character(s):					
Related Themes:	1	2	3	4	5

Deep, deep in your heart you've always been waiting for him [Larry].  
No, Kate.

Speakers:					
Related character(s):					
Related Themes:	1	2	3	4	5

It's wrong to pity a man like that [Steve]. Father or no father, there's only one way to look at him. He knowingly shipped out parts that would crash an airplane. And how do you know Larry wasn't one of them?

Speakers:

Related character(s):

Related  
Themes:

1

2

3

4

5

The man was a fool, but don't make a murderer out of him.

Speakers:

Related character(s):

Related  
Themes:

1

2

3

4

5

. . . one time it'd been raining several days and this kid came to me, and gave me his last pair of dry socks. Put them in my pocket. That's only a little thing—but . . . that's the kind of guys I had. They didn't die; they killed themselves for each other . . .

Speakers:

Related character(s):

Related  
Themes:

1

2

3

4

5

Be smart now, Joe. The boy [George] is coming. Be smart. Once and for all, did you hear what I said? I said I'm sure! Al right, Joe. Just . . . be smart.

Speakers:

Related character(s):

Related  
Themes:

1

2

3

4

5





## Themes

### *Evidence and Analysis*



**Directions:** A theme is a concept or idea that an author explores in a literary work. For each theme, collect 5-6 details from *All My Sons* (such as specific plot points, symbols, or quotes) that the author uses to explore that theme and enter them in the Evidence section of the table.

Next, use the evidence you've collected to write a Theme Description that explains the role of the theme in *All My Sons*. Your Theme Description should be 1-2 paragraphs. Here are some questions to consider as you write each Theme Description:

- How do the ideas or actions of the main characters reflect different aspects of the theme?
- Does the theme develop or change over the course of *All My Sons*? If so, how?
- If your evidence includes symbols, explain how the author uses those symbols to explore the theme.
- If your evidence includes specific quotes from the text, explain how those quotes provide examples of how the theme applies to *All My Sons*



Family and Familial Obligation

Act I quotation & your explanation		Act I quotation & your explanation
		Evidence
On pg. 7 Joe says, "From Mother's point of view he [Larry] is not dead and you have no right to take his girl." As a father figure, Joe not only feels an obligation to protect his son Larry. Chris' marriage to Ann threatens Joe's ideal notion of family, so he feels obligated to protect that ideal, even if it means going along with Kate's inability to accept that Larry is dead.		On pg. 8 Joe asserts, "All right, but...but don't think like that. Because what the hell did I work for? That's only for you, Chris, the whole shootin' match is for you." Here Joe sees the passing along of his company to Chris as a fatherly duty. It is Joe's fulfillment of his American Dream, which he hopes his son Chris will embrace. Joe's entire motivation lies in his commitment to provide for his family; in this case, by leaving Chris the business.
Direct quotation AND your explanation for Act II.		3. Direct quotation AND your explanation for Act II.
	Direct quotation AND your explanation for Act III.	6. Direct quotation AND your explanation for Act III.

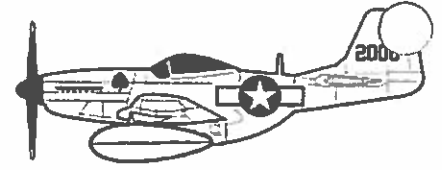
Theme Description
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### Theme Description

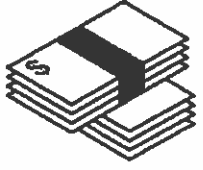
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_



## War, Morality, and Consequences

Evidence		
1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.

Theme Description
<div></div>



### Theme Description

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_



## Liability, Culpability, and Guilt

Evidence		
1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.

[illegible]