**REVIEW QUESTIONS**

**A SUMMER'S READING /Bernard Malamud**

**Basic understanding questions**

1) What is the setting of the story (time and place)?

2) How did George spend his nights?

3) Where does Mr. Cattanzara work and what does he do?

4) What lie does George tell?

5) Name one way Mr. Cattanzara was different from the other neighbors.

6) What do we know about George's family? List 2 things.

7) What rumor does Mr. Cattazara spread among the neighbors?

8) What happens at the end of the story?

**Critical Thinking Questions**

1) Why do you think Mr. Cattanzara takes such an interest in George?

2) What sort of character does George have? Give examples from the story

3) Explain Mr. Cattanzara's words to George in their last meeting: "Don't do what I did".

4) Is the end of the story optimistic or pessimistic? Give examples from the story to support your opinion.

**Post-reading Questions**

1) Bernard Malamud said in one of his interviews:

***"There comes a time in a man's life when to get where he has to go - if there are no doors or windows, he walks through a wall"***.

Explain how the message of the story reflects this philosophy.

2) Bernard Malamud grew up in New York during the Great Depression. He watched his father's business slow down and his mother die when he was fifteen.

How is the writer's biography reflected in the story?