

English Composition Critical Thinking Exercise

Read the short story “Almos’ a Man” by Richard Wright, and then answer the following questions.

1. **Purpose:** What is the character’s main purpose? What other goals or objectives does the character hope to accomplish?
2. **Question:** What is the key question or problem that character is addressing?
3. **Information:** What information is the character using to reason through this issue? What other information or data does the character need ?
4. **Conclusions:** What are the character’s major conclusions? What solutions are being offered?
5. **Concepts:** What are the main concepts the reasoning depends on? How does the character understand those concepts?
6. **Assumptions:** What are the main assumptions the character is making in his reasoning?
7. **Implications and Consequences:** What are some of the unforeseen consequences of this line of reasoning?
8. **Point of View:** From what point of view is the character addressing this question? What other points of view are necessary to understand this piece of reasoning?
9. **Context:** What circumstances led up to the issue and to this character’s reasoning?
10. **Alternatives:** What alternatives are there to the character’s reasoning?