

Name _____
Eng. Foundations III – Silver

Date _____
Short Story Unit

“Lather and Nothing Else”
By Hernando Tellez

Narrator and Point of View

1. From what point of view is the story told?
2. Describe the narrator. What are his two priorities in life?
3. How would the story be different if told from a third-person point of view?

Setting and Mood

4. What kind of mood does the scene in the barber shop create for the reader?
5. Identify specific details that contribute to creating this mood.

Conflict

6. What is the internal conflict that the barber experiences?

7. Much of the tension in the story stems from the narrator's above internal conflict. Complete the Pro/Con chart below indicating the reasons the barber considers killing the captain (the *pros*) and the drawbacks he imagines for choosing murder (the *cons*).

Pros	Cons
1. "...it would be so easy to kill him."	1. The barber is "secretly a revolutionary, but at the same time... a conscientious barber."

Characterization & Resolution

8. How is the major conflict resolved? What does this reveal about the narrator?
9. What is Captain Torres's real purpose in coming to the narrator for a shave? What does this reveal about his character?
10. What does Torres admit at the end of the story? What does this reveal about his character?

Analysis

11. How come the story is titled "Lather and Nothing Else"? What is the significance of this phrase? (Think about the narrator's statement about his hands at the end.)