**“Lamb to the Slaughter” Questions**

*Directions: Answer ONE of the following questions using R.A.C.E.*

1. Dahl could have had Mary kill Patrick with a package of steak or a block of ice. Why, do you suppose, he chose the leg of lamb? Symbolically, why is this an interesting choice?

2. The author does not tell us what Patrick says to Mary to explain his reason for wanting to leave. What do you think was Patrick’s reason for wanting to end his marriage? Find some evidence to support your theory.

3. Although she killed her husband, there’s plenty of evidence in the story to support the argument that Mary Maloney actually loved her husband very much. Looking back over the text, find a passage that shows her love for Patrick.

4. Dahl includes a few lines of black humor that hold a bit of dramatic irony for the reader, who knows more than the grocer or the police. Look back over the story and find a passage that make the reader chuckle at the dark humor/thick irony of the lines.

5. Is Mary a sympathetic character? Explain your answer and back it up with evidence from the text.

6. One theme that could be taken from this story is that appearances are not an accurate reflection of reality. Give an example from the story that supports this theme.