Short Story: Formative Assessment

Name: __________________________          Date: _________________________

Directions: Read “Identities” by W.D. Valgardson and complete the following questions in the space provided:

1. Choose one quotation from the story that you believe is significant and explain why you chose it (“because I liked it” is not acceptable).

2. Use a quotation from the story to illustrate the setting (time, place, and atmosphere). Explain.


4. By what means did you learn about the main character? (This “means” is known as “characterization.”) Use quotations for proof.
5. What kind of conflict was dominant in the story? Find a quotation from the story to support your decision.

6. Find a quotation from the story to illustrate the author’s style of writing. Explain why you picked this passage and what it illustrates.

7. Which point in the story served as the climax? Explain or use a quotation.

8. In one sentence tell what you think the theme of the story is.

9. Close reading requires asking questions while you read. Record five questions that crossed your mind before, during and/or after you read this story.