

Episode Eight: The Deal With Jay

Name: Date:

1. When Sarah asks Stella Armstrong, one of the jurors on Adnan’s case, what does she say convinced her that Adnan was guilty?

2. Do you believe that a juror should be told when a person is given a deal (such as no jail time) in return for testifying against a defendant? Explain.

3. As you know, from previous episodes, Jay was not honest at many points in the investigation? How does Adnan’s lawyer tap into this fact during the trial? Does it pay off?

4. Why does Jay say that he didn’t tell anyone when Adnan “told him that he was going to kill Hae”?

5. When Sarah asks Detective Trainum about his opinion about the investigation in Hae’s murder case, what does he say about the job done by the detectives?

6. The period of time before the interview is taped is called the .

7. What is the problem with not know what was discussed during this three hour period prior to Jay’s interview?

8. Despite the argument that Trainum makes that the detectivec in the investigation of Hae’s murder did an overall good job, what does Detective Trainum question about their investigation?

9. What does Detective Trainum suggest that Sarah do in order to find the truth in Hae’s case? Does she follow his advise?

10. What is your impression of Jay’s side of the story after what Sarah stated about her interview with him? What is Sarah’s impression of him?

11. How did people describe Jay? Does this have any impact on your belief in his story of the events of the day of Hae’s murder?

12. Who is Chris? What does state that Jay had said about the events surrounding the day of Hae’s murder? How is that different from the story we have heard up to this point?

13. Who is Stephanie? What is the “Stephanie explanation” that Jay gives?

14. What does Jenn say about her belief in Jay’s story? Does she believe him and his account of what happened the day that Hae was murdered. Is there any doubts in her mind?

15. Why are so many people so torn or confused about the state’s story, about Jay’s story, about Adnan

murdering Hae? Give two examples.

16. What is your reaction to Jay’s statement prior to his sentencing for his role in Hae’s murder? If you were the judge, would it have impacted your decision when handing down punishment? What is Jay’s punishment for his role in the Hae’s murder?

17. At this point in time, what is your impression of Jay and/or his role in Hae’s murder?



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Reflecting on “The Right to Remain Silent”

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The fifth amendment of the Constitution of the United States reads as follow:

*No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.*

As the eighth episode of the Serial podcast nears an end, one juror discusses her opinion of the trial and questions why Adnan didn’t take the witness stand.

1. How does the fifth amendment of the United States Constitution support Adnan’s decision to decline taking the witness stand in his own defense as the accused? Do you agree with this right provided in the fifth amendment? Explain.

2. As the Serial podcast’s narrator, Sarah, states; jurors are instructed to not take this into consideration or hold it against the accused when they are deliberating. If you were the juror in this case, would it have bothered you that Adnan didn’t take the witness stand in his own defense? Explain.

3. Did it bother the jury in Adnan’s case that Adnan didn’t take the witness stand in his own defense? Why

did they want him to take the witness stand? What did they want to hear from him personally to help them make their decision? What questions did they have because he didn’t take the witness stand?

4. Do you believe that the juror’s opinion of Adnan’s guilt was influenced by his choice to invoke his 5th amendment rights? Explain.

5. Based on what you know about the case already why do you believe that Adnan, and his lawyer, made the decision for Adnan to not take the witness stand? Give Specifics.

**Optional Extension Activities**:

Conduct a poll to see if people’s opinion of the guilt of the accused is influenced by their choice to exercise their 5th amendment rights.

Conduct a poll to see if people believe that a juror should be told when a person testifying in a criminal trial has been given a deal (such as no jail time) in return for testifying against a defendant.