“The Destructors”

1. After the first reading, what were your immediate thoughts regarding the joke itself and, second, the effect of the joke on Mr. Thomas?
2. List the conflicts in this story.
3. Name the protagonist and antagonist and be ready to defend your choice.
4. List three (3) instances of suspense in this story.
5. Does this story have a happy ending? unhappy ending? indeterminate ending? Explain your choice.
6. Find three examples of simile and record them. Explain why they are effective.
7. What is significant about the gang’s name: Wormsley Common Gang?
8. Locate and explain one example of irony in this story.
9. On the surface this is a story of action, suspense, and adventure. At a deeper level it is about delinquency, war and human nature. Try to sum up what the story says about human nature in general. (What is its theme?!)