**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Questions – ‘The Last Leaf‘ by O.Henry**

**Refer to the circled numbers to answer your questions. Complete it on this document when complete print out a hard copy to submit.**

1. The story is set in America. Where are the two girls from? How might this effect their personalities and what they bring to the relationship?

2. O.Henry personifies pneumonia giving it human qualities. What effect does this have? Apply personification to a rock, the wind and another object of your choice.

3. What does the Doctor tell Sue about Joansy’s state of mind?

4. There is a difference in what is seen as important by the Doctor and Sue. In your own words what is the difference?

5. ‘After the doctor had gone Sue went into the workroom and **cried a paper napkin to a pulp.’** The imagery created is powerful, you can almost feel it. Try and come up with your own phrase or sentence containing vivid imagery.

6. Using context clues what does the word “gnarled” mean? What else besides ivy can be described as “gnarled?”

7. What has the vine become a powerful symbol of for Joansy? What does it represent to her?

8. In a short paragraph describe Old Boris. Re-write what he says without his heavy accent.

9. What change has come about in Joansy’s attitude and state of mind?

10. "Sue, some day I hope to paint the Bay of Naples." Explain the significance of this statement. What does it show us about human nature?

11. Old Boris died a heroic death – do you agree with this statement? Explain your opinion.

12. Using a dictionary and thesaurus, find synonyms for the underlined, bold words throughout the story.

13. Can you tell this story is ‘old fashioned’ and written over a hundred years ago, before

mobile phones, television, cars and other technology? What is timeless in this story?

