The writing by Shirley Jackson is kind of unique as it is different from the common writing style of the authors highlighting the social issues in normative style. The story is told about a village and the author has drawn the entire scene in the form of words. She did not use a huge background; instead, she portrayed a village with a total population of three hundred people. At the start, the author has covered very little details of the scene to capture the mind of the reader such as the boys filling their pockets with stones and girls talking about themselves.

The very first thing which the author mentioned about the outdated mentality of the villagers was that they were not willing to make a new box for the lottery, because they thought this box was kind of a historical and traditional box made from the pieces of box used before it. This shows the mindset of the people that they were not willing to accept any little change in the traditions. Although some of the traditions were stopped; those were only eliminated because they had not been possible to carry out due to physical restriction, an example is the replacement of wooden chips with paper slips due to the increasing population of the village.

The essay talks about the transition of some ritual which vanished away with time because they were not necessary and they were just based on traditions. One thing to be noted in the entire process, that the process was well organized by one person Mr. Summer, and everyone was accepting the orders from him. The logic and rationality of rules are debatable but at least the people of the village were firm in following the traditions and rules. The author has created a lot of suspense, by telling the story of the lottery. From the very start, the reader considers it as a joyful event, like a carnival or circus, or someone is going to win a prize. And even the author mentioned the debate between two villagers, who were talking about getting rid of the lottery. And one of them was saying that leaving the tradition of the lottery is like going back in time, like living in caves. So it gave the impression that the lottery is some kind of progress for the human race. Most of the people were joyful, and they were participating in a joyful event. But in the end, the author revealed the reality that it was a bogus ritual and tradition, which was being followed without any logic, and people had to die just because of this ritual. So in a very gentle and different way, the author has portrayed the entire scenario of mental setup, ignorance, and backwardness of the people of the village.