

**WORKING ~ WORKSHEET 9: WEEK 11,  
PP. 317~323: EUGENE RUSSELL, PIANO TUNER**



1. What does Eugene mean here? “I am a piano technician. He is a dedicated piano tuner.”
2. Can you explain the terms *equal temperament* and *absolute* (aka perfect) *pitch*? And how would this <http://www.guardian.co.uk/music/video/2009/nov/22/fluid-piano-classical-music> challenge those terms?
3. What sort of relationship does Eugene have with his wife and son?
4. What is the attraction of piano tuning for Eugene? What is he in it for?
5. Eugene goes to parties to play the piano and he’s treated properly. He goes in to tune a piano and ‘they look at you and wonder’. Whence the difference? Why the service elevator (in a high rise, p.320)?
6. Is Eugene’s piano business a steady 9-to-5 affair or is it part of his life?
7. Write about Eugene’s personality. Find a photograph of someone you think might look like her and add it to your description. Here’s one possibility for Eugene – (remember that ‘he’s of an age’) ~



**NEXT: Eddie Arroyo, Jockey: pp.359~366.**