

The Necklace by Guy de Maupassant

Comprehension Guide, Reflective Questions, and Plot Curve pg. 26-35

Answer these questions. Write in complete sentences.

1. What point of view is the story told in?
2. What is the setting? (pg. 26)
3. What makes daughters of common people equal to the ladies in high society?
4. Why is Mme. Loisel so unhappy at the beginning of the story?
5. What does Mme. Loisel dream of?
6. Why does Mme. Loisel want to live the life of the rich so much? Are her dreams understandable, or do they seem silly and exaggerated? Explain.
7. What did Mme. Loisel's husband give her? What was her response?

Name

Date

Hour

8. Why does the invitation have the opposite effect on Madame Loisel from the one her husband expected?
9. When Mme. Loisel's husband tries to comfort her, what does he have to give up in order to appease her? What does this show about his feelings towards his wife?
10. Once Mme. Loisel has a dress, why is she upset?
11. What is responsible for Mme. Loisel's unhappiness? Is it her own fault or is it the fault of her circumstances?
12. Why does Mme. Loisel go to Mme. Forestier? What does she borrow from Mme. Forestier?
13. How did Mme. Loisel look at the party? How did people react towards her?
14. After the party, what does Mme. Loisel lose? What might have been the cause of this?
15. What does Mme. Loisel do while her husband goes out looking?

Name

Date

Hour

16. When they go to the jeweler what is his reaction?

17. How much was the new necklace?

18. Is it pride which prevents the Loisels from telling Mme. Forestier they've lost her necklace? If so, whose pride is it? Or is it something else?

19. After the Loisels return the necklace, describe their lives.

20. How many years did it take them to repay the necklace?

21. Does Mme. Loisels experience of poverty humble her? Does it make her proud in a different way?

22. Is Mme. Loisel suffering worse when she's a poor woman? In what ways might it be, and in what ways might it not be?

Name

Date

Hour

23. When Mme. Loisel bumps into Mme. Forestier what does Mme. Fortier tell her about the necklace?

24. Why type of irony is displayed in the ending?

25. Is Mme. Loisel a sympathetic character? Can you identify with her? Do you care about her at the beginning, or at the end? Why or why not?

26. Is Mme. Loisel a dynamic character or static character? Explain.

27. Is Mme. Loisel a round character or a flat character? Explain. Give an example of a flat character. Explain.

28. Is the Necklace a cynical story—does it reflect a really bleak and jaded view of life? Does it have some other attitude towards life?

29. What is the theme of the story?

Name

Date

Hour

Climax: Turning Point

Rising Action: What events, conflicts build suspense or increase complications in the story

Falling Action: What **events** help wrap up the story?

Protagonist vs. Antagonist

_____ vs. _____

Conflict:

Exposition:

Setting:

Characters:

Situation:

Theme: What is the lesson of the story? Give evidence to support your theme.

Theme: _____

Evidence: _____

Resolution: How does the story end?

