

'The Necklace' by Guy de Maupassant

Comprehension questions

The following are the question that the Presenter used during our live production. Feel free to add questions of your own.

The final sentence of each scene is included so you can pause the video during the actor's freeze.

SCENE 1: Husband: The whole official world will be there.

Presenter:

1. Does anyone know who these people are?
2. What do you think of the wife? Do you like her?
3. What does the husband do for a living?
4. Do you think that the wife is excited about the invitation? Why yes? Why not?

Would you like to repeat or continue?

SCENE 2: Dressmaker: Wear it in good health. (the freeze comes later, after Mathilde has handed over the dress to the maid)

1. Does anybody know the name of the wife?
2. Why doesn't Mathilde want to go to the party?
3. How much money does her husband give to her?
4. Do you think he is generous?
5. Do you like him?
6. What does Mathilde do with the money?
7. Do you think she will go to the party? What does she need?

Shall we repeat or continue?

SCENE 3: Mathilde: This is the necklace I've always deserved.

1. Do you think that Mathilde and her husband are poor?
2. Who is this? (the maid)
3. What do you think of Mme Forestier? Do you like her? Why do you say yes. Why no?
4. Do you think that Mme Forestier is a good friend to Mathilde?
5. Do you think that Mathilde is excited about her necklace?
6. Do you think she will go to the party now?
7. Do you think that her husband loves her?
8. Do you think that Mathilde loves her husband?

Shall we repeat or continue?

SCENE 4: End of the dance.

1. Who goes to the party?
2. Do you think they are good dancers?
3. Why is Mathilde so happy?
4. Do you think that everyone is having fun at the party?
5. Who is not having fun at the party?
6. What happened to the husband? Where is he? Why is he sleeping?

Would you like to repeat or continue?

SCENE 5: Husband: That will give us time to think.

1. What happens when Mathilde and her husband get home?
2. What does Mathilde do?
3. What does her husband do?
4. Where does he go? Where does he look?
5. Did he find the necklace?

6. Where do you think the necklace is?

Shall we repeat or continue?

SCENE 6: Mme Forestier: You ought to have brought it back sooner. I might have needed it.

1. Who decides to replace the necklace?
2. Do you think that it is a good idea? Why yes? Why no?
3. How do they get the money for the necklace?
4. Do you think they will pay all the money back?
5. Do you think that Mme Forestier is happy to have the necklace back? Why is she angry?

Shall we repeat or continue?

SCENE 7: Mme Forestier: It was worth at most 500 francs.

1. What happens to the maid?
2. How does the maid feel?
3. Do you think that the relationship between Mathilde and her husband has changed?
Why yes?
4. Who does Mathilde see on the street?
5. What does her friend tell her?
6. How does Mathilde feel?

CONVERSATION

Conversation Video: Students ask questions to characters.