



The Proposal

1. How does Chekhov use humor and satire to expose the absurdity of human behavior in *The Proposal*?
2. In what ways does the play reflect the social importance of land and property in 19th-century Russia?
3. How do Lomov's frequent health complaints serve as both comedy and social commentary?
4. How does the argument over Oxen Meadows reveal the pettiness behind human quarrels?
5. How does Natalya's character combine assertiveness with vulnerability?
6. How does Chubukov embody both a protective father and a greedy landowner?
7. How does the theme of marriage as a social contract override romance and emotions in the play?
8. How does Chekhov use exaggerated quarrels to highlight universal flaws in human relationships?
9. How does Lomov's nervousness reflect the tension between personal insecurity and societal expectations?
10. How does the quarrel over dogs symbolize human obsession with pride over trivial matters?
11. How does Chubukov's changing attitude towards Lomov expose his hypocrisy?
12. How does the play highlight the irony of people fighting more after agreeing to marry?
13. How does the short one-act format enhance the humor and intensity of the play?
14. How does *The Proposal* criticize the idea of marriage being more about convenience than love?
15. How does the play reveal the destructive nature of ego in relationships?
16. How does Chekhov blend realism with farce to make the story relatable yet entertaining?
17. How does Lomov's physical condition (palpitations, nervousness) add depth to his character beyond comedy?

18. How does Natalya's aggressive personality challenge the stereotype of submissive women in her era?
19. How does the play suggest that human quarrels are endless, even when resolutions seem close?
20. Why does *The Proposal* remain relevant across cultures and time despite being set in 19th-century Russia?