* 1. How does Edna spend much of her time after Robert leaves?

She spends a lot of time swimming. As the ocean represents her awakening, now swimming in the ocean opposed to walking on land is closer to the ocean, and directly in it. Thus, it symbolizes Edna obtaining freedom.

* 1. What does she say or do that shows the depth of her feelings for Robert and her awareness of a change within herself?

She has talked about Robert to express her feeling of missing Robert. However, she was disappointed when she has discovered the letter from Robert to Madame Lebrun about his mother. The feeling now starts to awaken in her.

* 1. How are Mademoiselle Reisz and Adele Ratignolle foils to Edna?

Mademoiselle Reisz is a talented, unmarried woman that does not depend of man for her happiness. Adele Ratignolle is the perfect representation of the expected “Mother-woman” by the society. Edna is different from both of them, as she is married but unhappy with her marriage.

* 1. What does she learn from Mademoiselle Reisz about Robert and Victor Lebrun?

Victor was the favorite child in the family, but is a spoiled child. Robert have beaten up Victor before for a girl (Mariequita).

* 1. How is the fallowing quotation an example of foreshadowing? Edna says, “I would give up the unessential; I would give my money, I would give my life for my children; but I wouldn’t give myself.”

It foreshadows that Edna might decide to leave her family to be with Robert, because there is a difference in her identity and what people expect from her.

1. 1. What is the setting for Chapter Seventeen? How is this a contrast to the previous setting?

Edna have returned to her home in New Orleans, and it is very luxurious. This shows that Leonce is quite rich, and this environment contracts with the environment in the Grand Isle.

* 1. How is Leonce Pontelllier’s attitude toward his home similar to his attitude toward his wife?

Leonce are proud of his home because it is his, this is similar to his attitude toward his wife as he views Enda as his property.

* 1. What is the purpose of Edna’s Tuesday “at home”? How does this change after she returns from Grand Isle, and how does this fit into the theme of rebellion?

The purpose of Edna’s Tuesday “at home” is to communicate with visitors for social and business reasons. She has stopped this after returning from the Grand Isles because she “simply felt like going out”. This shows her rebelling against the demands of society.

* 1. How does her husband react to this and other things that happened in the household, such as his complaints about the cook?

Leonce becomes angry and complains about the food. He tells Edna about her responsibilities and ate dinner at his club.

* 1. What does Edna do after Leonce leaves?

Edna finishes the dinner and goes to her room. Edna becomes stressed and breaks a vase to relieve stress.

* 1. What is the significance of Edna taking off her wedding ring and then putting it back on?

It shows that while she is unhappy of her relationship with Leonce, she still value the time they have spent together and does not want to discard their relationship.

1. 1. Edna visits the home of Adele Ratignolle in New Orleans. How is the Ratignolle marriage a contrast to the Pontellier marriage

The Ratignolle family is happy with their marriage. They listen to each other but Enda and Leonce does not.

* 1. How does Edna feel about a marriage such as Adele’s

Edna think such a marriage is not desirable, and does not to be apart in such a marriage.

1. 1. How does Enda spend most of her time in this section of the book?

Edna spends most of her time sketching, and does not do her household duties. She refuses to entertain guests.

* 1. What is Leonce’s reaction?

Leonce is angry and confused. Leonce does not understand why Enda spends so much of her time sketching instead of doing her household duties.

* 1. How does Edna feel about her painting?

Edna does enjoys sketching, but her work does not reach her expectations.

* 1. Although she is haunted by memories of Grand Isle, how does she manage to “enjoy” her life?

Edna is happy when she is alone, and she often sings. She is beginning to know herself and recognize her own passion.

1. 1. Why does Edna go to the Lebrun home in New Orleans?

Edna is looking for Mademoiselle Reisz and thinks that Madam Lebrun probably have her address.

* 1. How is this house described? In what way is this description related to Edna’s desire for Robert?

The house looks like a prison. It some how reminds Edna of Robert being barred from her.

* 1. Edna meets Robert’s brother, Victor. How is Victor a kind of exaggeration of Robert?

Victor is 19, and is exaggeration of Robert’s recklessness.

* 1. What does Edna learn about Robert while she is there? Why does this depress her?

Edna learned that Robert have written letters about his business and have sent his mother a check. There is no greeting for Edna, and Edna is depressed.

1. 1. ­Describe the apartment of Mademoiselle Reisz. Her apartment is symbolic of another way of life, less stifling and confining.

Mademoiselle’s apartment is on the top floor, and there are many open windows. The bright atmosphere suggests that Mademoiselle is happy, and the piano shows that she likes music.

* 1. How does Mademoiselle Reisz react when Edna talks about her painting?

Mademoiselle thinks that Edna’s painting is really good, and considers her as an artist. She says that good artists have a courageous soul.

* 1. What is the content of a letter Robert has written to Mademoiselle Reisz?

The letter from Robert is about Edna. Mademoiselle does not want to give Edna the letter at first, but gives it to her later. She then plays “Impromptu” from Chopin.

* 1. What is Edna’s reaction?

Edna cries and the music becomes “turbulent, insistent, plaintive and soft with entreaty”

* 1. What is the attitude of Mademoiselle Reisz at this time?

Mademoiselle is aware of Edna’s interest in Robert, but she does not discourage is. She told Edna that she can stop by when ever she wants.

1. 1. How do the actions and comments of Leonce and Doctor Mandelet illustrate the following theme: that men cannot understand women? Cite specific references to the text to support your answer.

Leonce thinks that Edna have some problem about the rights of women, and reveals that he no longer sleeps with Edna. The doctor sees this as an Illness, and suggests genetic defects. None of the two understands what Edna is really feeling and what is happening.

* 1. What advice does Doctor Mandelet give Leonce?

Leonce should let Edna do what ever she wants. The doctor will come for a dinner to take a closer look.

* 1. What does the factor suspect but never say to Leonce?

The doctor thinks that another man is responsible for Edna’s change.

1. 1. What do Edna and her father share as a common interest?

They both enjoy music, and horse racing.

* 1. How is her father’s dress and appearance characteristic of him as a person?

Her father appears as a serious almost soldier like figure, but is actually a loving father and not interested in his grandchildren. He does not understand Edna, and expects her to be talented.

* 1. How does Adele treat Edna’s father? What is Edna’s reaction?

Adele flirts with Edna’s father. Edna does not understand Adele’s behavior.

* 1. What observations does Doctor Mandelet make when he comes to the Pontellier home to meet Edna’s father and to observe her?

The doctor does not think Edna is melancholy or suspicious. He thinks that Edna have changed greatly, and the doctor is more sensitive then Edna’s father and Leonce.

* 1. Describe the stories told by the following people during the evening: Leonce, the Colonel, and Edna.

Leonce tells a story about hunting in the wood and fields. Colonel tells a story from his military adventures. Edna tells a story of lovers escaping society and never coming back. The story represents the experience of each character.

* 1. What is the doctor’s reaction to the evening and to Edna’s story? How is this an example of foreshadowing?

The doctor is sorry to accept the invitation to dinner. The doctor does not want to be involved, and he thinks Edna is involved with another man. Foreshadows that Edna might meet Alcee Arobin and get in trouble.

1. 1. What is Edna’s attitude toward her sister’s wedding? How do her father and Leonce react to this?

Edna refuse to attend, and Edna’s father and Leonce is shocked. Edna’s father lectures her and Leonce fallows the doctor’s advice of letting Edna do what she wants.

* 1. Compare Edna’s father to Leonce.

They both view woman are inferior than man. Edna’s father believe in authority as ways to force, and Leonce is more tolerant.

* 1. What is different about Edna’s attitude toward Leonce both before and after he leaves for the wedding?

Edna cries and acts like Adele. She remembers “his many acts of consideration and his repeated expressions of an ardent attachment.”

* 1. Why does she act this way?

Edna does not hate her husband, but does not have passion to him either.

* 1. Where are Edna’s children?

Edna’s children is with Leonce’s mother. Edna is left alone with no family responsibilities.

* 1. How does she feel about being alone?

Edna is happy and relieved. She enjoys the time by herself.

1. 1. Who is Alcee Arobin?

Alcee Arobin is a man with a fashion related career. He have a smooth appealing manner to woman.

* 1. How does he feel about his past encounters with Edna? What is different now?

He had no interest in Edna before, but now is attracted to Edna.

* 1. Describe Edna’s reaction to the races.

Edna knows about horse racing, and becomes excited in horse racing. Alcee relates and starts to like Edna.

* 1. Describe Edna’s behavior after her evening with Alcee.

Edna have dinner with Alcee, and Alcee takes Edna home. He makes an excuse to go in, but leaves with Edna agreeing to see horse race again.

* 1. How does the relationship between Edna and Alcee develop?

Alcee flirts with Edna, trying get her attention. Edna is attracted to Alcee but draws back and does not want further involvement.

* 1. What thoughts does Edna have about Robert and about her husband?

Edna feels that she has betrayed Robert because she is aroused by Alcee. She does not think about poor Leonce.

* 1. Give examples of Chopin’s use f sensual language in this chapter.

Fever, flamed, restless, excited, sensuousness, languorous.

* 1. How would readers in the time period of the novel react to this language

The public might have found the language shocking in that time period

1. 1. As their meeting continue, in what way does Edna allow Alcee to speak to her? Cite a quotation.

“in a way that pleased her at last, appealing to the animalism that stirred impatiently within her.”

* 1. Why does Edna visit Mademoiselle Reisz?

She wants to remind herself about Robert.

* 1. What decision has Edna made? Why does she decide this?

Edna decided to move out of Leonce’s house. She will be moving into another house around the corner. She makes this meeting because she wants more freedom and independence.

* 1. What does Edna decide to do before leaving?

Edna plans a dinner before she leaves

* 1. From his letter (sent to Mademoiselle Reisz), what does Edna learn about Robert’s plans?

Robert is returning to New Orleans,, and Edna is very happy.

* 1. What comment does Mademoiselle Reisz make about Robert, and how des Edna react to her comment?

Mademoiselle Reisz mentions Robert as “a man of ordinary caliber” and asks Edna to the reason why she loves him. Edna says she loves him because she does.

* 1. What does Edna do for her children and for her husband?

Edna sends the children a big box of chocolates, and a letter to Leonce about her decision to move and the dinner.

* 1. What has Edna not taken into consideration?

Edna is selfish, and does not consider the affects of her action on other people.

1. 1. What happens in the developing relationship between Edna and Alcee?

They develop physical relationships: kissing and touching each other.

1. 1. This is the shortest chapter in the book, less than one page. How does Chopin present the consummation of Edna and Alcee’s relationship? After the passionate kiss with Alcee, what does Edna realize about herself?

No physical detail of the action is described. Though this might cause it to lose popularity in the modern world, it is more fitting to what is considered appropriate of the time, and allows this novel to be used in class. Edna cries because she thinks that she made a bad decision, of her actions not having a love incentive, but only from lust.

1. 1. What does Edna do in order to carry out her plan to leave Leonce? How does this illustrate the theme of independence?

Edna packs her personal possessions. She does not take Leonce’s property. This shows that she does not want to depend on Leonce.

* 1. When Alcee visits her that afternoon, how is Edna very much in command of the situation?

Edna orders Alcee around, and takes control of everything. Make Alcee believe their relationship is continuing but does not make any physical commitment.

* 1. How does Edna appear as a different person now?

Edna was unexperienced and did would not know how to react to what happened between her and Alcee based on what she was like on the Grand Isles. Now she learnt how to control the situation.

1. 1. Who are the guests who attend the dinner?

Alcee, Mademoiselle Reisz, Monsieur Ratignolle, Victor, Mrs. Highcamp, Miss Mayblunt a journalist firend and the Merriman family.

* 1. List the guests who do not appear and the reason they do not attend.

Adele is pregmant, Mrs. Lebrun sends regrets

* 1. Describe the setting for the dinner, the table, the furnishing, and the overall atmosphere. What does this tell the reader about Enda’s decision to leave?

It was gorgeous. “The table is covered with a pale-yellow satin lace cloth; large candles glow under yellow silk shades; soft, luxurious dining chairs replace the usual stiff ones; crystal, silver, and gleam of gold everywhere.” This tells the reader that Edna is willing to give up a lot.

* 1. How is Edna dressed, and how does she look?

Edna is wearing a satin gown, and dressed very well.

* 1. How does Edna feel during the evening?

Edna feels hopeless overtake her. She starts to miss Robert.

* 1. How are sensory images of sound and smell used?

Musicians give BGM, there are a sent of jasmine. Creates a fitting atmosphere.

* 1. How is Victor dressed, and how does he act during the dinner?

Victor is dressed well, and he fallows her sexual desires toward Edna.

* 1. What does the following quotations indicate about the evening? “The voices of Edna’s disbanding guests jarred like a discordant note upon the quiet harmony of the night?”

The evening was not the expected end Edna expected. Something bad is about to happen.

1. 1. What are Edna’s dual feelings as she and Alcee clean up after everyone leaves?

Edna is depressed, and does not want to talk. She cleans up the house and goes to the small place where she will live.

* 1. What is the pigeon house? In what way is it different from Leonce’s house?

A simple four room house. It is small, and not as luxurious.

* 1. How does Edna feel when she enters the pigeon house with Alcee?

Edna is tired. She said “something inside me had snapped”

* 1. In what ways has Alcee invaded Edna’s personal space?

Alcee sent flowers to fill a room. Alcee does not leave when Edna wants him to.

1. 1. What incidents show L’eonce’s concern with appearances? What steps does he take to avoid scandal?

Leonce is concerned that his business will be affected by Edna moving. He writes her a letter and hires an architect to remodel the house.

* 1. How does Edna feel in her new home?

Edna feels free as she is no longer restricted.

* 1. How does Edna react to her visit with her children?

Ednais happy to see them. She finally understands what it means to be a mother.

* 1. What is her feeling when she returns to the pigeon house?

She kept thinking about her children. She was alone again when she returns to the house.