



By Norman McKinnel

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1. Copy and complete the following paragraph about the theme of the play in pairs:

The play deals with a _____ and _____ Bishop who is always ready to lend a _____ hand to anyone in distress. A _____ breaks into the Bishop's house and is _____ and warmed. The benevolence of the Bishop somewhat _____ the convict, but, when he sees the silver candlesticks, he _____ them, and runs away. However, he is _____ and brought back. He expects to go back to jail, but the Bishop informs the police they are a _____. The convict is _____ by this kindness of the Bishop and before he leaves he seeks the priest's blessing.

Answer:

The play deals with a kind and charitable Bishop who is always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in distress. A convict breaks into the Bishop's house and is fed and warmed. The benevolence of the Bishop somewhat confounds the convict, but, when he sees the silver candlesticks, he steals them, and runs away. However, he is arrested and brought back. He expects to go back to jail, but the Bishop informs the police they are a gift. The convict is moved by this kindness of the Bishop and before he leaves he seeks the priest's blessing.

5. (a) Working in pairs give antonyms of the following words

kind- hearted	unscrupulous	forgiving	stern	benevolent	credulous
generous	pious	suspicious	sympathetic	understanding	wild
innocent	penitent	clever	brutal	cunning	caring
sentimental	trusting	protective	concerned	honourable	embittered

Answer:

1. Kind-hearted - nasty, unkind, cruel
2. Unscrupulous - ethical, moral, good
3. Forgiving - censure, charge, punish
4. Stern - cheerful, funny, lenient
5. Benevolent - greedy, malevolent, mean, selfish
6. Credulous - skeptical, suspecting, suspicious
7. Generous - greedy, mean, miserly
8. Pious - atheist, impious, irreligious
9. Suspicious - innocent, trustworthy, trusty
10. Sympathetic - callous, merciless, uncaring, unconcerned
11. Understanding - misunderstanding, intolerant
12. Wild - civilized, controlled, delicate, gentle
13. Innocent - bad, blamable, corrupt
14. Penitent - happy, unashamed
15. Clever - awkward, foolish, idiotic, ignorant,
16. Brutal - generous, humane, kind, nice
17. Cunning - gullible, kind, naive
18. Caring - disregarding, ignoring, neglecting

19. Sentimental - hard-hearted, indifferent, pragmatic, unemotional
20. Trusting- disagree, dispute, reject, renounce
21. Protective - attacking, harmful, hurtful, injurious
22. Concerned - happy, undisturbed, unperturbed
23. Honourable - not respectful, unhonourable
24. Embittered - pleasant, content, genial

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(b) Select words from the above box to describe the characters in the play as revealed by the following lines from the play.

Lines from the play	Speaker	Quality revealed
1. "You told him she was feeling poorly, did you? And so my brother is to be kept out of bed, and go without his supper because you told him she was feeling poorly."		
2. _____ "take my comforter, it will keep you warm."		
3. "If people lie to me they are poorer, not I."		
4. "You are like a child. I can't trust you out of my sight. No sooner my back is turned than you get that minx Marie to sell the silver salt-cellars."		
5. "My dear there is so much suffering in the world, and I can do so very little."		
6. "My mother gave them to me on – on her death bed just after you were born, and – and she asked me to keep them in remembrance of her, so I would like to keep them."		
7. "I am too old a bird to be caught with chaff."		
8. "You have your soul to lose, my son."		
9. "Give me food or I'll stick my knife in you both and help myself."		
10. " _____they have made me what I am, they have made me a thief. God curse them all."		
11. "Why the devil are you kind to me? What do you want?"		
12. "I – I – didn't believe there was any good in the world...but somehow I – I – know you're good, and – and it's a queer thing to ask, but could you, would you bless me before I go?"		

Answer:

Lines from the play	Speaker	Quality revealed
1. "You told him she was feeling poorly, did you? And so my brother is to be kept out of bed, and go without his supper because you told him she was feeling poorly."	Per some	Stern, Unsympathetic
2. _____ "take my comforter, it will keep you warm."	Bish op	Kind- hearted , caring
3. "If people lie to me they are poorer, not I."	Bish op	Pious, Understanding
4. "You are like a child. I can't trust you out of my sight. No sooner my back is turned than you get that minx Marie to sell the silver salt-cellars."	Per some	Caring
5. "My dear there is so much suffering in the world, and I can do so very little."	Bish op	Sympathetic
6. "My mother gave them to me on – on her death bed just after you were born, and – and she asked me to keep them in remembrance of her, so I would like to keep them."	Bish op	Sentimental
7. "I am too old a bird to be caught with chaff."	Con vict	Cunning

8. "You have your soul to lose, my son."	Bish op	Pious
9. "Give me food or I'll stick my knife in you both and help myself."	Con vict	wild, brutal
10. " _____ they have made me what I am, they have made me a thief. God curse them all."	Con vict	pitiless, brutal
11. "Why the devil are you kind to me? What do you want?"	Con vict	Suspicious
12. "I – I – didn't believe there was any good in the world...but somehow I – I – know you're good, and – and it's a queer thing to ask, but could you, would you bless me before I go?"	Con vict	repentant

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