

Classics Quick Check Level Z

Name	Date
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**Instructions:** Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

- **1.** What is the primary cause of Mathilde's unhappiness?
  - A She is not in love with her husband.
  - ® She is rarely invited to parties.
  - © She wants to live a different life from the one she is living.
  - ⑤ She is forced to work hard in order to make ends meet.
- **2.** What is one way that the setting affects the story?
  - A The setting at Mathilde's house brings about the resolution of Mathilde's money problems.
  - B The setting of the ball puts in motion events that end in the loss of the necklace.
  - © The setting at the Ministry of Public Instruction introduces the major characters from the story.
  - ① The setting in France is the source of the unhappiness in Mathilde's life.

- 3. Which of the following words best describes Mathilde's reaction to the invitation to the ball?
  - (A) ungrateful
  - (B) sad
  - (C) humble
  - ① disappointed
- **4.** What is something that Monsieur Loisel and Mathilde have in common?
  - A They both work for the Ministry of Public Instruction.
  - B They are both unhappy with their middle-class lives.
  - ① They are both delighted with their experience at the ball.
  - ① They both work hard to repay the debt for the necklace.

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- 5. The author describes the heavy housework that Mathilde must perform as being odious. Based on the author's description, which of the following is a synonym for odious?
  - (A) unpleasant
  - ® greasy
  - (C) detailed
  - ① time-consuming
- **6.** This story is told by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (A) the main character
  - (B) an unreliable narrator
  - (C) an outside narrator
  - (1) a supporting character

- 7. How do Mathilde's feelings change when she is at the ball?
  - (A) She is worried about people thinking she doesn't belong.
  - B She finally feels satisfied with the way people treat her.
  - © She is disappointed that the ball doesn't live up to her expectations.
  - ⑤ She finally feels happy to spend time with Monsieur Loisel.
- **8.** Why does Madame Forestier not recognize Mathilde at the end of the story?
  - A Mathilde has changed the color of her hair.
  - B Madame Forestier is trying to ignore her.
  - © Madame Forestier is losing her eyesight.
  - Mathilde has lost her good looks.



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- 9. What effect does the loss of the necklace have on Monsieur Loisel?
  - A He has to work several jobs to pay back the borrowed money.
  - B He no longer loves Mathilde and resents being married to her.
  - © All the hard work causes him to become seriously ill.
  - ① He divorces Mathilde and marries Madame Forestier.
- **10.** The necklace in the story is a symbol for which of the following themes?
  - A Friendships are more valuable than wealth.
  - B Marriage is never easy.
  - ① Things are not always as they appear.
  - ① Hard work builds character.

- 11. Extended Response: There are several instances of irony in the story. Select one, and explain why it is an example of irony. Use details from the text to support your answer.
- **12. Extended Response:** How do Mathilde's character traits relate to the problems she and Monsieur Loisel encounter?

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Classics Quick Check Answer Key

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- 1. (C) Cause and Effect
- 2. 

  B Analyze Setting
- 3. (A) Analyze Character
- **4.** D Compare and Contrast
- 5. A Vocabulary
- **6.** (C) Character Point of View
- 7. (B) Analyze Character
- **8.** (D) Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
- **9.** (A) Cause and Effect
- **10.** (C) Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
- 11. Answers will vary but should identify an example of irony and then justify it with details from the text. Examples of irony include: Mathilde and Monsieur Loisel spend ten years of their lives working much harder than they would have had to in order to repay a loan for a necklace that is worth almost nothing, Mathilde values her looks over anything else and winds up losing them because she wanted to make herself look as beautiful as possible at the ball, and so on. Answers will then explain why it is ironic: the situation ended up being the opposite of what was expected.
- 12. Answers will vary. Sample answer:

  Mathilde's unhappiness with her lower station leads to her husband getting tickets for the ball, and her vanity causes her to borrow the necklace. Mathilde's delight in finally being the object of admiration preoccupies her, so much so that she doesn't even notice the necklace is gone.

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