

Think About/Talk About

► Analysis

1 Literary Focus

Possible response: The story's ending is an example of situational irony because the Loiseles' sacrifices were unnecessary; the original necklace was a fake.

? Extend the Discussion

Making Generalizations After many years, Mme. Loisel encounters Mme. Forestier. How would you describe this encounter? **Possible response:** The encounter is awkward.

Check for Understanding

Monitor Students' Progress Guide the class in answering these comprehension questions.

1. Why is the story titled "The Necklace"? [The necklace is an important symbol in the story. It symbolizes both unreachable wealth and extreme sacrifice.]
2. How does Mme. Loisel feel at the end of the story? [She is proud that she and her husband have paid off all of their debt.]

Analyzing Visuals

Viewing and Interpreting: Like Mme. Loisel, the subject is doing housework and is dressed in simple clothing. Her stooped appearance suggests that she is weary and accustomed to her hard work, just as Mme. Loisel becomes after years of labor.

young looking, still beautiful, still charming.

Mme. Loisel felt a rush of emotion. Should she speak to her? Of course. And now that everything was paid off, she would tell her the whole story. Why not?

She went toward her. "Hello, Jeanne."

The other, not recognizing her, showed astonishment at being spoken to so familiarly by this common person. She stammered, "But . . . madame . . . I don't recognize . . . You must be mistaken."

"No, I'm Mathilde Loisel."

Her friend gave a cry, "Oh, my poor Mathilde, how you've changed!"

"Yes, I've had a hard time since last seeing you. And plenty of misfortunes—and all on account of you!"

"Of me . . . How do you mean?"

"Do you remember that diamond necklace you loaned me to wear to the dance at the Ministry?"

"Yes, but what about it?"

"Well, I lost it."

"You lost it! But you returned it."

"I brought you another just like it. And we've been paying for it for ten years now. You can imagine that wasn't easy for us who had nothing. Well, it's over now, and I am glad of it."

Mme. Forestier stopped short. "You mean to say you bought a diamond necklace to replace mine?"

1 Literary Focus Situational Irony In what way is the story's ending an example of situational irony?



Analyzing Visuals Viewing and Interpreting How does the subject of the painting represent Mme. Loisel's situation?

"Yes. You never noticed, then? They were quite alike."

And she smiled with proud and simple joy. Mme. Forestier, quite overcome, clasped her by the hands. "Oh, my poor Mathilde. But mine was fake. Why, at most it was worth only five hundred francs!"

GA Georgia Performance Standards

- ELA9RL1.1a Locates and analyzes such elements in fiction as language, character development, setting and mood, point of view, foreshadowing, and irony.

Applying Your Skills

The Necklace

Respond and Think Critically

Reading Focus

Quick Check

1. Why is Mme. Loisel unhappy when she receives an invitation to an evening reception?
2. How are Mme. Loisel's dreams realized at the party? How are her dreams destroyed?
3. At the end of the story, what lesson does Mme. Loisel learn about life?

Read with a Purpose

4. In what way is Mme. Loisel's life changed as a result of her borrowing the necklace?

Reading Skills: Reading Actively

5. Review the predictions you made as you read "The Necklace," and record what actually happened in the story. Which story events did you accurately predict? Which story events were unexpected?

My Predictions	What Actually Happens
Mme. Loisel will begin to resent being poor.	Mme. Loisel tells her husband she can't go to a party because she has no fine clothes to wear.

Vocabulary Check

Match each Vocabulary word with its definition.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6. disconsolate | a. greater than is reasonable |
| 7. pauper | b. horrified |
| 8. adulation | c. very unhappy |
| 9. aghast | d. excessive praise |
| 10. exorbitant | e. very poor person |

Literary Focus

Literary Analysis

11. **Analyze** How would this story change if it were told by Mme. Loisel or her husband?
12. **Literary Perspectives** Are Mme. Loisel and her husband credible characters? Why or why not?
13. **Evaluate** Do you think Maupassant is critical of just Mme. Loisel or of society as a whole? Explain.

Literary Skills: Symbols and Irony

14. **Interpret** After the Loiseles lose the necklace, what does it become symbolic of?
15. **Analyze** What irony is revealed in the story's conclusion?

Literary Skills Review: Motivation

16. **Analyze** The fears, conflicts, or needs that drive a character are called **motivation**. What motivates Mme. Loisel to seek out riches and finery?

Writing Focus

Think as a Reader/Writer

Use It in Your Writing Choose a person from fiction or real life. Then, in your *Reader/Writer Notebook*, write a character sketch of him or her. Like Maupassant, develop your character by describing his or her inner thoughts and feelings.

What Do You Think Now

Would Mme. Loisel's life have been happier if she had not been envious of others? Explain.

Writing Focus

Alternative Prompt for Writers Gaining Proficiency Some students may struggle to write a character sketch. Instead, have students write a paragraph describing a friend or family member.

What Do You Think Now?

Have students meet in small groups to imagine how the story might change if Mme. Loisel had not been envious of others. Do students think the story line would have changed? Why or why not? Ask groups to share their thoughts with the class.

Review

Independent Practice

Reading Focus

Answers:

1. Mme. Loisel has nothing nice enough to wear to the party.
2. Her dreams are realized because she feels important and is admired. Her dreams are destroyed because she loses the diamond necklace she borrowed.
3. **Possible response:** It is better to be honest than to live a lie.
4. Mme. Loisel becomes coarse and poor as she works off the debt.
5. Responses will vary, but should explore students' predictions.

Vocabulary Check

6. c 7. e 8. d
9. b 10. a

Literary Focus

Possible responses:

11. Mme. Loisel might be painted in a more positive light or portrayed as a tragic heroine.
12. M. Loisel is credible because he is devoted to his wife. Mme. Loisel is not credible because her selfish actions seem exaggerated.
13. Maupassant is critical of society as a whole; he does not seem to agree with class restrictions.
14. The necklace becomes symbolic of sacrifice and abandoned dreams.
15. The necklace was fake and could have easily been replaced.
16. Mme. Loisel is driven by a need to feel important and admired.

Assess

Unit 1 Resources, Selection Test, p. 160

Reteach

ThinkCentral Online Remediation