

Echoes : Short Stories

Chapter-4 : To Build a Fire

–Jack London

Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. *It was a clear day, and yet there seemed an intangible pall over the face of things, a subtle gloom that made the day dark, and that was due to the absence of sun. This fact did not worry the man. He was used to the lack of sun. It had been days since he had seen the sun, and he knew that a few more days must pass before that cheerful orb, due south, would peep above the skyline and dip immediately from view.*
- (i) What fact did not worry the man?
- (a) The thought that they will float down to the village.
(b) Dark day due to absence of sun
(c) That he will be killed by animals
(d) That he was alone in the trail.
- (ii) What is the synonym of 'cheerful'?
- (a) Buoyant (b) Persistent
(c) Heavy (d) Assertive
- (iii) Why the weather did not affect the man?
- (a) He has been to this place many times.
(b) He led a recluse life
(c) He was used to lack of sun
(d) He was ready to go back
- (iv) What is the synonym of 'intangible'?
- (a) Imperceptible
(b) Improvisation
(c) Impalpable
(d) Impeccability
- (v) What is 'cheerful orb' referring to in this passage?
- (a) Dark day (b) Sun
(c) Object (d) Sky
2. *But all this--the mysterious, far-reaching hairline trail, the absence of sun from the sky, the tremendous cold, and the strangeness and weirdness of it all--made no impression on the man. It was not because he was long used to it. He was a new-comer in the land, a chechaquo, and this was his first winter. The trouble with him was that he was without imagination. He was quick and alert in the things of life, but only in the things, and not in the significances. Fifty degrees below zero meant eighty odd degrees of frost. Such fact impressed him as being cold and uncomfortable, and that was all.*
- (i) Which difficulties made no impression on the man?
- (a) Not finding the correct path
(b) Travelling in the trail
(c) Far-reaching trail, tremendous cold
(d) Mysterious puzzles
- (ii) What is the meaning of Fifty degrees below zero?
- (a) eighty degrees of frost
(b) eighty-odd degrees of frost
(c) eighty even degrees of frost
(d) eighty-eight degrees frost
- (iii) What was the trouble with him?
- (a) He was lazy clumsy
(b) He could not remember things
(c) He used to trust easily
(d) He was without imagination
- (iv) What is the synonym of 'impression'?
- (a) Conception
(b) Adaptation
(c) Reception
(d) Attraction
- (v) What does man's lack of imagination mean?
- (a) He was coward
(b) He did not prepare properly
(c) He could imagine danger
(d) He was frightened
3. *At the man's heels trotted a dog, a big native husky, the proper wolf-dog, grey-coated and without any visible or temperamental difference from its brother, the wild wolf. The animal was depressed by the tremendous cold. It knew that it was no time for travelling. Its instinct told it a truer tale than was told to the man*

by the man's judgment. In reality, it was not merely colder than fifty below zero; it was colder than sixty below than seventy below. It was seventy-five below zero. Since the freezing point is thirty-two above zero, it meant that one hundred and seven degrees of frost obtained. The dog did not know anything about thermometers.

- (i) Why was the man travelling even when he knew it was no time for travelling?
 - (a) he wanted to reach the camp to the boys
 - (b) he wanted to travel in the cold
 - (c) he was lost
 - (d) he was hungry and wanted to have food
 - (ii) Why was the animal depressed?
 - (a) due to fever
 - (b) dog lost its owner
 - (c) due to tremendous cold
 - (d) moving to new home
 - (iii) Who told the man the tale?
 - (a) a Sulphur Creek
 - (b) his friend
 - (c) a British
 - (d) a man from his native land
 - (iv) What was the tale that the man told?
 - (a) one should not travel in cold
 - (b) one should not travel without a companion in fifty degree below zero cold
 - (c) the area has chilly cold weather in winters
 - (d) no man travel there
 - (v) What is the synonym of "tremendous"?
 - (a) Tiny
 - (b) Enormous
 - (c) Exaggerate
 - (d) Extravagant
4. *Empty as the man's mind was of thoughts, he was keenly observant, and he noticed the changes in the creek, the curves and bends and timber-jams, and always he sharply noted where he placed his feet. Once, coming around a bend, he shied abruptly, like a startled horse, curved away from the place where he had been walking, and retreated several paces back along the trail. The creek he knew was frozen clear to the bottom--no creek could contain water in that arctic winter--but he knew also that there were springs that bubbled out from the hillsides and ran along under the snow and on top of the ice of the creek.*
- (i) What all changes the man noticed?
 - (a) changes in the weather
 - (b) changes in the behaviour of the dog
 - (c) changes in the creek, curves and timber-jams
 - (d) changes in himself
 - (ii) What is the opposite of 'observant'?
 - (a) Dreamy
 - (b) Sharp
 - (c) Dutiful
 - (d) Aspiration

- (iii) When was the man observant?
 - (a) when he was alone
 - (b) when his mind was empty of thoughts
 - (c) when he was dreamy
 - (d) when he was scared
 - (iv) What is the meaning of 'startled'?
 - (a) clear
 - (b) ready to start
 - (c) sudden shock
 - (d) forget to start
 - (v) What is a "creek" in this passage?
 - (a) snow
 - (b) river
 - (c) tributary of the river
 - (d) pond
5. *It was a steep bank, and he paused for breath at the top, excusing the act to himself by looking at his watch. It was nine o'clock.*
- (i) How is the day described as in the opening of the story "To Build a Fire"?
 - (a) Sunny and warm
 - (b) Cloudy and miserable
 - (c) Cold and gray
 - (d) Misty and wet
 - (ii) The protagonist turns aside from what main trail to climb the high earth-bank to a "dim and little-traveled trail"?
 - (a) The Yukon Trail
 - (b) The Arctic Trail
 - (c) The Apache Trail
 - (d) The Alaska Trail
 - (iii) "To Build a Fire" contained foreshadowing, which means_____.
 - (a) It took place at nightfall.
 - (b) It was a moody and spooky story.
 - (c) It contained clues to events yet to happen.
 - (d) It had descriptions of shadows in the woods.
 - (iv) Where is the man headed?
 - (a) To establish a scientific outpost
 - (b) To meet a buddy at a hunting cabin
 - (c) To a mining camp
 - (d) To Michigan
 - (v) What adds to the sense of gloom as the man heads out on his journey through the Yukon?
 - (a) Miles of nothing but ice and snow
 - (b) Absence of sun
 - (c) Freezing temperature
 - (d) Travelling alone
6. *While they dried, he could keep his naked feet warm by the fire, rubbing them first with snow. The fire was a success. He was safe. He remembered the advice of the old man on Sulphur Creek, and smiled.*

- (i) In Jack London's "To Build a Fire", what solid advice did a man from Sulphur Creek give the man in the story, which he ignored?
- Bring plenty of water, and an animal, when you travel alone.
 - Stay away from the water.
 - When it gets to be fifty below, you should always travel with a companion.
 - Make a fire if you get wet.
- (ii) How did this fire blot out?
- The man tried to poke out the little moss which disrupted the nucleus of fire and it blot out.
 - load of snow on the boughs fell on the fire
 - his matches ran out
 - he himself blew it out because his skin was burning
- (iii) Which two words does London use in describing the two accidents?
- "It occurred" (b) "It came"
 - "It went" (d) "It happened"
- (iv) How does London describe the first accident?
- As an "error"
 - As a "problem"
 - As a "mistake"
 - As the man's "fault"
- (v) How does London describe the second accident?
- as an "error"
 - as a "problem"
 - as a "mistake"
 - as the man's "fault"
7. *The thought of it drove him on, but he ran no more than a hundred feet, when he staggered and pitched headlong. It was his last panic. When he had recovered his breath and control, he sat up and entertained in his mind.*
- (i) "The thought of it drove him on..." What does 'it' refer to?
- death (b) meeting his boys
 - cold (d) food
- (ii) Why did the man stop running?
- He knew he was not going to live.
 - He had stopped feeling so cold.
 - He knew he had found his friends.
 - He had started to feel very tired.
- (iii) What did the man entertain in his mind?
- the idea of reaching to the boys
 - the conception of meeting death with dignity
 - to travel with a companion next time
 - the idea of killing the dog
- (iv) Which simile did the man use for himself right after the conception?
- running around like a chicken with its head cut off
 - running like the wind
 - running like a dog after a hare
 - running like a wildfire
- (v) What is the theme of the lesson from which the above extract has been taken?
- Overconfidence
 - Chance and human error
 - Fight for survival vs. Acceptance of death
 - All of the above

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs):

8. Where did the setting of the story, 'To Build a Fire' take place?
- In Alaska (b) In the Yukon
 - In North Dakota (d) In the Arctic region
9. What is the name for a "newcomer in the land"?
- chechaquo (b) ingénue
 - debutante (d) outsider
10. At what temperature does the old-timer tell the man is it dangerous to travel alone?
- thirty-two degrees fahrenheit
 - fifty degrees fahrenheit below zero
 - seventy degrees fahrenheit below zero
 - zero degrees fahrenheit
11. What is the breed of the dog which travels with the man?
- a hound
 - an English cocker spaniel
 - a husky
 - a wolf
12. Where is the man meeting "the boys"?
- Iditarod (b) Nome
 - Anchorage (d) Henderson Creek
13. What is the man not "quick and alert" in, according to London?
- The passions of life
 - The significances of life
 - The heartaches of life
 - The things of life
14. The man first worries about frostbite for which body parts?
- nose and cheekbones
 - fingers
 - ears (d) lips
15. Why the man's beard is coloured amber?
- because his rum has run into it
 - because his tobacco has run into it
 - it is the natural colour
 - because of the cold
16. What does the man wish he had brought for his cheeks?

- (a) fur (b) a nose strap
(c) a scarf (d) hot oil
17. What is the man fearful of as he walks along the trail?
(a) hidden springs (b) moose
(c) bears (d) wet snow
18. What does the dog do when it wets its feet and legs?
(a) It burrows into the snow
(b) It bites at the ice between its toes
(c) It whines
(d) It builds a fire
19. What does the man frequently do with his hands to warm them up?
(a) He rubs them against the dog's fur
(b) He blows on them
(c) He builds a fire
(d) He beats them against his legs
20. Where is the old-timer from?
(a) Michigan (b) Sulphur Creek
(c) North Dakota (d) Henderson Creek
21. What condescending word does the man first use for the old-timer when thinking about him?
(a) "Womanish" (b) "Feminine"
(c) "Weak" (d) "Hardy"
22. How, according to London, does the dog know about the danger of the cold?
(a) It has inherited knowledge of the cold
(b) It has studied the land
(c) It has learned from the man
(d) It has learned from the old man
23. How does the second fire go out?
(a) A large piece of green moss falls on the fire.
(b) The man gets it wet.
(c) The snow falls on it again.
(d) The wind blew it out
24. Why is the man initially angry about wetting himself?
(a) It will delay him
(b) He fears frostbite
(c) He hates water
(d) He wanted to prove he could handle the Yukon on his own
25. What can the reader view the story's title as?
(a) An imperative
(b) A grammar lesson on infinitives
(c) A poetic phrase
(d) An instruction manual
26. How does London describe the tree's avalanche?
(a) As a "projection"
(b) As a "series of links"
(c) As a "process"
(d) As a "series of causes"
27. In Jack London's "To Build a Fire", what happens to seal the man's fate?
(a) He falls into a ditch, and has no companion to help him get out.
(b) His feet get wet, and the snow in a tree smothers the fire he built to dry off.
(c) The dog bites him, and he bleeds to death in the snow.
(d) He runs, and exhausts himself, because he is behind schedule.

Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate option:

28. The man got wet upto his _____.
(a) knee (b) waist
(c) chest (d) thighs
29. The man in the story was a novice who lacked in _____.
(a) Intellect (b) Knowledge
(c) Experience (d) Strength
30. The actual temperature of the place was _____ below zero.
(a) 50 degrees (b) 107 degrees
(c) 75 degrees (d) 80 degrees
31. The man built the fire under _____ tree.
(a) fir (b) pine
(c) oak (d) spruce
32. In the story, London has used fire as a symbol of _____.
(a) comfort (b) life
(c) power (d) warmth
33. The man light _____ matches at once.
(a) 100 (b) 10
(c) 50 (d) 70
34. The dog in the story represent _____.
(a) Intellect (b) Instinct
(c) Experience (d) Knowledge
35. The dog _____ while the man had his lunch.
(a) kept watching the man
(b) yearned for food
(c) burrowed in the snow
(d) kept looking in the direction of the lamp
36. After the man dies, the dog _____.
(a) feasts eagerly on the corpse
(b) curls up next to the man's body and dies
(c) heads off towards the camp
(d) also freezes to death
37. The dog appreciates the man's _____.
(a) drive to keep going
(b) comforting presence

- (c) ability to make fire
(d) willingness to take risks
38. The relationship between the man and his dog was most like that of _____.
(a) two old friends (b) master and slave
(c) father and son (d) teammates
39. The man THINK the temperature outside is _____.
(a) 0 degrees (b) -50 degrees
(c) -32 degrees (d) -20 degrees
40. The man makes a second fire to _____.
(a) dry his socks and moccasins
(b) give his dog a break
- (c) prepare his lunch
(d) wait out the cold
41. _____ as a character flaw brings about the man's tragic end.
(a) cowardice (b) carelessness
(c) overconfidence (d) greed
42. During the course of the story, the man changes from _____.
(a) being haughty to being helpless.
(b) being rational to being spiritual.
(c) being heartless to being caring.
(d) being courageous to being fearful

Answers

1. (i) (b) Dark day due to absence of sun
(ii) (a) Buoyant
(iii) (c) He was used to lack of sun
(iv) (c) Impalpable
(v) (b) Sun
2. (i) (c) Far-reaching trail, tremendous cold
(ii) (b) eighty-odd degrees of frost
(iii) (d) He was without imagination
(iv) (a) Conception
(v) (b) He did not prepare properly
3. (i) (a) he wanted to reach the camp to the boys
(ii) (c) due to tremendous cold
(iii) (a) a Sulphur Creek
(iv) (b) one should not travel without a companion in fifty degree below zero cold
(v) (b) Enormous
4. (i) (c) changes in the creek, curves and timber-jams
(ii) (a) Dreamy
(iii) (b) when his mind was empty of thoughts
(iv) (c) sudden shock
(v) (c) tributary of the river
5. (i) (c) Cold and gray
(ii) (a) The Yukon Trail
(iii) (c) It contained clues to events yet to happen.
(iv) (c) To a mining camp
(v) (d) Travelling alone
6. (i) (c) When it gets to be fifty below, you should always travel with a companion.
(ii) (b) Load of snow on the boughs fell on the fire
(iii) (d) "It happened"
(iv) (d) As the man's "fault"
(v) (c) as a "mistake"
7. (i) (a) death
(ii) (a) He knew he was not going to live.
(iii) (b) the conception of meeting death with dignity
- (iv) (a) running around like a chicken with its head cut off
(v) (d) All of the above
8. (b) In the Yukon valley
9. (a) chechaquo
10. (b) fifty degrees fahrenheit below zero
11. (c) a husky
12. (d) Henderson Creek
13. (b) The significances of life
14. (a) nose and cheekbones
15. (b) because his tobacco has run into it
16. (b) a nose strap
17. (a) hidden springs
18. (b) It bites at the ice between its toes
19. (d) He beats them against his legs
20. (b) Sulphur Creek
21. (a) "Womanish"
22. (a) It has inherited knowledge of the cold
23. (a) A large piece of green moss falls on the fire.
24. (a) It will delay him
25. (d) An instruction manual
26. (c) As a "process"
27. (b) His feet get wet, and the snow in a tree smothers the fire he built to dry off.
28. (a) knee
29. (c) Experience
30. (c) -75 degrees
31. (d) spruce
32. (b) life
33. (d) 70
34. (b) Instinct
35. (a) kept watching the man
36. (c) heads off towards the camp
37. (c) ability to make fire
38. (b) master and slave
39. (b) -50 degrees
40. (a) dry his socks and moccasins
41. (c) overconfidence
42. (a) being haughty to being helpless.

Chapter-5 : The Story of an Hour

–Kate Chopin

Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. *Josephine was kneeling before the closed door with her lips to the keyhole, imploring for admission. "Louise, open the door! I beg open the door-you will make yourself ill. What are you doing, Louise? For heaven's sake open the door."*
 - (i) Louise Mallard approaches an awakening after hearing the news of her husband's death. What is the most prominent reoccurring theme?
 - (a) Hopefulness (b) Freedom
 - (c) Acceptance (d) Depression
 - (ii) How does Louise Mallard characterise human relationships in "The Story of an Hour"?
 - (a) As a necessity (b) As a gift
 - (c) As a puzzle (d) As a crime
 - (iii) What does Louise do after hearing her husband's name in the list of "killed"?
 - (a) Kills herself
 - (b) Gets fainted
 - (c) Decided to leave the house
 - (d) Weeps and goes to her room
 - (iv) What does Josephine believe that Louise is doing behind the closed door?
 - (a) Looking at photographs
 - (b) Making herself ill
 - (c) Killing herself
 - (d) Gets fainted
 - (v) What is the relation of Josephine with Louise?
 - (a) Sister-in-Law (b) Mother
 - (c) Daughter (d) Sister
2. *She arose at length and opened the door to her sister's importunities. There was a feverish triumph in her eyes, and she carried herself unwittingly like a goddess of Victory. She clasped her sister's waist, and together they descended the stairs. Richards stood waiting for them at the bottom.*
 - (i) Louise's composure as she descends the stairs can be defined as:
 - (a) Proudful vindication
 - (b) Pretentious
 - (c) Tension and apprehensiveness
 - (d) A Renewed liveliness
 - (ii) What is the climax of the story?
 - (a) Louise Mallard dies.
 - (b) Mr Mallard dies.
 - (c) Josephine reveals that she lied.
 - (d) Mr Mallard returns home.
 - (iii) What is Mr Mallard's first name?
 - (a) John (b) Brently
 - (c) Richard (d) Charles
 - (iv) The author portrayal of the story expects the reader to reflect on the experiences of Louise Mallard with
 - (a) Ridicule (b) Understanding
 - (c) Admiration (d) Ironical detachment
 - (v) Why was there "feverish triumph" in Mrs. Mallard's eyes?
 - (a) because she finally killed her husband.
 - (b) because she has won a jackpot
 - (c) because she was happy to hear her husband's return
 - (d) because she finally felt free
3. *It was her sister Josephine who told her, in broken sentences; veiled hints that revealed in half concealing. Her husband's friend Richards was there, too, near her. It was he who had been in the newspaper office when intelligence of the railroad disaster was received, with Brently Mallard's name leading the list of "killed." He had only taken the time to assure himself of its truth by a second telegram, and had hastened to forestall any less careful, less tender friend in bearing the sad message.*
 - (i) Where did Mrs. Mallard go when she heard the news of her husband's death?
 - (a) To her room (b) To bathroom
 - (c) To prayer-room (d) To kitchen
 - (ii) How did Mr. Mallard supposedly die?
 - (a) Car accident (b) Heart attack
 - (c) Stroke (d) Train accident
 - (iii) What is Mrs. Mallard's response to her husband's death?
 - (a) Sorrow (b) Anger
 - (c) Sadness (d) Joy
 - (iv) What does NOT characterise Mrs. Mallard's face?
 - (a) Repression (b) Calmness
 - (c) Depression (d) Strength
 - (iv) What emotion does Louise feel toward her husband?
 - (a) Fear (b) Hatred
 - (c) Companionship (d) Love
4. *She did not hear the story as many women have heard the same, with a paralysed inability to accept*

its significance. She wept at once, with sudden, wild abandonment, in her sister's arms. When the storm of grief had spent itself she went away to her room alone. She would have no one follow her.

- (i) Which "story" is being referred to in the passage?
 - (a) Story of a child
 - (b) Story of a new life
 - (c) Story of her husband's death
 - (d) Story of gender discrimination
- (ii) Who is "She" in the given extract?
 - (a) Louise Mallard
 - (b) Josephine
 - (c) Mrs. Anne
 - (d) Wife of Richards
- (iii) With what trouble was 'she' afflicted with?
 - (a) Lungs problem
 - (b) Heart problem
 - (c) Mental stress
 - (d) Her sister's death
- (iv) From the passage given above what character sketch of the lady can be inferred?
 - (a) Emotionally strong
 - (b) An independent woman
 - (c) A frail woman
 - (d) All of these
- (v) Which word in the passage is similar in meaning to "desertion"?
 - (a) Paralysed
 - (b) Significance
 - (c) Abandonment
 - (d) Inability
5. *She was young, with a fair, calm face, whose lines bespoke repression and even a certain strength. But now there was a dull stare in her eyes, whose gaze was fixed away off yonder on one of those patches of blue sky. It was not a glance of reflection, but rather indicated a suspension of intelligent thought. There was something coming to her and she was waiting for it, fearfully. What was it? She did not know; it was too subtle and elusive to name. But she felt it, creeping out of the sky, reaching toward her through the sounds, the scents, the colour that filled the air.*
 - (i) What does the "lines" of Mrs. Mallard face indicate?
 - (a) She's keeping a lot of stuff inside.
 - (b) She is not beautiful.
 - (c) She has grown old
 - (d) None of these
 - (ii) Where is Mrs. Mallard at this moment?
 - (a) Near his husband's corpse
 - (b) In her room
 - (c) In the corridor
 - (d) In the garden
 - (iii) What do you think was coming to her mind?
 - (a) Freedom and independence

- (b) solitude
 - (c) unacceptance of her husband's death
 - (d) none of these
- (iv) "There was something coming to her and she was waiting for it, fearfully." What was that which she is afraid from?
 - (a) Her survival after husband's death.
 - (b) she believes it is wrong to be so happy over her husband's death
 - (c) she is afraid of loneliness
 - (d) she is afraid of her death
- (v) Antonym of the word "repression" is:
 - (a) Constraint
 - (b) Possession
 - (c) Incontinence
 - (d) discretion
6. *She did not stop to ask if it were or were not a monstrous joy that held her. A clear and exalted perception enabled her to dismiss the suggestion as trivial. She knew that she would weep again when she saw the kind, tender hands folded in death; the face that had never looked save with love upon her, fixed and gray and dead. But she saw beyond that bitter moment a long procession of years to come that would belong to her absolutely. And she opened and spread her arms out to them in welcome.*
 - (i) Why "joy" in the passage was considered as monstrous?
 - (a) She knows her joy will be short-lived.
 - (b) Her joy is mixed with longing for her husband.
 - (c) Her joy comes at the cost of her husband's death.
 - (d) None of these
 - (ii) According to Mrs. Mallard how did her husband used to treat her?
 - (a) He used to oppress Mrs. Mallard.
 - (b) He always looked her with love and care.
 - (c) He was jealous and possessive towards Mrs. Mallard.
 - (d) He was mean and uncaring.
 - (iii) "She knew that she would weep again." When do you think she will weep again?
 - (a) When she will see her husband's corpse.
 - (b) When she will come to know that her husband is not dead.
 - (c) She will weep when she will realise that she has lost her freedom.
 - (d) She will weep when she will find herself isolated.
 - (iv) What is that which Mrs. Mallard is welcoming?
 - (a) Self-identity
 - (b) Freedom and confinement
 - (c) Emancipation
 - (d) All of these
 - (v) What is the synonym for the word "trivial"?

- (a) Inconsequential
 - (b) Vital
 - (c) Substantial
 - (d) Worthwhile
7. *"Go away. I am not making myself ill." No; she was drinking in a very elixir of life through that open window. Her fancy was running riot along those days ahead of her.*
- (i) To whom was she speaking these lines to?
- (a) Mr. Mallard
 - (b) Josephine
 - (c) Richards
 - (d) Her inner thoughts
- (ii) What was Josephine doing?
- (a) She was hesitating to knock the door.
 - (b) She was happy with the freedom of Mrs. Mallard
 - (c) Josephine was trying to console Mrs. Mallard by gaining admission through the locked door.
 - (d) None of these
- (iii) What does the open window symbolize?
- (a) The freedom and opportunities that await her after her husband has died.
 - (b) Mrs. Mallard's sadness and heartbreak at the loss of her husband
 - (c) Tragedy and anguish
 - (d) A hope that her husband will return
- (iv) What does the metaphor "drinking in a very elixir of life" infer in the story?
- (a) She was breathing in a draught of fresh air with a sense of freedom
 - (b) She was drinking alcohol
 - (c) She was digesting her sorrows
 - (d) None of these
- (v) Choose a word which is similar in meaning to the word "riot."
- (a) Pacification
 - (b) Upheaval
 - (c) Sobriety
 - (d) Quiescence

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs):

8. Who breaks the news of Mr. Mallard's death?
- (a) Friar John
 - (b) Josephine
 - (c) Richards
 - (d) Roberts
9. What might Mrs. Mallard's ailment symbolize?
- (a) her inability to see things as they are
 - (b) her inability to filter out less important things in life
 - (c) her unhappiness and troubling emotions
 - (d) a raging desire for pig flesh
10. In what season does "The Story of an Hour" occur?
- (a) Summer
 - (b) Spring
 - (c) Winter
 - (d) Autumn
11. What did Louise Mallard sometimes feel toward her husband during their life together?
- (a) Indifference
 - (b) Resentment
 - (c) Affection
 - (d) Love
12. What does Mrs. Mallard see when she is by herself looking out the window?
- (a) Scenes of spring and new life
 - (b) Scenes of death and decay
 - (c) Scenes of an indifferent world
 - (d) Scenes of violence and chaos
13. A scene of sorrow and grief "The delicious breath of rain was in the air" is an example of?
- (a) an allusion
 - (b) personification
 - (c) metaphor
 - (d) simile
14. How does Louise Mallard initially react when she hears the bad news about her husband?
- (a) No reaction
 - (b) Hysterical weeping
 - (c) Starts blaming everyone
 - (d) Excitement at her newfound independence
15. In Kate Chopin's 'The Story of an Hour,' what does Louise discover after her husband's death?
- (a) Her husband's death brings her a sense of freedom.
 - (b) She discovers that there was never any love in her marriage.
 - (c) She finds independence frightening.
 - (d) She discovers that her husband has huge amount of debt
16. What is the tone of the story?
- (a) Ironic/Depressing
 - (b) Humorous/Ironic
 - (c) Joyful/Optimistic
 - (d) Optimistic/Humorous
17. The author wrote the story in the _____ century.
- (a) 19th
 - (b) 18th
 - (c) 20th
 - (d) 21st
18. What is significant about the story's setting?
- (a) The story's set in a time period that afforded women very few rights.
 - (b) It takes place in a large house.
 - (c) The story encompasses one hour.
 - (d) The setting is not described.
19. How could we best characterize Brently Mallard?

- (a) He is an abusive husband who deserves to die in a fiery train wreck.
 (b) He was loving husband.
 (c) He's a typical husband in the late 19th-century.
 (d) He's an adulterer/cheater.
20. Why does Chopin choose to withhold telling the reader Mrs. Mallard's first name?
 (a) because Mrs. Mallard was denied her own identity for so long
 (b) because it wasn't important to the story
 (c) because Mrs. Mallard liked being known as Mrs. Mallard
 (d) because the story was short
21. What emotion does Louise NOT feel over the course of "The Story of an Hour"?
 (a) Anticipation (b) Grief
 (c) Exhaustion (d) Ire
22. What occurs at the end of "The Story of an Hour"?
 (a) Louise Mallard falls down the stairs.
 (b) Mr. Mallard returns home.
 (c) Louise Mallard revels in her room.
 (d) Josephine reveals that she lied.
23. What happens to Louise when Mr. Mallard suddenly returns?
 (a) She cries (b) She clings to him
 (c) She dies (d) She laughs
24. Mr. Mallard coming home is what part of the plot?
 (a) rising action (b) climax
 (c) falling action (d) resolution
25. Brently Mallard and his friend Richards in "The Story of an Hour" is representative of...
 (a) traditional patriarchs
 (b) railroad men
 (c) politicians
 (d) bad husbands
26. Her pulse beat fast and the coursing blood warmed and relaxed every inch of her body is an example of :
 (a) simile (b) metaphor
 (c) allusion (d) imagery
27. Mrs. Mallard's cause of death is described as "a joy that kills". Chopin uses this as final evidence to show that:
 (a) Women were given explicit social rules, and were expected to follow all of them or suffer a tarnished reputation.
 (b) All wives were devoted and affectionate towards their husbands.
 (c) The pressure of society was so heavy that people were blind to the possibility that conformity could be resisted.
 (d) Heart disease was a serious condition that needed to be brought to attention.

Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate option:

28. The most desired thing to Mrs. Mallard was _____.
 (a) love (b) wealth
 (c) freedom (d) happiness
29. The theme of the story is _____.
 (a) self-identity
 (b) time is precious
 (c) relationships
 (d) women empowerment
30. The fact that Louise had a heart condition _____ her death from a heart attack.
 (a) paradox
 (b) double entendre
 (c) foreshadows
 (d) flashbacks
31. _____ literary device is used at the end of the story when the doctor claims Mrs. Mallard "died of heart disease- of the joy that kills".
 (a) Personification
 (b) Irony
 (c) Simile
 (d) Juxtaposition
32. The room with the armchair by the window is the _____.
 (a) point of view (b) plot
 (c) theme (d) setting
33. Richards learn about Brently's death through _____.
 (a) The town square
 (b) The train station
 (c) The union office
 (d) The newspaper office
34. The news of her husband's death was broken gently to her because.....
 (a) She loved her husband dearly
 (b) She had a weak heart
 (c) They wanted to protect her.
 (d) They didn't want her to faint.
35. Richards's relation to Brently is that of a _____.
 (a) Brother (b) Step-brother
 (c) Friend (d) Son
36. Mrs. Mallard welcomed the future stretching before her because.....

- (a) She could be free to lead a life on her terms
 (b) She could spend as much money she wished.
 (c) She did not need to listen to a man
 (d) She could travel to far off places.
37. At the end of the story, the reader.....
 (a) Understands Louise Mallard's state of mind.
 (b) Feels sorry for Louise Mallard.
 (c) Empathises with her longing for independence.
 (d) All of the above
38. _____ is not a characteristic trait of Louise Mallard.
 (a) Intelligence
 (b) Cruelty
 (c) Independence
 (d) Emotionality
39. _____ motif Chopin use to highlight the dichotomy of sorrow and happiness.
 (a) Laughter (b) Weeping
 (c) Masks (d) Mirrors
40. _____ represents the freedom and opportunities that seem to await Louise after her husband's death.
 (a) An open window (b) Stairs
 (c) A sunrise (d) A rocking chair
41. _____ represents Louise's ambivalence toward her marriage.
 (a) Heart trouble (b) Stairs
 (c) Wilting flowers (d) Broken mirrors
42. Chopin represent _____ as a source of forbidden joy for women.
 (a) Religious faith (b) Motherhood
 (c) Marital love (d) Independence

Answers

1. (i) (b) Freedom
 (ii) (d) As a crime
 (iii) (d) Weeps and goes to her room
 (iv) (b) Making herself ill
 (v) (d) Sister
2. (i) (a) Proudful vindication
 (ii) (d) Mr. Mallard returns home.
 (iii) (b) Brently
 (iv) (b) Understanding
 (v) (d) because she finally felt free
3. (i) (a) To her room
 (ii) (d) Train accident
 (iii) (d) Joy
 (iv) (c) Depression
 (v) (d) Love
4. (i) (c) Story of her husband's death
 (ii) (a) Louise Mallard
 (iii) (b) Heart problem
 (iv) (d) All of these
 (v) (c) Abandonment
5. (i) (a) She's keeping a lot of stuff inside.
 (ii) (b) In her room
 (iii) (a) Freedom and independence
 (iv) (b) she believes it is wrong to be so happy over her husband's death
 (v) (a) Constraint
6. (i) (c) Her joy comes at the cost of her husband's death.
 (ii) (b) He always looked her with love and care.
 (iii) (a) When she will see her husband's corpse.
- (iv) (d) All of these
 (v) (a) Inconsequential
7. (i) (b) Josephine
 (ii) (c) Josephine was trying to console Mrs. Mallard by gaining admission through the locked door.
 (iii) (a) The freedom and opportunities that await her after her husband has died.
 (iv) (a) She was breathing in a draught of fresh air with a sense of freedom
 (v) (b) Upheaval
8. (b) Josephine
 9. (c) her unhappiness and troubling emotions
 10. (b) Spring
 11. (d) Love
 12. (a) Scenes of spring and new life
 13. (b) personification
 14. (b) Hysterical weeping
 15. (a) Her husband's death brings her a sense of freedom.
 16. (a) Ironic/Depressing
 17. (a) 19th
 18. (a) The story's set in a time period that afforded women very few rights.
 19. (c) He's a typical husband in the late 19th-century.
 20. (a) Because Mrs. Mallard was denied her own identity for so long
 21. (d) Ire
 22. (b) Mr Mallard returns home.
 23. (c) She dies

- 24. (b) climax
- 25. (a) traditional patriarchs
- 26. (d) imagery
- 27. (c) The pressure of society was so heavy that people were blind to the possibility that conformity could be resisted
- 28. (c) freedom
- 29. (a) self- identity
- 30. (c) foreshadows
- 31. (b) Irony
- 32. (d) setting
- 33. (d) The newspaper office
- 34. (b) She had a weak heart
- 35. (c) Friend
- 36. (a) She could be free to lead a life on her terms
- 37. (d) All of the above
- 38. (b) Cruelty
- 39. (b) Weeping
- 40. (a) An open window
- 41. (a) Heart trouble
- 42. (d) Independence