

The Neclac

MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

1. Those who are satisfied with what they have are happy in life. Those who aspire more than what they can afford ruin their life. Matilda was one such person. If she were content with her life she would have led a happy life. Elaborate on the basis of the chapter 'The Necklace.'

Ans: There is no doubt in the fact that acceptance of one's reality leads to utmost peace. Pretence often ruin lives and it ruined that of Matilda's. Matilda was such a beautiful girl who could have earned every luxe in her life due to her loving husband had she waited for her time to come. Sadly, she was full of pretence and always desired for more than she could afford. When her husband brought her the party invitation, she desired to wear an expensive dress to it. After that, she desired to even wear a diamond necklace on top of it which she borrowed from her friend. She could have never afford any of these but could have spent her life with peace in a small house with

2. Mme Loisel's disposition invites her doom. Elucidate with reference to the text.

Ans: Mme. Loisel always craved for a life of riches, exquisite food, sparkling jewellery, etc. However, she did not have such a life, and it upset her. She envied her childhood friend, Mme. Forestier, because the latter had everything that Matilda desired. She borrowed a necklace from her childhood friend to go to a ball, enjoyed being the center of attention at the ball, but somehow lost the necklace in the end. Mme. Loisel and her husband then had to cut down all their expenses, move to an attic and do menial jobs to pay the loan they took to replace the lost

necklace. After ten years of struggle, they were able to pay the debt, but it had aged Mme. Loisel a lot. In the end she was even sadder and more bitter than before. Hence, we can easily conclude that her disposition invites her doom.

3. Contentment in one's life is very important to lead a peaceful life. We should be happy with what we have and should not crave for what we don't have. Matilda suffered in life because she was not content in her life. Her desires led to her disaster. What do you learn from her mistake in life?

Ans: Life is a great mystery. For every individual, this mystery of life comes wrapped in a unique package. For some, it is all riches, comfort, name and fame. For some, it is nothing but sheer hunger, poverty, anguish and an everyday quest for bare survival. One, however, must learn to live within one's means and be content with what one has. Contentment in one's life is very important to lead a happy and peaceful life. In the light of the story 'The Necklace', we find that Matilda suffered a lot in her life as she was not content in her life. She is of a humble background but dreams of riches and comforts. She is proud of her beauty and wants to be admired. She lost the necklace worn at the ball that was borrowed from her old friend. She had to buy a new one exactly the same, for that she and her husband had to take a loan. Then it took the Loisels a decade to pay back the money they borrowed to buy the necklace. In this way, their life changed. Now Matilda was no longer pretty and beautiful. Her hollow desires led to her disaster.

4. Mme Forestier proved to be a true friend of the Loiseles. Elaborate.

Ans: Mrs. Loisel was quite a beautiful young lady. She always felt that she was born for a family of luxuries than a family of clerks. She was highly ambitious. One day, when her husband shows her the invitation card to the official party, she started thinking about herself as how she can present herself to be the prettiest and most attractive at the party. She was adamant about having some jewels to adorn herself for the ball. Her poor husband was helpless. However, an idea struck him and he suggested her that she could borrow jewels from her rich friend Madam Forestier. Mme Forestier proved to be a true friend of the Loiseles by helping her in this hour of need. She easily agreed and placed her jewellery box before Mrs. Loisel to make her choice. She chose a superb diamond necklace, and Mme Forestier

happily gave the necklace to her. On the day of the ball, Mrs. Loisel was a great success. She looked the prettiest of all, elegant, gracious, smiling, and full of joy. Everybody noticed her, asked her name, and wanted to be presented. She danced with enthusiasm intoxicated with pleasure, thinking of nothing but all this pleasure. All this was only because of Mme Forestier, who lent her necklace without any hesitation.

5. Why was Matilda unhappy in her early married life? (Answer the following questions in 40-50 words).

Ans: Matilda was unhappy in her early married life because she married a poor clerk and lived in poverty. She longed for a luxurious lifestyle with elegant dinners, beautiful clothes, and precious jewels. She compared herself to others while feeling bound in her shabby surroundings. This made her feel dissatisfied with her life.

