

Chapter 7 The Necklace

Read and Find Out

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Question 1.

What kind of a person is Mme Loisel? Why is she always unhappy?

Answer:

Mme Loisel was a pretty young lady. She was an ambitious lady who wanted to dine exquisite food served in marvellous dishes. She was always unhappy as she did not like her poverty. She was disappointed as she was married to a mere clerk who could not provide her a luxurious life.

Question 2.

What kind of a person is her (Matilda's) husband?

Answer:

Mme Loisel's husband is a simple man who was delighted at petty things and was satisfied with his life.

Question 3.

What fresh problem now disturbs Mme Loisel?

Answer:

Mme Loisel was disturbed to know that she would have to go to the party without any jewellery. It might ruin her reputation.

Question 4.

How is the problem solved?

Answer:

They were able to solve their problem as Mr. Loisel suggested Matilda to borrow the jewellery from her rich friend, Mme Forestier.

Question 5.

What do Mr. and Mme Loisel do next?

Answer:

They searched for the necklace in the folds of her dress, then Mr. Loisel went in search of the neck-lace. Later he informed the police, gave advertisement in the newspapers offering a reward. He even went to cab offices, but all in vain.

Question 6.

How do they replace the necklace?

Answer:

They borrowed money from their friends. The Loisels had eighteen thousand francs, rest they borrowed from their friends and moneylenders. Then they purchased a necklace With the same design for thirty-six thousand francs to give it back to Mme Forestier.

The Necklace Think About It

Question 1.

The course of the Loisels' life changed due to the necklace. Comment.

Answer:

Matilda Loisel was a very pretty girl married to a petty clerk. She was very ambitious and demanded too much from life. An invitation to a Ball from the Minister elated Mr. Loisel but Matilda was unwilling as she did not have proper dress and jewellery. On her husband's advice, she borrowed a diamond necklace from her friend for the purpose. She looked very beautiful that night and stole the show.

As they came back home, she found the necklace missing. She was shocked and from that very moment, her life took a turn towards ruin. The price of the necklace was beyond their reach. She sacrificed all her comforts and even all her needs to get money to buy a new necklace and give it to her friend. Because of overwork, tension and lack of care, she became a physical wreck.

Happiness of one night changed her whole life's ways and style. Wearing a necklace for one night grabbed her neck for the rest of her life. The whole course of her life changed due to the necklace.

Question 2.

What was the cause of Matilda's ruin? How could she have avoided it?

Answer:

Over ambitiousness and dissatisfaction were the causes of Matilda's ruin. Matilda was an extremely beautiful girl who expected too much from life. Unfortunately, she was married to a very simple and ordinary man who could not provide her all materialistic luxuries which she wanted. For a ball party in his office, she borrows a necklace from her friend and ruins her married life as the necklace is stolen that very night. Just to arrange money for the cost of the necklace, she worked too hard and spoiled her whole life.

She could have avoided it if she had told the fact to her friend that she had lost the necklace. Her friend would have told her the actual price of the necklace as it was not a real diamond necklace that she could easily afford. By hiding the reality and actual facts, she ruined her life.

Question 3.

What would have happened to Matilda if she had confessed to her friend that she had lost her necklace?

Answer:

The course of Matilda's life would not have changed if she had confessed to her friend that she had lost her necklace. The life of Matilda and her husband was thoroughly changed just to give back the necklace. They sent away the maid to cut the expenses and worked day and night. She lost her charm and charisma as a result of hard work. But she could have avoided all these miseries and sufferings of such a long period if she had confessed to her friend that she had lost her necklace.

Question 4.

If you were caught in a situation like this, how would you have dealt with it?

Answer:

If I were caught in a situation like this. I would have dealt with it in a different way. I would have revealed the truth to my friend earlier to avoid the unwanted situation. But Matilda and her husband ruined their life by hiding the truth. By telling the truth to my friend and paying her only real cost of the necklace, I would have avoided all miseries and mental agonies that Matilda underwent.

The Necklace Extra Questions and Answers

The Necklace Short Answer Questions

Question 1.

Why did Matilda not want to see her rich friends? [Delhi 2016]

Answer:

Matilda did not want to see her rich friends because she did not have jewels, nothing to adorn herself with. Besides, she did not have any suitable dress for the party. She thought that without having these valuable things she would have a poverty-stricken look in the midst of rich friends.

Question 2.

What is the role of Mme Forestier in the story 'The Necklace'?

Answer:

Mme Forestier is a rich lady. She is a good friend of Matilda. She agrees to lend her necklace to Matilda to be worn at a party. Her role in the story is very important. Had she not lent her necklace to Matilda, she (Matilda) would not have learnt her lesson in life.

Question 3.

What changes came in the lifestyle of Matilda after she had lost the

necklace?

Answer:

After the loss of the necklace, Matilda had to sacrifice all her comforts and even all her needs to get money to buy a new necklace and give it to her friend. Because of overwork, tension and lack of care, she became a physical wreck. Happiness of one night changed her whole life's ways and style.

Question 4.

Describe Mme Loisel's experience at the ball.

Answer:

At the ball Mme Loisel was in the high world. She was looking absolutely beautiful. She was a great success at the ball. She smiled all the time and was full of joy. She was noticed by everyone present there. She danced with pleasure almost the whole night and returned home at four o'clock in the morning.

Question 5.

What were Matilda's apprehensions when her husband brought her the invitation to the ball?

Answer:

When her husband brought an invitation, Matilda had two apprehensions'. Firstly, she didn't have any suitable dress for the party. The second apprehension was that she didn't have any suitable jewel to adorn herself. She thought that she would give a poverty-stricken look.

Question 6.

How did Monsieur Loisel manage to repay the debt and when?

Answer:

In order to repay the debt. Mr. and Mrs. Loisel had to go through several hardships. Mr. Loisel had to work overtime. Mrs. Loisel did away with the maid and did all the household chores herself. The Loisels left their lodgings and

lived in a rented room. The Loiseles led a very miserable life and repaid the debt in ten years.

Question 7.

Why did Matilda not like to visit her friend Mme. Forestier?

Answer:

Whenever Matilda visited her rich friend, she always felt frustrated and inferior. Her richness and luxuries made her feel more dissatisfied. Her display of clothes and jewels fascinated her.

Question 8.

Why did Matilda's husband go out into the cold night minutes after returning from the ball? Was he successful in his efforts?

Answer:

Monsieur Loisel went out into the cold night minutes after returning from the ball in search of the lost necklace. No, he was not successful in his errand. He could not find the necklace anywhere.

Question 9.

What was the cause of Matilda's ruin? How could she have avoided it?

Answer:

The cause of Matilda's ruin was her constant discontentment with her circumstances. It was her sense of frustration which made her and her husband borrow the necklace for the party which was subsequently lost. She could have avoided it by firstly, not borrowing the necklace and secondly by telling the truth to Mrs. Forestier.

Question 10.

Why did Jeanne not recognise her friend Matilda?

Answer:

Mme Loisel seemed old and haggard after undergoing a hectic work schedule with a lot of anxiety to pay the debt. Her hair and dress became shabby. Her

hands became red, her tone of voice was loud and crude. Therefore, Jeanne could not recognise her.

Question 11.

What is the twist at the end of the tale in the story 'The Necklace'?

Answer:

The Loiseles bought a necklace for thirty-six thousand francs and gave it in place of Mme Forestier's false and cheap necklace. They underwent a life of misery, suffering and denial to earn the money to repay the debt of the necklace. She must have been crestfallen after realising the real worth of the necklace.

Question 12.

Why was Matilda's wrap most humiliating for her?

Answer:

Matilda's wrap was most humiliating for her because she had a poverty-stricken look. The other women in the ball had wrapped themselves in rich furs. She wanted to hurry away from the ball. She was suffering from inferiority complex.

Question 13.

What did her husband bring home one evening? Why was he so elated?

Answer:

He had brought an invitation card for a dinner from the Minister of Public Instructions. It was an honour for him to be invited to that dinner, that is why he was happy and elated.

Question 14.

What was Loisel's reaction to her desire for a new dress?

Answer:

Matilda wanted to buy a new dress, which would cost her around four hundred

francs. On hearing this, Loisel's face had turned pale. He had saved four hundred francs to buy a gun. The new dress would consume his entire savings.

Question 15.

How did Matilda get the jewels to wear to the ball?

Answer:

She borrowed a diamond necklace from her wealthy friend Mme Forestier to wear at the ball. She went to her and was obliged to choose the desired necklace from Mme Forestier's collection.

Question 16.

What happened at the ball? Was her dream fulfilled?

Answer:

Matilda was on top of the world at the ball. She looked gorgeous and elegant. Yes, her dream was fulfilled because the people at the ball asked her name and expressed admiration for her.

Question 17.

What did Loisel do to replace the necklace?

Or

How did Monsieur Loisel manage to buy another necklace?

Answer:

Loisel had eighteen thousand francs. He borrowed eighteen thousand francs more from different . money lenders. He bought a chaplet of diamonds exactly like Mme Forestier's necklace. Mme Loisel replaced Mme Forestier's necklace without telling her anything.

Question 18.

Moniseur Loisel had saved four hundred francs. Why had he saved them?

Answer:

Mr. Loisel had saved four hundred francs to buy a gun. He wanted to join a

hunting party as he was very fond of hunting. But he gave the money to Matilda to buy a new dress to be worn at the party.

Question 19.

Why had Matilda chosen the diamond necklace?

Answer:

Matilda had chosen the diamond necklace after trying many other necklaces. This necklace matched her newly bought dress. She thought that she looked pretty in that necklace.

Question 20.

What efforts were made by Loiseles to look for the lost necklace?

Answer:

After realising that the necklace had been lost, Mr. Loisel went all over the place to find it out. He went over the track where they had walked on foot. He went to report the matter to the police and to the cab office. He also advertised in the paper.

The Necklace Long Answer Questions

Question 1.

After her meeting with Matilda, Mme Forestier is upset with what happened. She feels guilty for not telling her friend that the necklace was fake. She wishes to make some amends for the ten years of suffering faced by the Loiseles. If Mme Forestier returns the necklace to Matilda what value would it reflect? What would you have done if you were in her place?

Answer:

After her meeting with Matilda, Mme Forestier was upset with what happened. Mme Forestier feels guilty of not telling her friend that the necklace was not real. Matilda ruined her own life in paying for the necklace. Mme Forestier is a sensitive and kind lady. She helped Matilda by giving her the necklace. She

could never imagine that her friend would undergo such a hardship for that fake necklace.

After ten years, after knowing the truth and reality she must have been upset. She would have definitely returned the necklace to Mme Forestier. She was a lady full of compassion, sympathy and kindness. If I had been in her place, I would have done the same.

Question 2.

What could have happened to Matilda if she had confessed to her friend that she had lost the necklace?

Answer:

If Matilda had confessed to her friend that she had lost her necklace, she could have avoided the years of suffering they had to undergo. She would not have become a physical wreck. She could have paid her five hundred francs easily. So it is quite necessary to be truthful and honest. Moreover, Mme Forestier was a kind lady and full of compassion. She would have forgiven her for the loss. Confession would have saved her from such hardships.

Question 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 her life because she was not contented in her life. What do you learn from her mistake in life?

Or

Matilda suffered because she was not content with what life has given to her. Do you agree we should be content with what life gives us.

Answer:

It is true that 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 her life because she was not content in her life. She

was a pretty beautiful lady and married and honest person. He was rich in values but monetarily moderate.

Matilda was not content with his job and salary. She wanted to lead a luxurious life which he could not afford. Once she got an opportunity to attend a high profile party. She did not have a proper dress and jewels. She borrowed a necklace from her friend. She lost it in the party and had to suffer for a long period of time just to pay for it. Her over ambition and craze for luxury ruined her life. One must be satisfied with what one has is the ' lesson that I learn from her life.

Question 4.

To err is human. We all make mistakes in our life. Those who make a confession may suffer less than those who don't. Give your opinion with reference to the story of Matilda who ruined her life just because she did not have the courage to confess her mistake.

Answer:

It has been rightly said that 'to err is human'. We all make one or the other mistake in our life. No one is perfect. Sometimes the situation is not in our hand. We make some mistakes and face losses. The same thing happened to Matilda. She was an overambitious lady. She wanted to go to the party with an expensive dress and necklace. She didn't have her own sources so she borrowed it from her friend.

Unfortunately she lost it in the party. She did not want to tell it to her friend and bought a new one as a replacement. She was in debt and paid for it throughout her life. Her life was ruined. She came to know in the end that the lost necklace was not the real one. But it was too late. The course of her life could have changed had she confessed the loss. She suffered just because she did not have the courage to confess her mistake.