Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Be sure to proofread your answers and be prepared to share.

* **Protagonist** comes from a Greek word for the principal actor in a drama.
* In modern literature, the **protagonist** drives the story forward by pursuing a goal.
* The **protagonist** of a story is sometimes called the main character.
* The **protagonist** of a story is opposed by an **antagonist**.

1. What social rank does the protagonist belong to?

2. Why does the protagonist “grieve incessantly?”

3. What are some of the things that the protagonist dreams of?

4. Why does the protagonist no longer visit her classmate from her old school days? What does this tell you about her?

5. What does the protagonist’s husband have with him when he gets home?

6. Why does the protagonist scornfully toss aside the invitation to the reception?

7. How does the protagonist treat her husband?

8. What was Mathilde’s husband saving up his money to buy? What does he decide to do with his savings?

9. In addition to having a nice outfit, what did Mathilde want in order to make her appearance complete?

10. Who does Mathilde turn to in order to borrow some jewellery?

11. What does Mathilde choose to borrow?

12. How does Mathilde act when she is at the reception? Why does she now have so much confidence?

13. How does Mathilde react when her husband puts her wraps over her shoulders? What does this reveal about her character?

14. What excuse do Mathilde and her husband come up with for not being able to return the necklace the next day?

15. Why is it ironic that Mathilde ends up having to do heavy housework and chores?

16. How long did it take to pay for the necklace?

17. Explain the irony in the story’s outcome