



- clerk** *noun*
| a person employed in an office or bank to keep records and accounts
- dowry** *noun*
| property or money brought by a bride to her husband on their marriage
- caste** *noun*
| the system of dividing society into hereditary classes
- coquettish** *adjective*
| behaving in such a way as to suggest a playful attraction; flirtatious
- gallantries** *noun*
| polite attention or respect given by men to women
- chagrin** *noun*
| distress or embarrassment at having failed or been humiliated
- privations** *adjective*
| a state in which things that are essential for human well-being such as food and warmth are scarce or lacking

THE NECKLACE

by Guy De Maupassant

Literary

REALISM

Realism was a literary movement that developed in the middle of the 19th century in France (when De Maupassant was writing) and then spread throughout the rest of Europe: all the way to Russia, and then overseas to the US. Realism was concerned with portraying everyday life: real people with relatable issues.

In many ways, realism was a reaction to *Romanticism*, a movement which emphasized the idealization of characters rather than realistic depiction of them. Realist literature often focused on middle-class life, and was most concerned with portraying actions and their consequences as objectively as possible.

Are you interested in reading about, watching, or following the lives of 'real' people? Yes No

Give a reason for why or why not:

While reading the short story, annotate closely, making a particular note of the following:

- Direct or indirect characterization in the story; particularly any changes in characters.
- Any symbolism: objects or things you think might have symbolic significance.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

BEFORE READING:

In your opinion, which of the following determines whether or not you are of a **higher social class** in your culture/ community?

- | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| (check all that apply) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wealth | <input type="checkbox"/> Possessions | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Hobbies | <input type="checkbox"/> Language | <input type="checkbox"/> Food |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion | <input type="checkbox"/> Where you live | <input type="checkbox"/> Income |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Talents | <input type="checkbox"/> Who you know | <input type="checkbox"/> Beauty |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Title | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Interests | <input type="checkbox"/> Accent | <input style="border: 1px solid green;" type="text"/> |

Write **THREE** questions you have about class status and wealth.

essential questions

Read through the **vocabulary** definitions above; pick one you weren't familiar with before, and use it in your own sentence:

KEY QUOTATION

"What would have happened if she had not lost that necklace? Who knows? who knows? How life is strange and changeful! How little a thing is needed for us to be lost or to be saved!"

MAKE A PREDICTION

What do you think would have happened to Mme. Loisel if she had not lost the necklace? How might she be different?

CHARACTERIZATION

The protagonist undergoes quite the change in this story.

Evidence of her personality at the start of the story:

Do you feel pity for Yes her at this point? No

Evidence of her personality towards the end of the story:

Do you feel pity for Yes her at this point? No

Negative change:

Positive change:

ANAPHORA *noun*

the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses. It is often used to exaggerate a point.

Find 2 examples of anaphora in the text:

“ ”

“ ”

Rank each of the following in terms of how prominent and significant they are as core 'messages' of the story. (1-most / 4-least)

THEMES

- A woman's beauty and poise can offer her upward social mobility.
- Pride and social ambition can often lead to one's downfall.
- Appearances—especially the appearance of wealth—often aren't what they seem.
- Misfortune and suffering, with the right attitude, can lead to self-improvement.

If Mathilde were an animal, she would be:

3 questions you would like to ask Mme. Loisel, if you could:

because...



Let's think about how the story is crafted

Briefly explain the twist at the end:

the twist

List 5 hashtags below which capture the effect of the twist:

What is the effect of the twist coming in the very final line, not earlier?

How does De Maupassant construct the narrative, so that the reader is surprised by the twist?



symbolism *noun*

to imbue objects, people, things with a certain deeper significance that is different from their original meaning or function.

KEY FOCUS: Symbolism

Why do people wear necklaces?

Why does Mathilde want the necklace?

Write words you associate with jewelry



Does knowing if a diamond is real or fake change its beauty?

By the end of the story, what do we find out about the necklace?

Key quotations about the necklace:

What topics does the necklace relate to in the story?

In De Maupassant's story, "The Necklace," how does the symbolism of the necklace help convey the deeper theme of the text? Write in full sentences, and embed direct evidence to back up your claim.

Writing

You should:

- Make a distinct **claim** answering the question.
- Explain your claim with **embedded direct evidence** from the text.
- Provide **analysis** as to why this aspect of her character is important in terms of the deeper themes of the story.