

Name: _____

Honors English 12

Date: ____

Period ____

A Doll's House

Act II Study Guide

CCSELA-LiteracyRI11-121 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

CCSELA-LiteracyRI11-122 Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

CCSELA-LiteracyRI11-123 Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.

Comprehension:

1. Why does Nora tell Anne Marie that she (Nora) can't be with her children as much anymore? What might be foreshadowed, here? Does Nora "buy" Helmer's idea that juvenile delinquency is generally traceable to mothers? Do you?
2. Why does Helmer "have it in for" Krogstad? Why has he given the job to Mrs. Linde? What does this show you about the kind of person Helmer is?
3. Why does Dr. Rank tell Nora – but not her husband – that he is dying? What is the matter with him? Why doesn't he want Helmer to visit him during his decline?
4. How does Nora react to Dr. Rank's revelation that he is dying? What is the nature and purpose of the visiting card code he has devised? Do you think he is also prohibiting Nora from visiting him during his decline?
5. What favor do you think Nora is about to ask Dr. Rank? Why doesn't she finish asking?
6. What are Nora's feelings for Dr. Rank? Do you think she has "led him on"? Was she aware of how he felt? Do you think Helmer is aware of how Dr. Rank feels about Nora?

7. What does Krogstad want from Nora? What other choices does he have? He warns her against suicide. What other choices does she have?

8. Why do you think Nora gets Mrs. Linde to promise that if something happens to Nora, no one else is to take the blame? Who is she protecting? Does Mrs. Linde suspect that Nora might kill herself? What do you think she should say or do?

9. Why does Nora insist on dancing the tarantella for her husband at this point? Why do you think she dances so wildly? What is she feeling?

Literary Analysis: Dialogue

Dialogue is a conversation of two or more people in writing. It should be consistent with what we know about the character. It should "sound natural." Often, it provides a clue about what the character is like. Henrik Ibsen was a master of prose dialogue. What his characters don't say is often as telling as what they do say.

Look at the interchange between Nora and Krogstad on pp. 51-54. What does Krogstad mean when he tells Nora not to think of "anything worse"? What similarities between Nora's and Krogstad's situations are revealed in the dialogue? What does Krogstad want? What does Nora want? What makes the conversation sound "real"?

Writing Idea

Choose one option from below:

1. Write the notice letter Helmer sends Krogstad.
2. Write Krogstad's letter to Helmer, revealing all.
3. Write the letter of apology Nora might have put in the box.