

Name: _____

Date: ____

Honors English 12

Period ____

A Doll's House

Problem Situation: Alligator River

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.1 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

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.11-12.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 11-12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively

Read the following story and rank the characters as explained in the instructions below.

There lived a woman named Abigail who was in love with a socially important man named Gregory. Gregory lived on the shore of a river. Abigail lived on the opposite shore of the same river. The river that separated the two lovers was teeming with dangerous alligators. Abigail wanted to cross the river to be with Gregory.

Unfortunately, the bridge had been washed out by a heavy flood the previous week. So she went to ask Sinbad, a riverboat captain, to take her across. He said he would be glad to if she would consent to deliver illegal drugs to a teenage dealer on the other side. She promptly refused and went to a friend named Ivan to explain her plight. Ivan did not want to get involved at all in the situation. Abigail felt her only alternative was to accept Sinbad's terms and deliver the drugs. Sinbad fulfilled his promise to Abigail and delivered her into the arms of Gregory.

When Abigail told Gregory about her illegal escapade in order to cross the river, Gregory cast her aside because he thought that his reputation would be damaged when people heard what his fiancé had done. Heartsick and rejected, Abigail turned to Slug with her tale of woe. Slug, feeling compassion for Abigail, sought out Gregory and beat him brutally. Abigail was happy at the sight of Gregory getting his due. As the sun set on the horizon, people could hear Abigail laughing at Gregory.

*Source of original story Simon, S. B, Howe, L. W., & Kirschenbaum, H.

Instructions: After reading the story, rank the five (5) characters in the story beginning with the one whom you consider as the "most morally offensive" and end with the one whom you consider the "least objectionable." That is, the character who seems to be the most dishonorable to you should be entered first in the list following the story, then the second most dishonorable, and so on, with the least dishonorable or objectionable being entered fifth. Very briefly note why you rank them in the order that you do.

Characters: Abigail, Gregory, Ivan, Sinbad, Slug

1. _____ (most dishonorable)

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____ (least dishonorable)

Discuss:

- On what basis did you judge the morality or immorality of the characters?
- Is it ever right to do something wrong to achieve a good end?
- What is virtue? How do we judge it?
- Is there absolute good or evil? Or are there degrees of good and evil?