

CBSE CLASS X

English Language & Literature (184)

QUESTION PAPER

From previous CBSE Board Exam questions

Code: 8F98DO

Questions: 19

Maximum Marks: 89

Generated: 2026-06-15 13:05

SELECTIONS USED

Source	Previous-year board
Subject	English Language & Literature
Lessons	The Necklace
Year	2022-2026
Questions selected	19

Composition — Types: 9 literature_long · 6 Short · 2 literature_extract · 2 Long

Q1.

[5]

Mme Loisel was a great success. She was the prettiest of all – elegant, gracious, smiling, and full of joy. All the men noticed her, asked her name and wanted to be presented. She danced with enthusiasm, intoxicated with pleasure, thinking of nothing but all this admiration, this victory so complete and sweet to her heart.

Read the given extract and answer any one of the following questions given below :

- (i) How is "success" perceived by Matilda ? [1]
- (ii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the bracket. 'All the men noticed her, asked her name and wanted to be presented' indicates that the men wanted to be formally _____ (introduced / withholden) to her. [2]
- (iii) Which of the following best describe Matilda's state of mind in the context ? [1]
- (A) overwhelmed
(B) anxious
(C) confused
(D) sad
- (iv) Explain the phrase "this victory so complete and sweet to her heart". [1]

Previously asked in: 2026 2/4/1 Q6 (b)

♦ The Necklace

Q2.

[6]

Answer in about 100-120 words :

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 life because she was not content in her life. Her desires led to her disaster. What do you learn from her mistake in life ?

Previously asked in: 2023 2/4/1 Q11(a)

♦ The Necklace

Q3.**[3]**

'The Necklace' is a lesson in discontentment and unreasonable materialism. In light of the preceding statement, discuss Matilda's greatest failing. (The Necklace)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/6/1 Q9 (ii)

♦ The Necklace

Q4.**[3]**

Refusing to accept our circumstances can result in an unhappy life. Discuss in brief with reference to the story 'The Necklace'.

Previously asked in: 2025 2/5/1 Q9 (ii)

♦ The Necklace

Q5.**[6]**

Matilda was very proud of her beauty and charm and this led to her downfall. Elaborate.

Previously asked in: 2023 2/6/1 Q11(b)

♦ The Necklace

Q6.**[6]**

Those who are satisfied with what they have are happy in life. Those who aspire more than what they can afford ruin their life. Matilda was one such person. If she were content with her life she would have led a happy life. Elaborate on the basis of the chapter 'The Necklace.'

Previously asked in: 2023 2/1/1 Q11(b)

♦ The Necklace

Q7.**[3]**

Why does Mme Loisel hastily depart from the ball when her husband places a modest wrap on her shoulders? (The Necklace)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/2/1 Q9 (ii)

♦ The Necklace

Q8.**[3]**

How does Matilda face 'the horrible life of necessity'? (The Necklace)

Previously asked in: 2026 2/2/1 Q9 (ii)

♦ The Necklace

Q9.**[6]**

Analyze, how the theme of appearance versus reality is developed in 'The Necklace' through Matilda's life choices and their consequences.

Previously asked in: 2026 2/3/1 Q11(b)

♦ The Necklace

Q10.**[6]**

In 'The Necklace', Madam Loisel spends years repaying a debt for a necklace that was never valuable. How does this irony expose the illusion of wealth and the consequences of chasing appearances?

Previously asked in: 2026 2/5/1 Q11(A)

♦ The Necklace

Q11.**[6]**

Answer any one of the following two questions, in 100-120 words: A character arc is the transformation or development of a character throughout a story and refers to the changes a character undergoes as a result of their experiences, challenges, and interactions with other characters. In the light of the above information, trace the character arc of Matilda in Guy De Maupassant's 'The Necklace', in about 120 words.

Previously asked in: 2024 2/2/1 Q11(b)

♦ The Necklace

Q12.**[3]**

What is the twist at the end of the story 'The Necklace'? (The Necklace)

Previously asked in: 2024 2/1/1 Q9 (iii)

♦ The Necklace

Q13.**[5]**

"He was silent, stupefied, in dismay, at the sight of his wife weeping. He stammered, "What is the matter? What is the matter?" By a violent effort, she had controlled her vexation and responded in a calm voice, wiping her moist cheeks, "Nothing. Only I have no dress and consequently I cannot go to this affair. Give your card to some colleague whose wife is better fitted out than I." He was grieved, but answered, "Let us see, Matilda. How much would a suitable costume cost, something that would serve for their occasions, something very simple?" She reflected for some seconds thinking of a sum that could ask for without bringing with it an immediate refusal and a frightened exclamation from the economical clerk."

Read the given extract and answer the questions.

I What can we infer about Matilda's emotions and financial situation based on her husband's reaction and her response to not having a dress for the affair? [2]

II Which of the following is NOT a reason for Matilda's distress in the extract? [1]

A She has no suitable dress for the affair.

B She is upset about her husband's reaction.

C She is worried about the cost of a suitable costume.

D The card did not bear her name.

III What did Matilda suggest that her husband do with the card? [1]

IV In the given extract what does the term 'economic clerk' imply? [1]

Previously asked in: 2025 2/4/1 Q6.B

♦ The Necklace

Q14.**[2]**

How did the necklace change the life of Loisel?

Previously asked in: 2022 2/3/1 Q6 (vi)

♦ The Necklace

Q15.**[4]**

Matilda realised that one little act of negligence can lead to total ruin. What do you learn from this and how would you move on in life? (The Necklace)

Previously asked in: 2022 2/1/1 Q7 (i)

♦ The Necklace

Q16.**[4]**

As a reader do you sympathise with Matilda ? Give reasons from the text to support your answer. (The Necklace)

Previously asked in: 2022 2/2/1 Q7 (ii)

♦ The Necklace

Q17.**[6]**

Matilda's over-ambitiousness was the cause of her destruction. Justify.

Previously asked in: 2023 2/5/1 Q11(b)

♦ The Necklace

Q18.**[6]**

Matilda's character embodies the journey of change or progression throughout the story, encapsulating the transformations she endured as a consequence of her experiences, trials, and engagements with other characters. In the light of the above information, trace the transformation seen in Matilda's character in the story. (The Necklace)

Previously asked in: 2025 2/1/1 Q11(b)

♦ The Necklace

Q19.**[6]**

Answer ANY ONE of the following two questions, in about 100-120 words:

Evaluate how "The Necklace" critiques the obsession with appearances and social status.

Previously asked in: 2026 2/1/1 Q11(II)

♦ The Necklace

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