Character Analysis

Name: _____

Date: _____

Ichabod Crane has many flaws, and aspects of his character can be seen to represent each of the Seven Deadly Sins. Write some notes, or a short paragraph, for each of the Seven Deadly Sins, about how Ichabod's character or actions might represent them.

Deadly Sin	Ichabod's character or actions
GLUTTONY	
GREED	
WRATH	
LUST	
SLOTH	
ENVY	
PRIDE	

Idea for the Seven Deadly Sins exercise: Shmoop Editorial Team, "Ichabod Crane in The Legend of Sleepy Hollow", Shmoop University.

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Matching exercise

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image. Draw a line to join them.

1 *Now, his busy fancy already realized his hopes, and presented to him the blooming Katrina, with a whole family of children, mounted on the top of a wagon loaded with household trumpery*

2 *Among these, the most formidable was a burly, roaring, roistering blade, of the name of Abraham*

3 *Certain it is, his advances were signals for rival candidates to retire, who felt no inclination to cross a lion in his amours*

4 *He rode with short stirrups; his sharp elbows stuck out like grasshoppers'; he carried his whip perpendicularly in his hand, like a sceptre*

5 *Not those of the bevy of buxom lasses, with their luxurious display of red and white; but the ample charms of a genuine Dutch country tea-table, in the sumptuous time of autumn.*

6 *It stands on a knoll, surrounded by locust-trees and lofty elms, from among which its decent, whitewashed walls shine modestly forth, like Christian purity beaming through the shades of retirement.*

A 

B 

C 

D 

E 

F 

Glossary

Name: _____

Date: _____

Withal: (adv) in addition

Coquette: (n) a flirtatious woman

Whence: (adv) from where

Trumpery: (n) attractive objects with little use

Piazza: (n) the veranda of a house

Husbandry: (n) the raising of animals

Pewter: (n) a type of tin

Linsey-woolsey: (n) a strong, coarse fabric of linen and wool

Parlor: (n) sitting room

Yore: (n) long ago

Caprices: (n) sudden changes of behaviour

Roystering: (v) enjoying oneself loudly or boisterously

Bluff: (adj) direct in speech or behaviour

Countenance: (n) face or facial expression

Tartar: (n) a member of Genghis Khan's army

Gainsay: (v) to deny or contradict

Boon: (n) something helpful

Descried: (v) caught sight of

Squall: (n) a loud cry

Rantipole: (adj) unruly and wild

Amours: (n) love affairs

Achilles: (n) a Greek hero of the Trojan War, invulnerable apart from his heel

Preceptor: (n) teacher or instructor

Ferule: (n) a flat ruler with a widened end, used to beat children

Sage: (adj) wise

Pillion: (n) a cushion attached to a saddle for a second rider

Chapfallen: (adj) downcast, dejected

Dismal: (adj) gloomy, miserable

BEFORE YOU READ

Have you ever competed with someone for a person's attention, or for a prize? How did it feel?

Describe the best party or family feast you remember: the food, the people, the sounds.

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please choose the best option for each of the following questions.

1. Where is Baltus Van Tassel's farm?

(a) On the bank of the river
(b) In the depths of the forest
(c) At the foot of the mountain
(d) Next to Ichabod Crane's schoolhouse

2. What is hung in the centre of Van Tassel's parlor?

(a) A string of red peppers
(b) An ostrich egg
(c) Flails and harnesses
(d) A silver chain

3. What is Brom Van Brunt's nickname?

(a) Brom Bones
(b) Bone Breaker
(c) BroBro
(d) Big Brom

4. What decorates Brom's fur cap?

(a) A ferret
(b) A deer's antlers
(c) Polka-dots
(d) A fox's tail

5. What two things does the narrator say Brom is always ready for?

(a) A fight or a frolic
(b) A bear or a wolf
(c) Cock fights and courting
(d) Eating and sleeping

6. What characteristics of Ichabod's encourage him to compete for Katrina's affections despite Brom being such a formidable rival?

(a) He was flexible and determined
(b) He was brave and strong
(c) He was sly and calculating
(d) He was weak and cowardly

7. What did Brom and his gang do to Ichabod's singing school?

(a) Covered it with gasoline and set it alight
(b) Covered the walls with obscene graffiti
(c) Joined up and ruined his lessons by singing in horrible, shrill voices
(d) Smoked it out by blocking the chimney

8. What colour is Ichabod's only suit?

(a) Grey
(b) Black
(c) Brown
(d) Green

9. Which of the below descriptions match the horse that Ichabod rode to Mynheer Van Tassel's merry-making? Select all that apply.

[a] Old
[b] A young filly
[c] Missing the pupil of one eye
[d] Docile
[e] Devilish
[f] Bright white mane and tail

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

10. What season is it as Ichabod rides to the merry-making?

(a) Summer
(b) Spring
(c) Autumn
(d) Winter

11. What was considered potent for nourishing and strengthening the hair?

(a) Goat's milk
(b) Cow dung
(c) Fish brains
(d) Eel-skin

12. What was Brom's favourite horse called?

(a) Brom Junior
(b) Daredevil
(c) Buckeye
(d) Alchemist

13. What did Ichabod do when the dancing ends?

(a) Went to sit with a group telling stories
(b) Went to find Brom to challenge him to a duel
(c) Went back to the table to get a slice of apple pie
(d) Went off for a midnight stroll with Katrina

14. What happened to Doffue Martling to prevent him from taking the British frigate?

(a) He had no ammunition
(b) He was captured by a scouting party
(c) His gun burst
(d) He was too drunk

15. What does the narrator say is particularly discouraging for ghosts in most villages?

(a) The presence of modern machinery
(b) The fact that all their friends move away, leaving no one they know to haunt
(c) The fact that increasingly fewer people believe in ghosts
(d) The increasing use of garlic in agriculture and cooking

16. Who was said to haunt the dark glen at Raven Rock?

(a) The Headless Hessian
(b) The woman in white
(c) Major André
(d) The Sleepless Spectre

17. What is the Headless Hessian said to have done to old Brouwer when they reached the bridge by the church?

(a) Stabbed him in the chest
(b) Turned him into a frog
(c) Disappeared into a cloud of smoke
(d) Threw him into the stream

18. What does Brom say he offered to race the Headless Hessian for?

(a) A bushel of apples
(b) A piece of gold
(c) A bowl of punch
(d) A fish

19. What mood is Ichabod in when he eventually leaves the party?

(a) Ecstatic
(b) Terrified
(c) Crestfallen
(d) Bored

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

If you read it in the iClassics app

Answer these extra questions about what you discover as you read:

1. What colour is the jewel in Katrina Van Tassel's necklace?

2. What does the lake of geese at Van Tassel's farm turn into?

3. What food items do the clouds above Ichabod and his horse turn into?

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Think like a detective

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer in full sentences. Support your ideas with evidence from the text.

1. Brom is called a “lion” in love. Which details make him a formidable rival? Which details make Ichabod think he can still win Katrina?

2. The Van Tassel farm and the party table are described like a feast. Why do you think Irving describes the food in such detail, and how does Ichabod react to it?

3. The party ends with ghost stories. How do the stories prepare the reader (and Ichabod) for what comes next? Which details build fear?

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Writing

Name: _____

Date: _____

At the end of Mynheer Van Tassel's party, Ichabod Crane stays behind to talk to Katrina, but something goes wrong and he leaves feeling quite dismal. Write a short extract of story about what happened between them. Make sure you:

a. Start your story as the party begins to come to an end.

b. Show what each of them says, does and feels.

c. Finish with Ichabod leaving the house feeling dismal.

