Character Analysis

Name: _____

Date: _____

Describe each character (e.g. kind, selfish, passive) and give evidence of things they do or say.

Character	Description	What does the character do or say to fit this description?
 THE HAPPY PRINCE		
 THE SWALLOW		
 THE REED		
 THE PEOPLE IN NEED		
 THE MAYOR		

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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	*"You have been trifling with me," he cried, "I am off to the Pyramids. Good-bye!"*	A	
2	*"Then he flew gently round the bed, fanning the boy's forehead with his wings."*	B	
3	*"They have eyes like green beryls, and their roar is louder than the roar of a cataract."*	C	
4	*"Pluck out my other eye, and give it to her, and her father will not beat her."*	D	
5	*"Leaf after leaf of the fine gold the Swallow picked off, until the Happy Prince looked quite dull and grey."*	E	
6	*"We must issue a proclamation that birds are not to be allowed to die here."*	F	

Glossary

Name: _____

Date: _____

Gilded: (adj) covered thinly in gold

Weathercock: (n) apparatus to show wind direction, in the shape of a cockerel

Pinafore: (n) sleeveless apron-like garment

Coquette: (n) flirtatious woman

Trifling: (v) to treat without seriousness or respect

Lead: (n) a type of metal

Seamstress: (n) professional sewer

Embalmed: (adj) preserved

Jade: (n) a precious green stone

Ghetto: (n) Jewish quarter of the city

Phenomenon: (n) a fact or situation that is observed to exist or happen

Cataract: (n) a large waterfall

Couch: (v) lie down

Beryl: (n) a transparent pale green mineral

Garret: (n) a top floor or attic room

Tumbler: (n) a drinking glass

Vessel: (n) a ship or large boat

Ibis: (n) a large wading bird

Sphinx: (n) a mythical monster with a human head and a lion's body

Listless: (adj) lacking energy or enthusiasm

Eaves: (n) the part of a roof that meets or overhangs the walls

Furnace: (n) a big oven that gets very hot, used e.g. for smelting metal

Quarrel: (v) to have an angry argument or disagreement

Foundry: (n) a workshop or factory for casting metal

BEFORE YOU READ

Is it better to give or to receive? Have you ever given something precious away? How did it feel?

What makes a statue or a monument matter to a city? Who gets remembered, and who is forgotten?

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

1. Where was the statue of The Happy Prince located?

(a) At the entrance of a park
(b) On a tall column
(c) Next to the Parliament buildings
(d) On the terrace of the Mayor's house

2. Why did the Reed refuse to go away with the Swallow?

(a) She didn't return his sentiments.
(b) She didn't like Swallows.
(c) She was too attached to her home.
(d) The Swallow didn't give her enough presents.

3. Where on The Happy Prince did the Swallow decide to settle for the night?

(a) On his shoulder.
(b) Between his feet.
(c) On the ruby of his sword.
(d) On his wrist

4. Where did The Happy Prince live when he was alive?

(a) The Magical Kingdom of Bijoux de Chocolat
(b) In the Estate of Siempre Feliz
(c) The Palace of Sans-Soucis
(d) The Palace of Non-Stop Smiles

5. What did The Happy Prince see that made him weep?

(a) All the ugliness and misery of the city.
(b) His love had married another.
(c) His jewels were being given away with abandon.
(d) The palace was falling into ruin.

6. What does the woman in the poor house do?

(a) A cleaner
(b) A cook
(c) A seamstress
(d) A teacher

7. Where were the other Swallows waiting to be joined?

(a) Canada
(b) Fiji
(c) Egypt
(d) Japan

8. Who called the Swallow a 'distinguished stranger'?

(a) The Hummingbirds
(b) The Reeds
(c) The Sparrows
(d) The Nobles

9. Why can't the man in the garret finish his play?

(a) He was too cold to write any more.
(b) He was faint with hunger.
(c) There is no fire in the grate.
(d) All of the above.

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

10. Who is the third person the Prince wants to help?

(a) A beggar child
(b) A painter
(c) A little match-girl
(d) A little flute player

11. What stories did the Swallow tell the Prince?

(a) Of his love affair with the Reed
(b) Of what he had seen in strange lands
(c) Of the ancient Greek and Roman gods
(d) Of the people currently living in the palace of Sans-Soucis

12. What does the Prince consider to be the greatest mystery of all?

(a) Love
(b) Money
(c) Misery
(d) War

13. What does the Swallow not see?

(a) The rich making merry in their beautiful houses
(b) White faces of starving children
(c) The mayor holding a big ball at his house
(d) Beggars sitting at the gates of houses

14. According to the prince, what do the living always think?

(a) That money is more important than love
(b) That they can control everything
(c) That gold can make them happy
(d) That they will never die

15. What broke in the Prince when the Swallow fell dead at his feet?

(a) His spirit
(b) His leaden heart
(c) The platform below him
(d) His sword

16. Where do the Prince and the Swallow end up?

(a) They stay in the dust heap
(b) They are reincarnated in another kingdom
(c) In God's garden of Paradise and city of gold
(d) They return to the palace of Sans-Soucis

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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. How many cats are admiring the Happy Prince on page 1?

2. What happens when the drops of water fall on the swallow?

3. What animal is in the poor boy's room?

4. What appears in the moon behind the Swallow and the Happy Prince?

5. How many beggars are sitting outside the rich people's house?

6. What happens to make the boys under the bridge jump in fright?

7. What transforms the 3 children from sad and grey to happy and rosy?

8. What happens when the Swallow kisses the Prince?

9. What crawls out from underneath the Prince's heart?

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Think like a detective

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

1. The Prince was happy in the palace of "Sans-Soucis" but weeps as a statue. What does Wilde suggest about the difference between being happy and being comfortable?

2. The Swallow stays when he could fly to Egypt. Why does he change his mind, and what does it cost him?

3. The mayor and the councillors tear down the statue because it is "no longer beautiful". What does the ending say about how society values beauty and goodness?

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Writing

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Imagine it is 5 years after the Happy Prince's statue was pulled down. The town has discovered the truth about the help the Prince and the Swallow gave, and has built a memorial. Choose one of the three people the Prince helped (the ill boy, the writer or the match girl) and make a 'Thank You' card: how their help made you feel and what the money from the sapphire or ruby helped you do. **2.** Now write a 'Thank You' card to someone in your real life who has helped you.

