

A DOLL'S HOUSE

ESSAY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS .

1. "It is Torvald's treatment of Nora as a 'doll' that ultimately leads Nora to walk out on him and the children." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Torvald watches over and attempts to control every aspect of Nora's life. He even decides the kind of food that Nora should and should not eat. Nora disobeys and secretly eats the macaroons. Nora was surely in a cage and it was a matter of time before she bolted out. Torvald's orders were outrageous as Nora was a mature woman capable of making her own lifestyle decisions.

Torvald affectionately uses 'pet' names to refer to his wife. He calls her: my 'little skylark', 'little squirrel', and 'little featherhead'. This shows that Torvald thinks that he 'owns' Nora and can control her as he wishes. This portrays Torvald as demeaning towards Nora. It is such treatment that ultimately leads Nora to walk away from her marriage.

When Nora hints that Torvald takes a loan for a trip to Italy for the sake of his treatment Torvald rejects her suggestion and points out that Nora was thoughtless and it was his duty as her husband not to indulge in Nora's sudden extravagancies. That portrays Torvald as chauvinistic as he regarded Nora as a woman that had to be controlled. Nora realises this later and walks out on her family.

Torvald has a low opinion of his wife, and women in general. Nora cannot dare tell Torvald that she took a loan because of Torvald's chauvinistic character. Torvald, it seems, strongly believes that women should not take loans without the consent of their husbands. That explains why Nora procured the loan without Torvald's consent. It is this male chauvinism that Nora grows tired of and walks out on Torvald, and her family.

After discovering Nora's secret Torvald humiliates and insults Nora. Torvald becomes angry and hurls insults at Nora calling her all kinds of names. These actions help to reveal Torvald as a selfish and domineering husband. It becomes too late when Torvald receives the second letter from Krogstad as the damage had already been done. Nora walks out on Torvald and the children.

2. "Every cloud has a silver lining." Write an essay to support this statement showing how Krogstad's revelation of Nora's secret helped rather than harmed the Helmers'

family. Use illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Torvald's hypocrisy was proved. Though Torvald acted as if he loved Nora, this belief is proven wrong. Immediately the secret comes out, Torvald denounces Nora accusing her of tarnishing his reputation.

Nora is also finally able to see Torvald's true character. Nora thought that with Torvald they would make a happy family and she does everything she can to make this a reality. However, during her difficult time when her fraud is revealed she is able to witness Torvald turning against her. This opened her eyes to the true character of Torvald.

Torvald thought that Nora was a submissive wife whom he could control and manipulate the way he feels like. However when he turns against Nora and denounces her actions Nora rebels and walks out. Torvald finally got a glimpse of the true character of his wife. She was not as submissive and as easily manipulated as Torvald thought.

Torvald finally comes to a realisation that his treatment of his wife was wrong. He tries unsuccessfully to prevent Nora from leaving but in vain. He learns his lesson the hard way that his chauvinism and superior attitude towards Nora had cost his marriage.

3. "Torvald's male chauvinism ultimately leads to the breakdown of his family." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Torvald affectionately uses 'pet' names to refer to his wife. He calls Nora as his 'little skylark', 'little squirrel', and 'little featherhead'. This shows that Torvald controlled her wife and expected her to do as he wished. Torvald does this since he considered Nora as a woman whose life revolved around her husband. Nora gets tired of this treatment and later decides to walk out on her husband.

Torvald is portrayed as chauvinistic as he regarded Nora as a woman that had to be controlled. When Nora hints that Torvald takes a loan for a trip to Italy for the sake of his treatment Torvald rejects her suggestion and points out that Nora was thoughtless and it was his duty as her husband not to indulge in Nora's sudden extravagancies. Nora is then forced to procure a loan for Torvald's treatment without his consent. Later, when Nora's action is revealed, Torvald denounces Nora's action. This reveals Torvald's selfishness and hypocrisy and Nora decides to walk out of her marriage.

Nora also does not want Torvald to feel guilty out of her manly independence that he owed her anything. This is despite the fact the money that she procured was used for the vacation that saved Torvald's life. This shows that Torvald viewed Nora as inferior. It

is this attitude that leads Nora to walk out on Torvald, and her family.

After discovering Nora's secret Torvald humiliates and insults Nora. He does not once reflect that Nora's fraud was a sacrifice for the sake of his life. Torvald does all these because he considered his wife as inferior and one who needed to be controlled. It becomes too late when Torvald receives the second letter from Krogstad as Torvald's hypocrisy and selfishness had been revealed. Nora walks out on Torvald and the children.

4. "Krogstad is the epitome of the moral decay in society." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Krogstad is morally decadent and this gets him into conflicts with other characters. Doctor Rank accuses Krogstad of being morally decadent. This is because of Krogstad's many suspicious business deals. Krogstad has a tarnished name and a flawed character thus no one would like to associate with him.

Krogstad threatens to reveal Nora's secret to her husband if she does not prevent Torvald from firing her. This portrays Krogstad as manipulative as he takes advantage of the fraud that Nora engaged in for his own personal benefits.

Krogstad is accused of forgery. Instead of openly confessing his fault and taking his punishment, Krogstad gets himself out by a cunning trick. This shows his lack of moral character and explains why Torvald decides to sack him.

Krogstad comes up with more demands and threatens to blackmail the Helmers if his demands are not met. He states that Nora's fraud will remain secret only if he is allowed to get into the Bank again and given a higher position. This was blackmail on the Helmers'. After getting the higher position, he plans to be Torvald's right hand man so that he can influence the operations of the Bank. He therefore plans to hold Torvald hostage by blackmailing him with Nora's fraud. Krogstad also wants to use Nora's fraud to get back his reputation. These actions portray him as morally decadent.

5. "Behind Nora's secretive nature is a desire to protect and A Doll's House.show love to his family." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's

Nora's acceptance of the 'pet' names portrays her as submissive. She tolerates these names as she thinks that they are a portrayal of Torvalds love towards her. Nora is comfortable with all these as she thought it portrayed theirs as a happy family. When she later proves that Torvald used the names not because of his love but his own

selfish interests she decides to walk away from her marriage.

Nora ignores the judgemental nature of Torvald. Torvald criticises Nora's reckless spending and argues that her wasteful nature is a trait she has acquired from her father. This is beside the point that her priority is spending on the children and bringing some joy into the family. Nora ignores all these for she still ultimately believes in the love that Torvald has towards her and the family.

Nora does not initially reveal that she procured a loan to cater for Torvald's vacation. She knew that this could possibly start a conflict with her husband. She therefore goes out of her way to obtain money for Torvald's treatment and is in the process of finishing repaying it. To Nora, what was important was the life of Torvald and not the cultural norms that tied women's abilities.

Nora saves a little money here and there and she even finds other ways of earning money so as to pay for the loan that she procured for Torvald's treatment. This is because she feared Torvald's reaction if she were to tell him of the loan that she secured. Nora finds other ways of earning money. She gets copying work and that enables her to raise the money that she uses to pay the instalments of the loan. Nora also only spends half the money that Torvald gives her for buying dresses. This is because she needed to save the other so as to pay off the instalments of the loan. Instead of burdening the family with debt, she takes her own initiatives to repay the loan that she procured for Torvald's vacation.

Nora hides from Torvald her business dealing with Krogstad for the sake of her family. When Krogstad threatens to expose her fraud, Nora attempts to shield her family by begging Torvald not to sack Krogstad. However, Torvald ignores her and this almost leads to the Helmers name being tarnished. A conflict that leads Nora to walk out of her marriage also arises. This is what Nora tried so hard to prevent by trying to hide her secret.

6. "Nora and Torvald were as different as day and night and it was inevitable that they would clash." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

While Nora is portrayed as secretive, Torvald openly shows her demeaning nature. Nora tries to solve conflicts that will expose her and her family in secret. She secretly procures a loan and tries to prevent Krogstad from exposing her. Torvald on the other hand openly shows her disapproval of Nora's actions. He is insensitive to Nora as a

human being. He criticises her for engaging in a fraud and even lays punishment for Nora's action. Torvald does not take his time to understand his wife.

Nora is submissive while Torvald is portrayed as chauvinistic. Nora's acceptance of the 'pet' names portrays her as submissive. She thinks that they were a symbol of her husband's affection towards her. Nora also observes Torvald's chauvinism but she chooses to ignore question him because she feared to upset him. Torvald on the other hand is portrayed as chauvinistic. Torvald has a low opinion regarding women and he controls his wife the way he wishes. This later leads to a conflict.

Nora is selfless while Torvald is rigid. Nora goes out of her way to secure a loan that saves the life of Torvald. She also goes out of her way to make sure she repays the loan without involving her family. Torvald, on the other hand is rigid, as he refuses Nora's pleas that they go for a vacation. This forces Nora to procure a loan in order to save his life. He also refuses to listen to Nora not to sack Krogstad and this could have led to the Helmers' image being tarnished.

Nora is caring while Torvald is selfish. Nora ensures that her husband gets well after he falls sick. She also ensures her children are living a comfortable life by not diverting the housekeep money to clearing her loan. Torvald on the other hand does what he wishes to do. He shows Nora affection in a way that shows he is superior. When Nora's secret is revealed he is worried only about his reputation and he does not remember the sacrifices that Nora has made for him and the family.

Nora is portrayed as patient while Torvald is portrayed as rash. Nora waits for an appropriate time when she would reveal her secret to Torvald. Torvald on the other hand makes rash decisions based on his emotions. When Nora says that he is narrow-minded he becomes angry and immediately orders Krogstad's dismissal letter to be sent to Krogstad.

7. "Nora is not entirely a spendthrift. She also shows her selflessness and generosity." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Nora is portrayed as a generous character. She pays the porter who carries her Christmas tree and her basket, and still leaves him with the change.

Nora has had to economise on her spending and she only spends when the conditions are right. Nora tells Torvald that the reason she has spent a lot of money on Christmas

items is that they have had to economise in all the other preceding Christmas festivities. She also claims that Torvald was going to have a big salary. More money for Nora therefore equals a better lifestyle.

Even though Nora has the money, her priority is on her children. She buys them Christmas presents but does not buy herself any. This portrays her as selfless as she puts her children's needs before her own.

The Helmers have faced a tough financial past when their income was not sufficient enough. When the family had no money during the previous Christmas, Nora tries to cheer things up by making ornaments and other fine things. This portrays Nora as reasonable as she could adapt to any financial situation.

Nora also does everything she can to save Torvald who was dreadfully ill. She goes out of his way to get the money for Torvald's treatment. Though the vacation costs her a tremendous lot of money, she is able to save Torvald's life. This shows that Nora was not entirely a spendthrift as she went out of her way to obtain money and used it for a noble purpose.

Nora saves a little money here and there and she even finds other ways of earning money so as to pay for the loan that she procured for Torvald's treatment. Nora finds other ways of earning money. She gets copying work and that enables her to raise the money that she uses to pay the instalments of the loan. Nora also only spends half the money that Torvald gives her for buying dresses. This is because she needed to save the other so as to pay off the instalments of the loan. Instead of burdening the family with debt, she takes her own initiatives to repay the loan that she procured for Torvald's vacation. Nora therefore was not entirely a spendthrift.

8. "Never judge a book by its cover." Write an essay to support this statement showing how various characters dispositions are revealed. Use illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Nora appears as a powerless woman who is subordinate to her husband and is only good at carrying duties of a house wife. Beyond that however Nora is a selfless and conscious woman. She saves Torvald's life by procuring a loan that caters for Torvald's vacation. When Nora comes to terms with Torvald's hypocritical and chauvinistic nature she has the courage to walk out of her marriage. This is unlike the housewife or the doll that Torvald knows Nora to be.

Doctor Rank is portrayed as a reasonable character and one who attracts respect because of his profession. However, it is surprising that he confesses his affections for Nora whom he clearly knows is a married woman. The Doctor is thus portrayed as morally decadent.

Torvald treats Nora affectionately and one could easily judge that he loves Nora. This is however tested when Nora engages in fraud in order to save Torvald's life. When Torvald discovers the fraud that Nora engages in, he turns against Nora insulting her and restricting Nora's role in the family. His actions that showed he loved Nora were all but hypocritical.

Mrs. Linde appears as a poor woman who is struggling to make a living. She goes to the Helmers so that they help her get a job at the Bank. Surprisingly, she is the one who spares the Helmers the shame when she convinces Krogstad to back down from his plans to expose the Helmers.

9. "There were always tell signs that Nora was capable of defying cultural norms that subjugated over her rights." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Torvald watches over and attempts to control every aspect of Nora's life. He even decides the kind of food that Nora should and should not eat. Nora however disobeys and secretly eats the macaroons. Torvald's orders were outrageous as Nora was a mature woman capable of making her own lifestyle decisions. Nora's defiance showed that she could defy anything that threatened her independence.

Nora was keen and she observed that Torvald's portrayal of her character was inaccurate. She informs Mrs. Linde that she was aware that she was regarded as a spendthrift but she knew well that that was not an accurate representation of her as the Helmers had not been in a position to waste money. She also claims they have had to work hard to make ends meet. She becomes patient to this misjudgement of her character until when her husband's hypocritical nature is revealed.

When Torvald becomes dreadfully ill, Nora goes out of her way to get money for treatment. She ignores the cultural norms that would have required her to get the approval of her husband before seeking the loan. Nora was more interested in saving the life of her husband than adhering to cultural norms that discriminated against women.

Nora is aware of the superior attitude that Torvald and other people have towards her. Mrs. Linde dismisses Nora as not having experienced the real troubles and burdens of

life. She claims Nora engages only in small household cares and calls Nora a child. Nora informs Mrs. Linde that she was just like the other people who thought her incapable of anything serious. This shows that Nora was aware that she was looked down upon and it was only a matter of time before she fought back.

Nora is aware of Torvald's chauvinistic nature. She does not inform him that she procured a loan because Torvald holds strong opinions in favour of a patriarchal society. Torvald also has a superior attitude towards his wife. Nora observes that Torvald has a manly independence and it would not sit well with him that he owes Nora anything after Nora procures a loan that saves his life. This shows that Nora was aware of Torvald's chauvinistic tendencies and when they become too much Nora walks out on him.

Nora does not understand why she is accused of fraud yet her motives were noble. She claims that she forged her father's signature for her father's and Torvald's best interests. She questions the society's judgement and regards it as flawed. This shows that Nora was capable of fighting back against practices that were inhumane.

Nora begins to show signs of open rebellion against her husband. Initially, Nora is aware that her husband expects her to behave submissively before him. When she prepares to ask for a favour from Torvald, Nora uses the pet names her husband uses on her. This showed that he was aware that her husband liked to control her like a child. When Torvald rejects her request to let Krogstad keep his job, Nora refers to her husband as narrow-minded. This showed Nora's braveness as such a statement was unexpected from her. This gets Torvald angry and he immediately orders the sending of Krogstad's dismissal letter to Krogstad.

It therefore does not come as surprise when Nora walks out on Torvald and her children. When Torvald's selfishness and hypocrisy are revealed Nora can no longer persevere, she ignores her traditional role as a housewife and goes out to the world to discover herself and her place in the world.

10. "Mrs. Linde is the embodiment of reason." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Mrs. Linde abandons her fiancé because she needed a man who could provide money to take care of her sick mother and her younger siblings. She sacrifices her love life for the sake of her family. Unfortunately, her husband dies leaving her childless and penniless and she has to request her childhood friend, Nora, to help her get a job to sustain her.

Mrs. Linde is aware of the cultural norms that discriminate against women. She informs

Nora that it was imprudent for her to procure a huge loan without the consent of her husband. Even though Nora is justified in procuring the loan she puts herself up against the forces of a patriarchal society that demean women. The conflict that ensues between Nora and Torvald based on these cultural norms lead to the breaking up of the Helmers family. Unlike Mrs. Linde, Nora underestimated the powerful forces of patriarchy.

Mrs. Linde is open-minded as she encourages Nora to face her husband and tell him the truth about the loan that she took for their vacation. She wonders when Nora will be able to let the secret out to her husband.

While Nora is overwhelmed by emotions that her husband will discover her fraud, Mrs. Linde thinks of a solution to the problem. When Mrs. Linde learns that it is Krogstad who lent Nora the money, she offers to go and talk to Krogstad to recall his letter unread. She therefore partially eases Nora's worries that her fraudulent loan will be revealed to Torvald.

Even though Mrs. Linde would have convinced Krogstad to recall his letter unread, she advises Krogstad to wait and let the Helmer's solve their issues instead of them living in secrecy. This helps the Helmers as their real character is revealed even though Nora walks out of her marriage.

11. "Money is the source of all evil." Write an essay to support this statement showing how money causes individuals to clash and the consequences that follow. Use illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Money is the source of tension that exists both in families and between individuals. Torvald gets into an argument with Nora since he holds the view that Nora, and women in general are incapable of planning and managing finances. Torvald also uses money as a means to appease, and control Nora and get her to do what he likes.

The judgemental nature of Torvald arises because of money. Torvald criticises Nora's reckless spending and argues that her wasteful nature is a trait she has acquired from her father. Initially, Nora ignores all these for she still ultimately believes in the love that Torvald has towards her and the family but later when she learns of Torvald's judgemental nature she walks away from her marriage.

Mrs. Linde abandons her former fiancée, Krogstad, because she needed a man who could provide money to take care of her sick mother and her younger siblings. She sacrifices the love of her life for a wealthy man who could take care of her sick mother, and her younger siblings. Surprisingly, her well off husband dies leaving her childless

and penniless. Though they later remarry Krogstad points Mrs. Linde out for her betrayal.

Nora procures a loan without involving her husband. She does this because her husband was dreadfully ill and needed to go for a vacation in the south. When this secret is revealed a conflict ensues between her and Torvald and it ultimately leads to Nora walking out on her family. This was all because of the loan that Nora procures for their vacation in the south.

The close circles of those who hold powerful jobs are demeaning to those with less powerful ones. Nora tells Krogstad that he ought not to offend anyone who has influence. This means that Nora felt she was superior to Krogstad since her husband had a more powerful position than Krogstad's. That explains why Nora is able to convince her husband to get Mrs. Linde a job at the bank.

Money gives power for some people to be manipulative. Krogstad threatens to reveal Nora's secret to her husband if she does not prevent Torvald from firing her. Krogstad has the courage to tell Nora this since he helped Nora procure a loan which she has not yet finished paying.

12. "Nora loses her patience with Torvald's demeaning and domineering nature and seeks to find her own freedom." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Torvald is portrayed as domineering towards Nora. Torvald watches over and attempts to control every aspect of Nora's life. He even decides the kind of food that Nora should and should not eat. Nora eats the macaroons in secret because her husband has outlawed her from eating them. He also dictates the kind of people Nora should and should not relate with something that Nora defies as she meets Krogstad again after her husband's warning. This shows that she did not approve of Torvald's domineering nature.

Torvald is demeaning. He uses 'pet' names such as 'lark', 'squirrel', and 'featherhead' to refer to his wife. Though this was supposed to be a demonstration of Torvald's love towards Nora, she ultimately discovers that Torvald used the names to show his control over her life. This leads Nora to walk away from her marriage and family.

When Nora hints that Torvald takes a loan for a trip to Italy for the sake of his treatment Torvald rejects her suggestion and points out that Nora was thoughtless and it was his duty as her husband not to indulge in Nora's extravagancies. This shows that Torvald was chauvinistic and he considered Nora as a woman who had to be controlled. When Nora finally gets to learn this, she walks out on Torvald and the children.

Nora is aware of Torvald's chauvinistic nature. She does not inform him that she procured a loan because Torvald holds strong opinions in favour of a patriarchal society. Torvald also has a superior attitude towards his wife. Nora observes that Torvald has a manly independence and it would not sit well with him that he owes Nora anything after Nora procures a loan that saves his life. This shows that Nora was aware of Torvald's chauvinistic tendencies and when they become too much Nora walks out on him.

After discovering Nora's secret Torvald humiliates and insults Nora. Nora expected Torvald to stand up for her the way she sacrificed to save his life but it becomes apparent that Torvald only thought about himself. It becomes too late when Torvald receives the second letter from Krogstad as the damage had already been done. Nora walks out of her marriage.

13. "If Torvald would not have been too judgemental from the start, he would have prevented Nora from walking away from her family." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Torvald criticises Nora's reckless spending and argues that her wasteful nature is a trait she has acquired from her father. Nora was keen and she observed to Mrs. Linde that Torvald's portrayal of her character was inaccurate as the Helmers had not been in a position to waste money. She also claims they have had to work hard to make ends meet. She becomes patient to this misjudgement of her character until when her husband's hypocritical nature is revealed.

When Nora hints that Torvald takes a loan for a trip to Italy for the sake of his treatment Torvald rejects her suggestion and points out that Nora was thoughtless and it was his duty as her husband not to indulge in Nora's extravagancies. This shows that Torvald was chauvinistic and he considered Nora as a woman who had to be controlled. When Nora finally gets to learn this, she walks out on Torvald and the children. If Torvald could have been more understanding of his wife, over her request for a vacation, the conflict that leads to Nora walking out would not have occurred.

Torvald holds strong opinions in favour of a patriarchal society. That explains Nora's decision to procure a loan without his consent. Torvald would possibly have prevented Nora from procuring the loan because she is a woman. Torvald also has a superior attitude towards his wife. Nora observes that Torvald has a manly independence and it would not sit well with him that he owes Nora anything after Nora procures a loan that saves his life. This shows that Torvald thinks lowly of women. Nora, later, becomes tired of this gender discrimination and walks out of her marriage.

After discovering Nora's secret Torvald gets angry and humiliates Nora. He calls her all

sorts of names and he does not for once reflect on Nora's sacrifice that saved his life. It becomes too late when Torvald receives the second letter from Krogstad as his selfishness and hypocrisy had already been revealed. Nora then decides to walk out of her marriage.

14. "Nora did not deserve condemnation as she had made numerous sacrifices on behalf of her family." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Nora did everything she could to save Torvald who was dreadfully ill. She goes out of her way to procure a loan to cater for Torvald's treatment. Her action saved Torvald's life. She also takes responsibility and starts paying the loan in instalments.

Nora also accompanies Torvald for the vacation even though Ivar had just been born. Nora is also unable to nurse her sick father as she was taking care of Torvald. This is despite the fact that she was very fond of her father. She describes it as the saddest time in their marriage as she was not able to see her father again. This showed how Nora put the life of her husband above anything else.

Nora saves a little money here and there and she even finds other ways of earning money so as to pay for the loan that she procured for Torvald's treatment. This is because she feared Torvald's reaction if she were to tell him of the loan that she secured. Nora finds other ways of earning money. She gets copying work and that enables her to raise the money that she uses to pay the instalments of the loan. Instead of burdening the family with debt, she takes her own initiatives to repay the loan that she procured for Torvald's vacation.

Also, Nora only spends half the money that Torvald gives her for buying dresses. This is because she needed to save the other so as to pay off the instalments of the loan. Nora claims this was hard on her as she had to buy the simple and cheap clothes. She has to make this sacrifice yet the loan that she procured was used for Torvald's treatment. Nora does not use the housekeeping money to pay the instalments of the loan. Instead, she spends the money on her children as she could not let them be shabbily dressed. Nora therefore puts the interests of her family before her own.

15. "Women sacrifice so many things in their lives for the sake of their families." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Mrs. Linde sacrifices her love for her fiancé and gets married to another man who could provide for her bedridden mother and her two young brothers. Her husband later dies

and his business too collapses leaving Mrs. Linde hopeless. She is forced to engage in income generating ventures that are not successful either. She decides to seek the help of Nora who helps her get a job at the bank.

Even though Nora has the money, her priority is on her children. She buys them Christmas presents but does not buy herself any. This portrays her as selfless as she puts her children's needs before her own. When the family had no money during the previous Christmas, she tries to cheer things up by making ornaments and other fine things.

Nora did everything she could to save Torvald who was dreadfully ill. When Torvald rejects her requests for a vacation she goes out of her way to procure a loan to cater for Torvald's treatment. Her action saves Torvald's life. She also takes responsibility and starts paying the loan in instalments.

Nora also does everything she can to save Torvald who was dreadfully ill. She accompanies Torvald for the vacation even though Ivar had just been born. She also goes out of his way to get the money. Nora is also unable to nurse her sick father as she was taking care of Torvald. This is despite the fact that she was very fond of her father.

Nora has to sacrifice her desire for elegant dresses so as to be able to save and pay for the loan that she procured. Nora only spends half the money that Torvald gives her for buying dresses. This is because she needed to save the other so as to pay off the instalments of the loan. Nora claims this was hard on her as she had to buy the simple and cheap clothes. She has to make this sacrifice yet the loan that she procured was used for Torvald's treatment.

Anne sacrifices her love for her daughter in-order to work as Nora's nurse. Nora thanks her for being motherly to her and she is confident that Anne too can take good care of Nora's children.

16. "Betrayal is a vice that hurts and leads to disintegration of relationships." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Mrs. Linde betrays her fiancé. She abandons Krogstad because he had no money to provide for her bedridden mother and her two young brothers. Instead, Mrs. Linde gets married to another man who could provide for her bedridden mother and her two young brothers. Even though Mrs. Linde later gets remarried to Krogstad, Krogstad accuses her of betrayal. He also says his life turned upside down when she left.

Nora betrays her father by not visiting him when he was sick. This is despite the fact that Nora says she was fond of him. She later forges his signature in order to procure a loan for Torvald's vacation. Nora even states that that was the saddest time she had ever known since her marriage.

Krogstad threatens to betray Nora to her husband that she took a loan. This is despite the fact that Nora is repaying the loan. Krogstad threatens to reveal this secret so that Nora influences her husband not to dismiss him from his job at the bank.

Doctor Rank betrays his close friendship with Torvald by openly expressing his affection towards Torvald's wife. Nora tells Doctor Rank that it was horrid and clumsy of him to declare his affection towards her. Doctor Rank's action leads to loss of trust between him and Nora.

17. "Cultural norms that discriminate against women destroy families instead of building them." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Torvald watches over and attempts to control every aspect of Nora's life. He even decides the kind of food that Nora should and should not eat. Nora disobeys and secretly eats the macaroons. Torvald's orders were outrageous as Nora was a mature woman capable of making her own lifestyle decisions.

When Torvald becomes dreadfully ill, Nora goes out of her way to get money for treatment. She ignores the cultural norms that would have required her to get the approval of her husband before seeking the loan. Nora was more interested in saving the life of her husband than adhering to cultural norms that discriminated against women. When Torvald discovers about it, it leads to a conflict in which Nora walks out of her marriage.

Nora is aware of the superior attitude that Torvald and other people have towards her. Mrs. Linde dismisses Nora as not having experienced the real troubles and burdens of life. She claims Nora engages only in small household cares and calls Nora a child. Nora informs Mrs. Linde that she was just like the other people who thought her incapable of anything serious. Nora gets tired of the same superior attitude shown by Torvald and she decides to walk out of her marriage.

Nora observes that Torvald has a manly independence and it would not sit well with him that he owes Nora, a woman, anything after Nora procures a loan that saves his life. This shows that Nora was aware of Torvald's chauvinistic tendencies and when they become too much Nora walks out on him.

18. "A society that is morally decadent immerses itself into vicious conflicts." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Krogstad is morally decadent and this gets him into conflicts with other characters. Doctor Rank accuses Krogstad of being morally corrupt. This is because of Krogstad's many suspicious business deals. Krogstad has a tarnished name and a flawed character thus no one would like to associate with him.

Krogstad threatens to reveal Nora's secret to her husband if she does not prevent Torvald from firing her. This portrays Krogstad as manipulative as he takes advantage of the fraud that Nora engaged in for his own personal benefits.

Nora forges her father's signature in a bid to procure a loan for their vacation. She does this because her father had died and she was worried of her husband's illness. Even though her motives were noble, her actions portray her as morally decadent.

Doctor Rank is portrayed as immoral. He openly expressing his affection towards Nora yet he knew that Nora was a married woman. Nora tells Doctor Rank that it was horrid and clumsy of him to declare his affection towards her. It is surprising that such behaviour can come from a person of Doctor Rank's stature. Doctor Rank's action leads to lose of trust between him and Nora.

19. "It is through Mrs. Linde that Nora's true character is revealed." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Through Mrs. Linde Nora is portrayed as keen. Nora informs Mrs. Linde that she is aware that she is regarded as a spendthrift but she knows well that that is not an accurate representation of her as the Helmers have not been in a position to waste money. She also claims they have had to work hard to make ends meet.

Through Mrs. Linde Nora is portrayed as selfless. When Mrs. Linde dismisses Nora as not having experienced the real troubles and burdens of life, Nora informs Mrs. Linde that she was just like the other people who thought her incapable of anything serious. She reveals that she is the one who saved Torvald's life by procuring a loan that was used for their vacation.

Through Mrs. Linde Nora is portrayed as hardworking. In order to be able to pay the instalments, Nora informs Mrs. Linde that she had to find other ways of earning money. She gets copying work and she enables her to raise the money that she uses to pay the instalments of the loan.

Through Mrs. Linde Nora is portrayed as loving and caring. Nora tells Mrs. Linde that

she never used the housekeeping money to pay the instalments of the loan. Instead, she spends the money on her children as she could not let them be shabbily dressed. This shows that Nora put the interests of her family before her own.

Through Mrs. Linde Nora is also portrayed as fearful. Nora seeks Mrs. Linde's thoughts on the decision that she took to procure the loan without getting consent from her husband. Nora is worried about whether what she did was right or wrong, and whether she should inform her husband that she procured the loan.

Through Mrs. Linde Nora is portrayed as secretive. Nora claims that there is a secret that she is hiding from Torvald. She is however reluctant to reveal it even to Doctor Rank and Mrs. Linde. The secret concerns the loan that she procured to cater for the Helmers vacation. Nora is fearful that if this secret is revealed it would bring conflict into the family. She is therefore portrayed as protective of her family.

20. "There are both similarities and differences in the characters of Nora and Mrs. Linde in light of the challenges that they face in their lives." Write an essay to support this statement using illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Both Nora and Mrs. Linde are selfless. Nora does everything she can to save Torvald who was dreadfully ill. She goes out of his way to procure a loan for the vacation that saves Torvald's life. Mrs. Linde on the other hand sacrifices her love for her fiancé and gets married to another man who could provide for her bedridden mother and her two young brothers. Both women are proud of the sacrifices they make for the sake of their loved ones.

Both Nora and Mrs. Linde are hard-working when faced with challenging situations. Nora gets copying work and this enables her to raise the money that she uses to pay the instalments of the loan she procured for their vacation. She does this because she did not want the payment of the loan to be a burden to her family. Mrs. Linde does everything she can to generate income after her husband's death. She tries to open a school, run a shop and when all these fail she still approach the Helmers for a job.

Both of them have also led empty lives. Mrs. Linde tells Krogstad that she was like a shipwrecked woman because there was no one to live for. It is for this reason that she suggests to Krogstad that they be married. Nora also tells Torvald that she was never given a chance to know herself as her life have always revolved around her father and her husband. This is why she has decided to walk out on her family so that she can discover the world by her own.

While Nora is conscious Mrs. Linde is portrayed as judgemental. Mrs. Linde is quick to

judge Nora as a spendthrift, a habit she claims Nora had during their schooldays. Nora informs Mrs. Linde that she is aware that she is regarded as a spendthrift but she knows well that that is not an accurate representation of her as the Helmers have not been in a position to waste money. He also claims they have had to work hard to make ends meet.

Nora is secretive while Mrs. Linde is open-minded. Nora fears revealing to Torvald that she procured a loan for their vacation as this would break their family. Mrs. Linde on the other hand is open-minded as she encourages Nora to face her husband and tell her the truth. Even though she had convinced Krogstad to recall his letter unread, she retracts tells Krogstad to wait and let the Helmer's solve their issues instead of living in secrecy.

21. "Doctor Rank is not a noble character after all." Write an essay to support this statement showing the various flaws in Doctor Rank's actions. Use illustrations from Henrik Ibsen's A Doll's House.

Doctor Rank is judgemental. He is quick to accuse Krogstad as being morally decadent yet he too, has loose morals as seen when he confesses his affection towards Nora, a married woman. This is surprising as Doctor Rank is a man of some learning and we do not expect him to be morally decadent.

Despite his learning Doctor Rank lacks confidentiality. He is quick to reveal the nature of Krogstad's visit to Nora and Mrs. Linde. We expected him not to give such information as Krogstad's visit was official and he therefore disregarded common etiquette.

Despite being a man of high learning Doctor Rank is portrayed as superstitious. Doctor Rank claims that he is cursed as he is paying the price for his father's youthful exuberance and excesses. He has inherited a dangerous disease from which he expects to die. It is least expected that a man of Doctor Rank's learning should have such beliefs.

Doctor Rank also refuses to reveal to Torvald that he was going to die choosing only to inform Nora yet Torvald was his close friend. Doctor Rank is not open to Torvald and only speaks metaphorically to him about his impending death. He claims that Torvald should be spared of such horrible news. For such a serious matter Doctor Rank should at least have informed his close friend.

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