

Pre-Class Assignment (Level B2+)

Exploring Setting in "The Necklace"

Purpose

Before class, you'll examine how the author uses setting—the places, textures, and atmosphere—to create mood, show culture, shape characters, and support the theme.

Step 1 - Read the Glossary

These words describe the time, place, and feeling of the story.

Word	Part of Speech	Definition
apartment	n.	a home in a larger building
ballroom	n.	a large, formal room for dancing
blazed	verb	shined brightly
chandelier	n.	a decorative hanging light with crystals
crystal-lit	adj.	shining with light from crystal lamps
decrepit	adj.	old and falling apart
elegant	adj.	graceful, stylish, refined
faded	adj.	pale, with color worn away
fountain	n.	structure that sprays water upward
glittering	adj.	shining brightly with reflected light
grand	adj.	large and impressive
harsh	adj.	unpleasant or severe
magnificent	adj.	very beautiful and impressive
marble	n./adj.	smooth, shiny stone used in rich buildings
modest	adj.	simple; not large or fancy
palace	n.	a very large, rich home for nobility
perfumed	adj.	filled with a pleasant or sweet smell
polished	adj.	clean and shiny from care or effort
poverty	n.	the state of being very poor
radiant	adj.	full of light or joy
refined	adj.	polite, elegant, and cultured
rough	adj.	not smooth; uneven to the touch
shabby	adj.	old and worn
silk	n.	smooth, shiny fabric made by silkworms
simple	adj.	plain; not complicated
tiny	adj.	very small

Step 2 - Read the Story

Read the story once for understanding. Try to imagine each setting—Mathilde’s apartment, Madame Forestier’s home, the ballroom, and the tiny attic at the end.

Step 3 - Read Again and Mark the Words

Read a second time. Each time you see one of the glossary words, underline or circle it in your story. Notice what each word tells you about the place or feeling of that moment.

Step 4 - Think and Write

1. Where does Mathilde live at the beginning of the story?
2. What kind of place does she dream of?
3. How does the setting change from start → middle → end?
4. How does she feel in each setting? (home / party / ten-years-later)
5. Choose 3-5 of your favorite words from the glossary and write one sentence for each about what it makes you imagine or feel.

Bring to Class

Your story with words underlined and this worksheet with your notes. We’ll use your answers to talk about how setting affects emotion.