

“THE NECKLACE” DIALECTICAL JOURNAL (KEY)

Directions: Fill in each of the boxes after you read the story. Make sure you give textual evidence when necessary, including the page number from the story. Circle the type of conflict for each major conflict.

Major Conflict #1 (Man vs Society and Insecurity)

Matilde is poor, and she has nothing to wear to the party.

Textual Evidence

“It annoys me not to have a single piece of jewelry, not a single ornament, nothing to put on” (page #).

Plan of Action:

Matilde is going to go see her friend, Mme. Forestier, to borrow some jewelry.

Major Conflict #2 (Man vs. Fate)

Matilde loses the necklace.

Textual Evidence

“!...!...I don’t have Mme. Forestier’s necklace!” (page #).

Action Taken:

Her husband goes out to look for the necklace.

Major Conflict #3 (Moral Dilemma)

Matilde must choose whether to lie or tell the truth about the necklace.

Textual Evidence

"We'll write to your friend to tell her you have broken the catch and are having it repaired" (page #)

"She wrote to his dictation" (page #)

Action Taken:

Matilde and her husband must borrow money and go into debt to pay for the necklace.

Result of Action Taken:

*Matilde works for ten years and loses
the only "riches" she was born with:
her beauty.*

Symbolism of the Necklace:

*The necklace is beautiful, but fake
(empty/shallow) just like Matilde.*