**“The Necklace” by Guy de Maupassant**

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| **Theme** is a general massage about life that a writer conveys in a work of literature.  \*A theme is usually a common message that the reader can relate to.  \*As the reader, think about what the author wants you to think about and learn.  **Irony** is the general name given to literary techniques that involve surprising, interesting, or amusing contradictions.  \*It’s the opposite of what’s expected! |

1. Why was Mathilde Loisel unhappy?
2. Why did Mathilde fling the invitation to the Minister of Education’s house to the side?
3. How much money did Mathilde ask for to buy a dress? What was this money originally intended for?
4. What happens to the item Mathilde borrowed? What does she do about it?
5. What happens to Mathilde as a result of this experience?
6. What was the ironic twist at the end of this story? Return to the story and re-read the exchange when Mathilde borrows the necklace from Madame Forestier. Are there any clues that alert the reader that the diamond necklace is fake?
7. Do you like the ironic ending of the story? Why or why not?

Supporting Detail

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| Detail  Detail  Theme:  Your text here | **Journal Response:**  Do you think that Mathilde’s fate was justified? Why or why not? |

Detail

**Open-Mind Portrait**

Create an “open-mind” portrait of Mathilde. In the outline below, write anything she thinks or does during important moments in the plot. These should be lines from the text, and they should reveal her characteristics and *motivation* (motivation: why the character acts or thinks the way she does). Next, add symbols and illustrations in your portrait to represent this character.

