Study Guide for “The Necklace”

I. VOCABULARY: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the story and in class discussion.

rueful_________________________________________________________________________

disheveled_____________________________________________________________________

aghast________________________________________________________________________

adulation_______________________________________________________________________

pauper_________________________________________________________________________

chic___________________________________________________________________________

dowry__________________________________________________________________________

usurer_________________________________________________________________________

vexation_______________________________________________________________________

II. LITERARY TERMS: Be able to define each term and apply each term to the story.

setting __________________________________________________________________________

protagonist _______________________________________________________________________

Who is the protagonist in the story? ___________________________

characterization____________________________________________________________________

direct characterization ___________________________________________________________

indirect characterization __________________________________________________________

diction __________________________________________________________________________

mood ____________________________________________________________________________

Describe the mood of the story:____________________________________________________

Who is the narrator? From what point of view is the story told? _____________________________

Theme____________________________________________________________________________

What is the theme of the story?______________________________________________________
III. QUESTIONS: Answer the following questions.

1. Why did M. Loisel expect his wife to be pleased to receive the invitation from the Minister of Education?
2. Describe Mme Loisel’s reaction on reading the invitation.
3. Why had M. Loisel been saving 400 Francs?
4. Compare and contrast the life of Mme. Loisel before and after the disappearance of the necklace.
5. Why was Mme Loisel anxious to hurry away from the ball?
6. What efforts were made to find Mme Forestier’s necklace?
7. Describe in your own words how the Loisels’ life changed after they had paid for the new necklace.
8. What was Mme Forestier reaction when seeing Mme Loisel before she figured out who she was?
9. What was Mme Forestier’s reaction when the necklace was returned?
10. Do you think Mme Loisel recognized good quality jewelry? Give reasons.
11. Why was Mathilde unhappy with her life at the opening of the story?
12. Do you think M. Loisel enjoyed the ball? Give reasons to support your answer.
13. How did M. Loisel contribute to the cost of the new necklace?

IV. Characterization: describe the characters listed below.

1. Madame Loisel:
   Direct characterization:
   
   Indirect characterization:

2. Madame Forstier:
   Direct characterization:
   
   Indirect characterization:

3. Monsieur Loisel:
   Direct characterization:
   
   Indirect characterization: