

## Comprehensive comprehension

**Write your answers to the following questions in complete sentences.  
Make sure you use quotations where they are asked for.**

1. Where does Mrs Bixby go 'once a month ... on Friday afternoons', and what reason is given for her trips? (p.33)
2. What different impressions are we given of Mrs Bixby by the way she describes how the two different men in her life make her feel? Using your own words write a sentence or two for how each man makes her feel about herself. Support your ideas with quotations from the story. (pp.34-35)
3. How would you describe the tone of the Colonel's note? (p.37) Pick the most appropriate description then write a sentence or two to explain your choice.
  - Loving and affectionate
  - Impersonal and polite
  - Sad and regretful
4. What single word sums up the Colonel's motivation in giving Mrs Bixby the coat? (p.8)
5. Why does the pawnbroker think Mrs Bixby is pawning the coat? (p.41)
6. Which bullet point best matches the impression you get of the pawnbroker?  
(pp.39-41)
  - He is trustworthy and honest
  - He is dishonest and will cheat people
  - The impression is neutral; there are not enough clues to decide.



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7. Explain why the following remark by Cyril Bixby gives the impression he is fussy and precise.

"It's twelve and a half minutes past six," he said.' (page 42)

8. Find another quotation on the same page which supports this impression of him.

9. How does Mr Bixby claim he passed the previous evening? (page 43)

10. How many times does the writer use italics on page 45? What effect do the italics have?

11. Mrs Bixby really wants to pick the item up from the pawnbrokers, so why does she refuse to accompany her husband? (page 46)

12. What is Mrs Bixby's reaction when she sees the fur neckpiece? (page 50)

13. What does Mrs Bixby initially think has happened to the coat? Give a quotation to support your answer. (page 51)

14. Who has the coat and how did she get it? (page 51)

15. Why do you think Mr Bixby is going to be late home? (page 51)

16. How did you react to the end of the story?

