

The Gift Of The Magi Answers Key

9. Why does Della try to fix her hair? What is she worried about?
She wants Jim to still think she is pretty. She is worried about how he will react.
10. How does Jim react to seeing Della and her new hair?
He is shocked and silent, at first.
11. What does Jim say about Della's hair?
Nothing she could do would make him love her any less. He loves her no matter what she looks like.
12. What is ironic about the gifts that Della and Jim bought for one another?
They each brought the other a present that they can no longer use.
13. What type of irony does this represent? Explain.
Situational irony – they did not expect the other to sell their most prized possession to buy a Christmas gift.
14. What do Della's and Jim's reactions to each other's gifts reveal about their character?
That they love each other no matter what. They did not get mad. They were grateful for their gifts and for each other.
15. What is O. Henry's opinion of the actions of Della and Jim?
Some people might think they are foolish, but he thinks they are wise.
16. Why does O. Henry refer to Della, Jim, and all others like them as the "magi"?
They are wise like the magi because they gave gifts out of love. They were willing to sacrifice something important to them for the person they loved.

The Gift of the Magi: Answers Key & Deeper Understanding

Are you struggling to unpack the symbolism, themes, and underlying messages in O. Henry's classic short story, "The Gift of the Magi"? Feeling overwhelmed by analyzing Della and Jim's selfless sacrifices? This comprehensive guide provides not just a simple "answers key" to common comprehension questions, but a deeper dive into the story's complexities, helping you truly understand its enduring power. We'll explore key themes, analyze character motivations, and offer insights into the story's enduring appeal. Let's unlock the secrets of "The Gift of the Magi" together.

Understanding the Plot: A Summary and Key Events

"The Gift of the Magi" tells the story of a young couple, Della and Jim Dillingham Young, who are desperately poor but deeply in love. Facing Christmas with limited funds, both sacrifice their most prized possessions to buy the other a perfect gift. Della sells her beautiful long hair to buy Jim a platinum fob chain for his cherished watch, while Jim sells his watch to buy Della a set of expensive combs for her hair. Their selfless acts, though seemingly ironic, reveal the profound depth of their love and highlight the true meaning of giving.

The Gift of the Magi: Answers to Common Questions

This section provides answers to frequently asked questions, often encountered in classroom settings or during independent study.

What is the central conflict in "The Gift of the Magi"?

The central conflict is both internal and external. Externally, it's the couple's poverty and the challenge of affording Christmas gifts. Internally, it's the conflict between their desire to show love and their limited means. This internal conflict drives their individual decisions and ultimately leads to the ironic twist at the story's climax.

What are the major themes of "The Gift of the Magi"?

Several major themes intertwine:

Sacrifice and Selflessness: This is the most prominent theme, showcasing Della and Jim's willingness to sacrifice their most prized possessions for each other's happiness.

The True Meaning of Christmas: The story challenges the materialistic aspects of Christmas, highlighting the importance of love, generosity, and selfless giving over material wealth.

Irony and Paradox: The story is rife with irony, particularly the ironic twist ending where both gifts become unusable due to the sacrifices made. This paradox emphasizes the depth of their love and the true value of their gifts.

Love and Devotion: Della and Jim's unwavering love for each other is the driving force of the narrative. Their actions demonstrate the lengths they are willing to go to for one another.

Why is the ending considered ironic?

The ending is ironic because both Della and Jim's gifts become essentially useless due to their

reciprocal sacrifices. Della's beautiful hair, which she sold to buy Jim's gift, is now needed to show off the combs he bought her. Similarly, Jim's watch, which he sold to buy Della's combs, is no longer needed to attach the chain. This irony underscores the story's message about the true meaning of giving.

What is the significance of the title, "The Gift of the Magi"?

The title refers to the biblical Magi, who gave precious gifts to the baby Jesus. O. Henry uses this allusion to suggest that Della and Jim, though poor, possess a similarly profound capacity for love and selfless giving. Their gifts, though seemingly impractical, are infinitely more valuable than any material possession.

What is the symbolism of Della's hair and Jim's watch?

Della's hair represents her beauty and femininity, while Jim's watch represents his masculinity and his connection to his father. Both are symbols of their identity and self-worth, making their sacrifices all the more significant and poignant. Their willingness to part with these cherished possessions underscores the depth of their love and commitment.

Analyzing Character Motivation: Della and Jim

Della and Jim's motivations are driven by their immense love for each other. Their actions, while seemingly rash, are rooted in a deep desire to please and express their affection. Their poverty doesn't diminish their capacity for generosity; instead, it highlights the extraordinary nature of their sacrifice. The desperation of their situation only amplifies their selfless actions, making their love even more compelling.

The Enduring Legacy of "The Gift of the Magi"

"The Gift of the Magi" continues to resonate with readers because it taps into universal themes of love, sacrifice, and the true meaning of giving. It reminds us that the most valuable gifts are not always material possessions but rather acts of love and selflessness. The story's enduring power lies in its ability to evoke strong emotions and prompt reflection on the nature of human relationships and the importance of prioritizing love over material wealth.

Conclusion

"The Gift of the Magi" is more than just a charming Christmas story; it's a powerful exploration of love, sacrifice, and the true meaning of giving. By understanding the plot, analyzing the themes, and appreciating the characters' motivations, you can gain a much deeper appreciation for O. Henry's masterpiece. This guide has provided not just answers, but a framework for a richer understanding of this timeless tale.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the setting of "The Gift of the Magi"? The story is set in a modest apartment in New York City, during the Christmas season. The specific time period is not explicitly stated but can be inferred from the societal context.
2. What is the overall tone of the story? The tone is predominantly sentimental and bittersweet, balancing moments of humor with the underlying poignancy of the couple's situation.
3. Are Della and Jim realistic characters? While idealized in their love and selflessness, their struggles with poverty and their earnest desire for a happy Christmas feel relatable, making them engaging and sympathetic characters.
4. How does the story use foreshadowing? Although not overt, the story subtly foreshadows the ironic twist ending through Della's worry about having enough money and her preoccupation with finding the perfect gift.
5. What literary devices does O. Henry use effectively? The story masterfully utilizes irony, symbolism, and carefully crafted imagery to convey its message and create a lasting impact on the reader.

the gift of the magi answers key: *The Gift of the Magi* O. Henry, 2021-12-22 The Gift of the Magi is a short story by O. Henry first published in 1905. The story tells of a young husband and wife and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been popular for adaptation, especially for presentation at Christmas time.

the gift of the magi answers key: The Furnished Room O. Henry, 2020-08-26 The Furnished Room is a short story about love and dedication, about exhaustion and despair. A young man is in search for a girl he fell in love with. He rents a room near the theaters where she is to be seen and he devotes his days to the dream of finding her. When all of a sudden the sweet fragrance of her perfume fills his room ... Is he finally blessed with success? Or this is an evil ghost from the past? Will he get to embrace the girl he loves or she will drag him to the verge of sanity? William Sydney Porter, better known as O. Henry, was an American writer who lived in the late 19th century. He gains wide popularity with his short stories which often take place either in New York or some small American towns. The plot twists and the surprise endings are a typical and integral part of O. Henry's short stories. Some of his best known works are *The Gift of the Magi*, *The Cop and the Anthem*, *A Retrieved Reformation*. His stories often deal with ordinary people and the individual aspects of life. As a result of the outstanding literature legacy that O. Henry left behind, there is an American annual award after his name, given to exceptional short stories.

the gift of the magi answers key: O. Henry's The Gift of the Magi Peter Ekstrom, O. Henry,

1984 The Gift of the Magi is a short story, about a young married couple and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been a popular one for adaptation, especially for presentation during the Christmas season.

the gift of the magi answers key: *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent* Washington Irving, 1822

the gift of the magi answers key: *Escape!* Sid Fleischman, 2006-08-01 Who was this man who could walk through brick walls and, with a snap of his fingers, vanish elephants? In these pages you will meet the astonishing Houdini—magician, ghost chaser, daredevil, pioneer aviator, and king of escape artists. No jail cell or straitjacket could hold him! He shucked off handcuffs as easily as gloves. In this fresh, witty biography of the most famous bamboozler since Merlin, Sid Fleischman, a former professional magician, enriches his warm homage with insider information and unmaskings. Did Houdini really pick the jailhouse lock to let a fellow circus performer escape? Were his secrets really buried with him? Was he a bum magician, as some rivals claimed? How did he manage to be born in two cities, in two countries, on two continents at the same instant? Here are the stories of how a knockabout kid named Ehrich Weiss, the son of an impoverished rabbi, presto-changed himself into the legendary Harry Houdini. Here, too, are rare photographs never before seen by the general reader!

the gift of the magi answers key: *Holes* Louis Sachar, 2011-06-01 This groundbreaking classic is now available in a special anniversary edition with bonus content. Winner of the Newbery Medal as well as the National Book Award, HOLES is a New York Times bestseller and one of the strongest-selling middle-grade books to ever hit shelves! Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnatses. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes. It doesn't take long for Stanley to realize there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption. Special anniversary edition bonus content includes: A New Note From the Author!; Ten Things You May Not Know About HOLES by Louis Sachar; and more!

the gift of the magi answers key: *The Cask of Amontillado* Edgar Allan Poe, 2008 After enduring many injuries of the noble Fortunato, Montressor executes the perfect revenge.

the gift of the magi answers key: *The Gift of the Magi and the Ransom of Red Chief* O. Henry, 2020-04-20 || The Gift of The Magi || The Gift of the Magi is a short story by O. Henry first published in 1905. The story tells of a young husband and wife and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been popular for adaptation, especially for presentation at Christmas time. The plot and its twist ending are well-known, and the ending is generally considered an example of comic irony. It was allegedly written at Pete's Tavern on Irving Place in New York City.***The Ransom of The Red Chief *** : The Ransom of Red Chief is a 1910 short story by O. Henry first published in The Saturday Evening Post. It follows two men who kidnap and attempt to ransom a wealthy Alabamian's son; eventually, the men are driven crazy by the boy's spoiled and hyperactive behavior, and pay the boy's father to take him back. The story and its main idea have become a part of popular culture, with many children's television programs using a version of the story as one of their episodes. Things make it different from other books: 1. Illustrations 2. Author Biography 3. Summary

the gift of the magi answers key: *From Adam to Us* Ray Notgrass, Charlene Notgrass, 2016

the gift of the magi answers key: *The Crossover* Kwame Alexander, 2014 New York Times bestseller • Newbery Medal Winner • Coretta Scott King Honor Award • 2015 YALSA 2015 Top Ten

Best Fiction for Young Adults • 2015 YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers
• Publishers Weekly Best Book • School Library Journal Best Book • Kirkus Best Book A beautifully measured novel of life and line.--The New York Times Book Review With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering, announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood from Kwame Alexander. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.

the gift of the magi answers key: Children of Blood and Bone Tomi Adeyemi, 2018-03-06 Zlie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orsha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tiders beckoned waves, and Zlie's Reaper mother summoned forth souls.

the gift of the magi answers key: The Distance Between Us Reyna Grande, 2012-08-28 In this inspirational and unflinchingly honest memoir, acclaimed author Reyna Grande describes her childhood torn between the United States and Mexico, and shines a light on the experiences, fears, and hopes of those who choose to make the harrowing journey across the border. Reyna Grande vividly brings to life her tumultuous early years in this "compelling...unvarnished, resonant" (BookPage) story of a childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries. As her parents make the dangerous trek across the Mexican border to "El Otro Lado" (The Other Side) in pursuit of the American dream, Reyna and her siblings are forced into the already overburdened household of their stern grandmother. When their mother at last returns, Reyna prepares for her own journey to "El Otro Lado" to live with the man who has haunted her imagination for years, her long-absent father. Funny, heartbreaking, and lyrical, *The Distance Between Us* poignantly captures the confusion and contradictions of childhood, reminding us that the joys and sorrows we experience are imprinted on the heart forever, calling out to us of those places we first called home. Also available in Spanish as *La distancia entre nosotros*.

the gift of the magi answers key: Spectrum Language Arts, Grade 8 Spectrum, 2014-08-15 Spectrum Eighth Grade Language Arts Workbook for kids ages 13-14 Support your child's educational journey with Spectrum's Eighth Grade Workbook that teaches basic language arts skills to 8th grade students. Language Arts workbooks are a great way for kids to learn basic skills such as vocabulary acquisition, grammar, writing mechanics, and more through a variety of activities that are both fun AND educational! Why You'll Love This Grammar Workbook Engaging and educational reading and writing practice. "Writing a dialogue", "dictionary practice", and "proofing letters" are a few of the fun activities that incorporate language arts into everyday settings to help inspire learning into your child's homeschool or classroom curriculum. Testing progress along the way. Lesson reviews test student knowledge before moving on to new and exciting lessons. An answer key is included in the back of the 8th grade book to track your child's progress and accuracy. Practically sized for every activity The 160-page eighth grade workbook is sized at about 8 inches x 11 inches—giving your child plenty of space to complete each exercise. About Spectrum For more than 20 years, Spectrum has provided solutions for parents who want to help their children get ahead, and for teachers who want their students to meet and exceed set learning goals—providing workbooks that are a great resource for both homeschooling and classroom curriculum. This Language Arts Kids Activity Book Contains: 4 chapters full of tips, fun activities, and lesson reviews An answer key and writer's guide Perfectly sized at about 8" x 11

the gift of the magi answers key: How to Read Literature Like a Professor 3E Thomas C. Foster, 2024-11-05 Thoroughly revised and expanded for a new generation of readers, this classic guide to enjoying literature to its fullest—a lively, enlightening, and entertaining introduction to a diverse range of writing and literary devices that enrich these works, including symbols, themes, and contexts—teaches you how to make your everyday reading experience richer and more rewarding. While books can be enjoyed for their basic stories, there are often deeper literary

meanings beneath the surface. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* helps us to discover those hidden truths by looking at literature with the practiced analytical eye—and the literary codes—of a college professor. What does it mean when a protagonist is traveling along a dusty road? When he hands a drink to his companion? When he's drenched in a sudden rain shower? Thomas C. Foster provides answers to these questions as he explores every aspect of fiction, from major themes to literary models, narrative devices, and form. Offering a broad overview of literature—a world where a road leads to a quest, a shared meal may signify a communion, and rain, whether cleansing or destructive, is never just a shower—he shows us how to make our reading experience more intellectually satisfying and fun. The world, and curricula, have changed. This third edition has been thoroughly revised to reflect those changes, and features new chapters, a new preface and epilogue, as well as fresh teaching points Foster has developed over the past decade. Foster updates the books he discusses to include more diverse, inclusive, and modern works, such as Angie Thomas's *The Hate U Give*; Emily St. John Mandel's *Station Eleven*; Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere*; Elizabeth Acevedo's *The Poet X*; Helen Oyeyemi's *Mr. Fox and Boy*, *Snow, Bird*; Sandra Cisneros's *The House on Mango Street*; Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*; Maggie O'Farrell's *Hamnet*; Madeline Miller's *Circe*; Pat Barker's *The Silence of the Girls*; and Tahereh Mafi's *A Very Large Expanse of Sea*.

the gift of the magi answers key: Henle Latin Second Year Robert J. Henle, 2012-12-31 The backbone of *Henle Latin Second Year* is intensive language study, including review of the first year plus new materials. Separated into four parts, *Henle Latin Second Year* includes readings from Caesar's *Commentaries*, extensive exercises, and Latin-English vocabularies. Humanistic insight and linguistic training are the goals of the *Henle Latin Series* from Loyola Press, an integrated four-year Latin course. Time-tested and teacher endorsed, this comprehensive program is designed to lead the student systematically through the fundamentals of the language itself and on to an appreciation of selected classic texts.

the gift of the magi answers key: VLDD ENGLISH Practice Workbook Dr. Sakshi, 2023-11-09 Welcome to the *English Veterinary* book, a comprehensive resource that bridges the gap between veterinary medicine and English language proficiency. This book is a unique endeavor, combining two distinct disciplines to meet the growing need for effective communication within the field of veterinary science. In today's globalized world, veterinary professionals often find themselves working in multicultural environments, collaborating with colleagues and clients from diverse linguistic backgrounds. Effective communication is essential in providing optimal care for animal patients and ensuring clear understanding between veterinarians, clients, and support staff. The *English Veterinary* book is specifically designed to equip veterinary professionals with the language skills necessary to excel in their field. By focusing on the specific language needs of veterinary professionals, this book aims to enhance communication and facilitate better outcomes for animal patients. Throughout the pages of this book, you will find practical exercises, specialized vocabulary, and authentic veterinary scenarios that simulate real-life interactions. These exercises will help you develop your listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English, while also deepening your understanding of veterinary concepts and terminology.

the gift of the magi answers key: From Emperor to Citizen Aisin-Gioro Pu Yi, Emperor of China Ch'ing Hs'uan-Tung, 1980-03-01

the gift of the magi answers key: Lamb to the Slaughter (A Roald Dahl Short Story) Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13 *Lamb to the Slaughter* is a short, sharp, chilling story from Roald Dahl, the master of the shocking tale. In *Lamb to the Slaughter*, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a twisted story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a wife serves up a dish that utterly baffles the police . . . *Lamb to the Slaughter* is taken from the short story collection *Someone Like You*, which includes seventeen other devious and shocking stories, featuring the two men who make an unusual and chilling wager over the provenance of a bottle of wine; a curious machine that reveals the horrifying truth about plants; the man waiting to be bitten by the venomous snake asleep on his stomach; and others. 'The absolute master of the twist in the tale.' (Observer)

This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Juliet Stevenson. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

the gift of the magi answers key: Resources in Education , 1995

the gift of the magi answers key: *How to Read a Poem* Terry Eagleton, 2011-12-15 Lucid, entertaining and full of insight, *How To Read A Poem* is designed to banish the intimidation that too often attends the subject of poetry, and in doing so to bring it into the personal possession of the students and the general reader. Offers a detailed examination of poetic form and its relation to content. Takes a wide range of poems from the Renaissance to the present day and submits them to brilliantly illuminating close analysis. Discusses the work of major poets, including John Milton, Alexander Pope, John Keats, Christina Rossetti, Emily Dickinson, W.B. Yeats, Robert Frost, W.H. Auden, Seamus Heaney, Derek Mahon, and many more. Includes a helpful glossary of poetic terms.

the gift of the magi answers key: Born of a Woman John Shelby Spong, 2009-03-17 John Shelby Spong, bestselling author and Episcopal bishop of Newark, NJ, challenges the doctrine of the virgin birth, tracing its development in the early Christian church and revealing its legacy in our contemporary attitudes toward women and female sexuality.

the gift of the magi answers key: Great Explorers Stewart Ross, 2013-12 From Pytheas the Greek, who sailed to the Arctic Circle without a compass, to Neil Armstrong landing on the moon, here are 14 extraordinary journeys by land, sea and air - each remarkable for the way it was made, for the technology behind it, and for the inspiration it gave to future generations. Storytelling, fold-out cross sections, detailed maps and technical drawings enable readers to experience the excitement of exploration.

the gift of the magi answers key: Journey of The Magi Paul William Roberts, 2006-06-30 Who were the Magi and why did they travel hundreds of miles to worship a newborn child? These are mysteries that have endured and remained unsolved for centuries, in part because nativity accounts and descriptions of the Magi vary dramatically - from the Bible itself to the Arabic Nativity Gospel. Intrigued by Marco Polo's claim to have visited the tomb of the Magi in a 'castle of fire-worshippers', Paul William Roberts here travels to Iran and traces the Magi's legendary journey overland to Bethlehem, through Iran, Iraq, Syria and Jordan. In the course of his extraordinary adventure, Roberts encounters a diverse cast of characters, from fearless smugglers to serene Zoroastrian priests, and chases clues from Marco Polo's *Travels* and the *Dead Sea Scrolls* to the legends of King Solomon and the Crusader Knights.--BOOK JACKET.

the gift of the magi answers key: Revelation of the Magi Brent Landau, 2010-11-02 Each Christmas, adults and children alike delight at the story of the kings from the East who followed the star to Bethlehem to offer gifts to the newborn Christ. While this familiar tale is recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, another little-known version later emerged that claimed to be the eyewitness account of the wise men. This ancient manuscript has lain hidden for centuries in the vaults of the Vatican Library, but through the determined persistence of a young scholar, Brent Landau, this astonishing discovery has been translated into English for the very first time as the *Revelation of the Magi*. Everything we know about the wise men is based on only a few verses from the Bible. With the *Revelation of the Magi*, we can now read the story from the Magi's perspective. Readers will learn of the Magi's prophecies of God's incarnation from the beginning of time, their startling visitation in the form of a star, the teachings they receive from the baby Jesus, and the wise men's joyous return to their homeland to spread the good news. This ancient version of the Christmas story is guaranteed to astonish and delight. It will also raise larger questions of the significance and meaning of Christ's birth, and the mission to spread the good news to every corner of the globe. All the drama and intrigue of the brief description of Jesus's birth in the Bible is filled out in greater,

more colorful detail, offering for the first time the complete story of these beloved characters.

the gift of the magi answers key: Rogue Wave Theodore Taylor, 1998 The award-winning author of *The Cay* presents eight gripping stories of adventure at sea, including the tale of a teenager who fights to survive after a thundering wave leaves her trapped in an overturned boat. Reprint.

the gift of the magi answers key: Max the Mighty Rodman Philbrick, 2013-06-25 A companion to Newbery Honor winning author Rodman Philbrick's *Freak the Mighty*. This is the dramatic, heart-wrenching tale of Max and Worm, two outsiders who turn to each other for survival. Meet Maxwell Kane, the brooding giant-of-a-boy who escaped from his basement hiding place and faced the real world in *FREAK THE MIGHTY*. Still grieving over the loss of his best friend, Kevin, Max finds himself defending a young, solitary girl cruelly nicknamed Worm because she loves to read so much. When Max gets blamed for a horrific crime, he and Worm are forced to run for their lives. They flee across America -- hunted by the police, and pursued by the mysterious man known as the Undertaker. The only way they can survive is to confront Worm's darkest and most revealing secret. And that means facing something more frightening than death itself.

the gift of the magi answers key: The Gift of Scripture Catholic Church. Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, Catholic Church. Bishops' Conference of Scotland, 2015-01

the gift of the magi answers key: The Baby Party F. Scott Fitzgerald, 2018-11-28 The Baby Party (+Biography and Bibliography) (6X9po Glossy Cover Finish): When John Andros felt old he found solace in the thought of life continuing through his child. The dark trumpets of oblivion were less loud at the patter of his child's feet or at the sound of his child's voice babbling mad non sequiturs to him over the telephone. The latter incident occurred every afternoon at three when his wife called the office from the country, and he came to look forward to it as one of the vivid minutes of his day. He was not physically old, but his life had been a series of struggles up a series of rugged hills, and here at thirty-eight having won his battles against ill-health and poverty he cherished less than the usual number of illusions. Even his feeling about his little girl was qualified. She had interrupted his rather intense love-affair with his wife, and she was the reason for their living in a suburban town, where they paid for country air with endless servant troubles and the weary merry-go-round of the commuting train. It was little Ede as a definite piece of youth that chiefly interested him. He liked to take her on his lap and examine minutely her fragrant, downy scalp and her eyes with their irises of morning blue. Having paid this homage John was content that the nurse should take her away. After ten minutes the very vitality of the child irritated him; he was inclined to lose his temper when things were broken, and one Sunday afternoon when she had disrupted a bridge game by permanently hiding up the ace of spades, he had made a scene that had reduced his wife to tears

the gift of the magi answers key: Chaparral Christmas Gift O. Henry, 2022-03-29 It possessed a quantity of jet-black hair, a pair of extremely frank, deep-brown eyes and a laugh that rippled across the prairie like the sound of a hidden brook. The name of it was Rosita McMullen... Though Rosita has many suitors, she ultimately chooses the young cattleman Madison Lane and the two are wed on Christmas Day. Rejected lover Jonny McRoy crashes the wedding and fires off his handgun yelling, I'll give you a Christmas present! But luckily he is deterred by the armed guests. It's only a matter of time, however, until Christmas time comes around once more and it's McRoy's turn to bring presents... American short story master O. Henry is best known for his pithy, witty scores and surprise endings. In doing so he made commonplace experiences extraordinary and memorable. His work has been immortalised in the popular 1952 film 'O. Henry's Full House' starring Fred Allen, Anne Baxter, Marilyn Monroe and Jeanne Crain. William Sidney Porter (1862-1919), known simply as O. Henry, was a prolific American author of humorous literary pieces. His fame came exceptionally quickly and he became a bestselling author of short story collections. Perhaps the most famous of these are, 'Cabbages and Kings,' 'The Voice of the City' and 'Strictly Business.' The immensity of O. Henry's impact on the American short story genre for time to come is evidenced by the fact that an annual award in his name is given out each year in the United States.

O. Henry's work is a must read for fans of Hemingway, Guy de Maupassant and Anton Chekhov.

the gift of the magi answers key: Magi Astrology Magi Society, 1999 This fascinating book will teach readers how to apply the secrets of Chinese and Western astrology to the areas of love and finance. Find out how to plan a wedding date, make timely investments, and more!

the gift of the magi answers key: Modes of Discourse Carlota S. Smith, 2003-04-17 In studying discourse, the problem for the linguist is to find a fruitful level of analysis. Carlota Smith offers a new approach with this study of discourse passages, units of several sentences or more. She introduces the key idea of the 'Discourse Mode', identifying five modes: Narrative, Description, Report, Information, Argument. These are realized at the level of the passage, and cut across genre lines. Smith shows that the modes, intuitively recognizable as distinct, have linguistic correlates that differentiate them. She analyzes the properties that distinguish each mode, focusing on grammatical rather than lexical information. The book also examines linguistically based features that appear in passages of all five modes: topic and focus, variation in syntactic structure, and subjectivity, or point of view. Operating at the interface of syntax, semantics, and pragmatics, the book will appeal to researchers and graduate students in linguistics, stylistics and rhetoric.

the gift of the magi answers key: High School Reading Comprehension Jonathan D. Kantrowitz, Sarah M. Williams, Patricia F. Braccio, 2014-04 This extraordinary reading comprehension workbook provides extensive practice for the essential skills of critical thinking and literary analysis at the high school level. Students will read a variety of passages and respond to multiple-choice and open-ended questions in the areas of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Students will learn to master selecting and applying the appropriate reading strategies to best understand and examine reading passages. Skills covered include analyzing conflict, plot, and setting; interpreting the main idea; making inferences; drawing conclusions; evaluating the author's craft and style; identifying mood and tone; and analyzing figurative language. Also great for home schooling!

the gift of the magi answers key: Daily Comprehension: September ,

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