The Age of Innocence

1 Who said this in the story? Countess Ellen Olenska, Dallas Archer, May Welland, Mrs Manson Mingott, Newland Archer.

a ‘Do we have to do things the way everyone else does? Can’t you and I be different, May?’ ...........
b ‘Oh, did I tell you that I showed Ellen my ring? She thinks it’s the most beautiful one she ever saw . . .’ ...........
c ‘I had nothing to fear from that letter, absolutely nothing! All I feared was to bring scandal on the family, on you and May.’ .............
d ‘You were Beaufort’s wife when he covered you with jewels, and you’ll have to stay Beaufort’s wife now that he’s covered you with dirt.’ .............
e ‘No, you never did ask each other anything, did you? You just sat and watched each other, and guessed at what was going on underneath.’ .............

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

a ___ In New York society in the 1870s there are a lot of rules.
b ___ Newland Archer first sees Countess Ellen Olenska at a party.
c ___ May Welland is Ellen’s cousin.
d ___ Ellen has divorced her Polish husband.
e ___ The van der Luydens save Ellen from problems in New York society.
f ___ Newland has meetings with Ellen and he sends her flowers.
g ___ Newland wants to marry May in the distant future.
h ___ Newland explains to May about his love for Ellen.
i ___ May knew about Newland’s feelings for Ellen.
j ___ At the end, Newland sees Ellen again after many years.

3 Put the following events in the story in the right order. Number them 1–5.

a ___ Newland follows Ellen to the van der Luydens’ country house.
b ___ Ellen returns to Europe.
c ___ Newland and May get married.
d ___ The Mingotts introduce Ellen Olenska into New York society.
e ___ Newland visits Ellen alone at her home in an unfashionable area.

4 Who in the story . . .?

Count Olenski, Dallas Archer, Ellen Olenska, Henry van der Luyden, Janey Archer, Julius Beaufort, May Welland, Monsieur Rivière, Mrs Struthers, Newland Archer.

a . . . is new to New York and doesn’t understand the rules of society? ...........
b . . . gives Ellen Olenska advice about her divorce? ...........
c . . . goes to Florida with her family? ............
d . . . loses all his money? ............
e . . . is a woman with a bad name in New York society? ............
f . . . is a rich and influential man with a house in the country? ............
g . . . worked as Count Olenski’s secretary? ............
h . . . is married to Ellen Olenska? ............
i . . . is Newland’s sister who still lives at home? ............
j . . . takes his father on a special trip? ............

5 Write a brief description of fashionable New York society in the 1870s.

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20 marks

Total marks
### Setting

Choose the best answer.

1. *The Age of Innocence* is set in ____.
   - a New Orleans  b New York  c Boston  d Washington
2. The book is about fashionable society in the ____.
   - a 1670s  b 1780s  c 1820s  d 1870s
3. Fashionable society is a world full of ____.
   - a free thinking  b open ideas  c fixed rules  d honest opinions
4. Ellen Olenska lived for many years in ____.
   - a Europe  b South America  c South Africa  d Australia
5. Ellen Olenska is married to a ____ Count.
   - a German  b French  c Polish  d Russian
6. Newland Archer first sees Ellen Olenska at ____.
   - a a party  b a restaurant  c the theatre  d the opera
7. Newland Archer works for a ____.
   - a a law firm  b a travel firm  c a bank  d a theatre
8. May goes away with her family for a month to ____.
   - a Georgia  b Virginia  c California  d Florida
9. At Highbank, Ellen and Newland meet in ____ called the Patroon’s house.
   - a an ancient stone house  b a modern wooden house  c a large tree house  d a quiet restaurant
10. Many years later Newland Archer visits ____.
    - a London  b Paris  c Berlin  d Venice

### Characters

Choose the best answer.

11. May Welland is a young woman from a good family who likes to ____ the rules of society.
    - a laugh at  b break  c obey  d forget
12. ____ has an unhappy and troubled past.
    - a Ellen Olenska  b May Welland  c Janey Archer  d Sophy Jackson
13. ____ is a fashionable man who understands the rules of New York society.
    - a Henry van der Luyden  b Julius Beaufort  c Newland Archer  d Monsieur Rivière
14. Ellen Olenska sits in ____ box at the opera.
    - a Mrs Mingott’s  b Count Olenski’s  c Janey Archer’s  d Newland Archer’s
15. ____ is very rich and has famous parties at her house with her husband.
    - a May Welland  b Regina Beaufort  c Janey Archer  d Adeline Archer
16. ____ show New York society that it is all right to invite Ellen Olenska to parties.
    - a The Carfrys  b The Jacksons  c The Archers  d The van der Luydens
17. ____ has a lot of debts and his business fails.
    - a Newland Archer  b Silverton Jackson  c Julius Beaufort  d Count Olenski
18. Ellen Olenska’s family don’t want her to ____.
    - a go away  b move to Europe  c meet Newland Archer  d get a divorce
19. ____ is Count Olenski’s secretary.
    - a The Duke of St Austrey  b Monsieur Rivière  c Mr Letterblair  d Julius Beaufort
20. Before he gets married ____ takes his father away on a trip.
    - a Newland Archer  b Dallas Archer  c Julius Beaufort  d Lawrence Lefferts

### Dialogue

Who said or wrote this?

21. ‘I didn’t think the Mingotts would have attempted that.’
    - a Sillerton Jackson  b Julius Beaufort  c Henry van der Luyden  d Newland Archer
22. ‘That’s why I came home. I want to forget everything in my recent past…’
    - a Janey Archer  b Mrs Lovell Mingott  c Ellen Olenska  d Mrs Lemuel Struthers
23. ‘May needs twelve sets of everything, and every piece must be sewn by hand …’
    - a Louisa van der Luyden  b Mrs Welland  c Ellen Olenska  d Adeline Archer
24. ‘The real loneliness is living among all these kind people who only ask me to pretend!’
    - a May Welland  b Medora Manson  c Ellen Olenska  d Janey Archer
25. ‘But you are the woman I would have married if it had been possible.’
    - a the Duke of St Austrey  b Henry van der Luyden  c Julius Beaufort  d Newland Archer
26 ‘I know you intend to see Ellen when you’re in Washington…’
   a □ May Welland  b □ Janey Archer  c □ Regina Beaufort  d □ Louisa van der Luyden
27 ‘Her life with him now would be unbearable. I worked for the Count for many years, but I promise you, I shall never work for him again!’
   a □ Sillerton Jackson  b □ Mr Lovell Mingott  c □ Monsieur Rivière  d □ Lawrence Lefferts
28 ‘Is it your idea, then, that I should live with you as your mistress, since I can’t be your wife?’
   a □ May Welland  b □ Sophy Jackson  c □ Regina Beaufort  d □ Ellen Olenska
29 ‘Why – she’s going back to Europe. Grandmother agrees, and has arranged to make her independent of her husband.’
   a □ May Welland  b □ Louisa van der Luyden  c □ Regina Beaufort  d □ Janey Archer
30 ‘I say, Father, what was she like? Confess — you and she were great friends, weren’t you? Wasn’t she awfully lovely?’
   a □ Newland Archer  b □ Dallas Archer  c □ Julius Beaufort  d □ Sillerton Jackson

Vocabulary
Choose the best answer.
31 when a person is very clever or successful
   a □ basic  b □ bald  c □ brilliant  d □ busy
32 a man on his wedding day
   a □ bridegroom  b □ best man  c □ bride  d □ bridesmaid
33 behaviour or events that people think are bad and shocking
   a □ wedding  b □ scandal  c □ success  d □ victory
34 metal or wooden covers for windows, to keep out the heat and light
   a □ shutters  b □ curtains  c □ tiles  d □ doors
35 to think that someone or something is bad or wrong
   a □ respect  b □ admire  c □ approve  d □ disapprove
36 when someone is evil or of bad character
   a □ willing  b □ wicked  c □ worried  d □ wonderful
37 to become red in the face; especially when you feel embarrassed
   a □ bruise  b □ breathe  c □ blush  d □ brush
38 thin pieces of coloured material that are worn on a woman’s dress or hair
   a □ rings  b □ skirts  c □ sheets  d □ ribbons
39 a company or business
   a □ farm  b □ firm  c □ field  d □ fortune
40 to have a very good opinion of a person because of their positive qualities
   a □ embarrass  b □ hate  c □ respect  d □ disappoint

Plot
Choose the best answer.
41 Newland Archer becomes engaged to _____.
   a □ May Welland  b □ Ellen Olenska  c □ Regina Beaufort  d □ Sophy Jackson
42 Newland Archer also feels attracted to the beautiful _____.
   a □ May Welland  b □ Ellen Olenska  c □ Medora Manson  d □ Mrs Lemuel Strutters
43 Newland Archer is worried about his fiancée because she likes to _____.
   a □ spend money  b □ travel a lot  c □ follow rules  d □ have dangerous friends
44 Newland Archer learns more about Ellen Olenska when he helps with her _____.
   a □ divorce  b □ books  c □ house  d □ studies
45 Julius Beaufort starts to _____ Ellen Olenska.
   a □ beat  b □ warn  c □ rob  d □ chase
46 Newland Archer wants to marry May Welland _____.
   a □ as soon as possible  b □ in two years  c □ in three years  d □ in five years
47 When Ellen runs away, Newland _____ to the van der Luyden’s house.
   a □ drives her  b □ walks with her  c □ follows her  d □ sends her
48 Newland Archer _____ May Welland.
   a □ kills  b □ marries  c □ leaves  d □ divorces
49 May Welland _____ Newland and Ellen.
   a □ knew all about  b □ didn’t know about  c □ hated  d □ tried to kill
50 At the end, Newland Archer decides to _____ Ellen Olenska.
   a □ meet  b □ marry  c □ phone  d □ walk away from