1. Number the events in the correct chronological order as portrayed in the film.
   1. \_\_ Lady Chiltern asks her husband to write to Mrs Cheveley.
   2. \_\_ Lord Goring says he will marry Mrs Cheveley if Sir Robert supports the fraudulent Argentine Canal plan in parliament.
   3. \_\_ Mrs Cheveley tells Sir Robert that she knows about the letter.
   4. \_\_ Sir Robert gives Lord Goring permission to marry Miss Mabel.
   5. \_\_ Mrs Cheveley steals the letter from Lady Chiltern to Lord Goring.
   6. \_\_ Sir Robert explains to Lord Goring about the government secret.
   7. \_\_ Lord Goring receives a letter from Lady Chiltern.
   8. \_\_ Lord Goring asks Mabel to marry him and she accepts.
   9. \_\_ Mrs Cheveley tells Lady Chiltern about her husband’s dishonesty.
2. Insert the appropriate character name to complete each sentence.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lord Caversham  1. | Lord Goring  2. | Sir Robert Chiltern  3. | Lady Chiltern  4. |
| Miss Mabel  5. | Mrs Cheveley  6. | Lady Markby  7. | Baron Arnheim  8. |

* 1. \_\_ seemed to live only for fun, but could be serious when his friends needed help.
  2. \_\_ took Mrs Cheveley to the Chilterns’ party.
  3. \_\_ wanted to be a real wife to her future husband.
  4. \_\_ was afraid of losing his wife’s love.
  5. \_\_ made seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds.
  6. \_\_ thought she could help her husband by forgiving him.
  7. \_\_ didn’t mind having a bad husband.

1. Insert the appropriate character name to complete each sentence.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| sum  1. | defend  2. | sick  3. | badly  4. |
| speech  5. | handwriting  6. | charming  7. | heartless  8. |

* 1. Lord Caversham never goes anywhere because he is \_\_ of London Society.
  2. Mrs Cheveley heard that Sir Robert’s paintings were \_\_.
  3. Sir Robert offered to give Mrs Cheveley any \_\_ of money she wanted.
  4. Lady Chiltern believed that power was not good if you used it \_\_.
  5. Lord Caversham believed that his son was \_\_.
  6. Mrs Cheveley knew that the \_\_ on the letter was Lady Chiltern’s.

1. A number of themes were present in the film. For each theme discuss the following questions in small groups and report back to the class:
   1. **MARRIAGE**
      1. At the end of the film Lord Goring warns Lady Gertrude that she is risking the loss of her husband's affection if she insists that he give up his career in order to keep her love. What did Lord Goring mean by this? What does this scene say to us about the meaning and the limits of love?
      2. Should husbands and wives expect and demand perfection from each other? What are the limits of the forgiveness between spouses?
   2. **FRIENDSHIP**
      1. Lord Goring is a true friend to both the Chilterns. Identify the ways in which he demonstrated this friendship.
      2. If you had a friend who committed a crime, should that affect your friendship?
   3. **REDEMPTION**
      1. What steps should Sir Robert have taken to redeem himself fully? Should he have given up his ill-gotten gains? Should he have given up his seat in Parliament?
      2. How would you feel about Sir Robert as a public official if he retained his wealth and position but, after the speech in Parliament, or perhaps in the speech, he went public with the entire situation, including his own past, the attempt to blackmail him and his refusal to give a false report to Parliament?
   4. **TRUSTWORTHINESS**
      1. Should Sir Robert have simply given in to Mrs Cheveley's demands, accepted her money, and supported the Argentine Canal project?
      2. Sir Robert knew that information was power. He thought that Baron Arnheim would keep their secret in order to avoid exposing his own role in the affair. Sir Robert didn't count on the Baron giving the secret and Sir Robert’s letter to a friend as a deathbed gift. What does this tell us about "honour among thieves"?
   5. **RESPONSIBILITY**
      1. Do you think that Sir Robert was held accountable for his actions at the conclusion of this film or did you feel that he got off lightly?
   6. **CARING**
      1. Should Sir Robert have been forgiven by Lady Chiltern? By his friend Lord Goring? By Mrs Cheveley? By the electorate (if he had disclosed his crime)? By the government (if he had disclosed his crime)? Should different standards be used by each of the above in deciding whether or not to forgive Sir Robert?
      2. Do you think Lady Gertrude was influenced by a desire to maintain her position in society when she decided to be magnanimous and forgive her husband?
2. Oscar Wilde was known for his use of witticisms which were not only entertaining but also contained wisdom. Do you think any of his witticisms are still relevant now in the 21st century?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WITTICISM** | **RELEVANT NOW?**  **(YES/NO)** |
| * In the old days, we had the rack. Now we have the press. |  |
| * Wonderful woman, Lady Markby, isn't she? Talks more and says less than anybody I ever met. |  |
| * Scandals used to lend charm or interest to a man. Nowadays, they crush him. |  |
| * Even you are not rich enough, Sir Robert, to buy back your past. No man is. |  |
| * Morality is simply the attitude we adopt toward people we dislike. |  |
| * Fashion is what one wears oneself. What is unfashionable is what other people wear. |  |
| * To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance. |  |
| * I love talking about nothing .... It is the only thing that I know anything about. |  |
| * I always pass on good advice. It is the only thing to do with it. It is never of any use to oneself. |  |
| * When one pays a visit it is for the purpose of wasting other people's time, not one's own. |  |