

Questions for Reflection
***Trifles* by Susan Glaspell**

Directions: Answer each of the following questions in complete sentences on a separate sheet of lined paper.

1. What does Glaspell show us about the position of women in this early 20th century community? What details in the text support this claim?
2. What do we learn about the married life of the Wrights? By what means is this knowledge revealed to us? Look for particular details in the text.
3. What is the setting of this play, and how does it help us to understand Mrs. Wright's deed? What details in particular seem most relevant to her character development and her motivation.
4. How is Mr. Wright characterized in this play? According to Mrs. Peters description of him, people in town call Mr. Wright "a good man." What is "a good man" according to this society? What is "a good woman"?
5. List three possible themes that come out of this play. Be sure to write each as a complete sentence in universal language (no characters' names).
6. "*Trifles* is a lousy mystery. All the action took place before the curtain went up. Almost in the beginning we find out 'who done it,' so there isn't really much reason for us to sit through the rest of the play." Discuss this view and respond to it.

**Some questions taken from the AP Edition of *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, Drama, and Writing*.