

## IMPORTANT PASSAGES

Choose 3 of the following quotations to respond to on your blog. You must relate the passage to the larger context of Act I and comment on its connection with one of the emerging themes/issues of the play (e.g. gender, identity, social class and money, morality, inheritance, disease).

1. **HELMER.** That is like a woman! But seriously, Nora, you know what I think about that. No debt, no borrowing. There can be no freedom or beauty about a home life that depends on borrowing and debt. We two have kept bravely on the straight road so far, and we will go on the same way for the short time longer that there need be any struggle.
2. **HELMER.** You are an odd little soul. Very like your father. You always find some new way of wheedling money out of me, and, as soon as you have got it, it seems to melt in your hands. You never know where it has gone. Still, one must take you as you are. It is in the blood; for indeed it is true that you can inherit these things, Nora. **What "things" can you inherit? What has Nora inherited from her father?**
3. **HELMER.** It is splendid to feel that one has a perfectly safe appointment, and a big enough income. It's delightful to think of, isn't it? **What does this passage reveal about Nora and Helmer's social class?**
4. **MRS. LINDE.** It is you that must not be angry with me, dear. The worst of a position like mine is that it makes one so bitter. No one to work for, and yet obliged to be always on the lookout for chances. One must live, and so one becomes selfish. When you told me of the happy turn your fortunes have taken-you will hardly believe it-I was delighted not so much on your account as on my own. How has Mrs. Linde's social class influenced her outlook on life? Why is she happy "on her account," instead of being happy for Nora and Torvald unselfishly?
5. **NORA.** You are just like the others. They all think that I am incapable of anything really serious.
6. **NORA.** I didn't know this-what's his name-Krogstad had anything to do with the Bank.  
**RANK.** Yes, he has some sort of appointment there. (To Mrs. LINDE.) I don't know whether you find also in your part of the world that there are certain people who go zealously snuffing about to smell out moral corruption, and, as soon as they have found some, put the person concerned into some lucrative position where they can keep their eye on him. Healthy natures are left out in the cold.  
**MRS. LINDE.** Still I think the sick are those who most need taking care of.  
**RANK** (shrugging his shoulders). Yes, there you are. That is the sentiment that is turning Society into a sick-house.
7. **KROGSTAD.** The law cares nothing about motives.  
**NORA.** Then it must be a very foolish law.  
**KROGSTAD.** Foolish or not, it is the law by which you will be judged, if I produce this paper in court.
8. **HELMER.** Just think how a guilty man like that has to lie and play the hypocrite with every one, how he has to wear a mask in the presence of those near and dear to him, even before his own wife and children. And about the children- that is the most terrible part of it all, Nora.  
**NORA.** How?  
**HELMER.** Because such an atmosphere of lies infects and poisons the whole life of a home. Each breath the children take in such a house is full of the germs of evil. [...] It seems most commonly to be the mother's influence, though naturally a bad father's would have the same result. Every lawyer is familiar with the fact. This Krogstad, now, has been persistently poisoning his own children with lies and dissimulation; that is why I say he has lost all moral char