

Name - _____

Start time - __ : __

End time - __ : __

Read the following excerpt from a play carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Excerpt from the Play "The Masked Truth"

Alice: A renowned psychologist, calm and composed.

Elijah: A troubled young man, seeking answers.

(Scene: Alice's office. Alice and Elijah sit across from each other, engaged in a therapy session.)

Alice: (gentle) Elijah, we've been talking about your dreams and the masks you see in them. Can you describe the masks in more detail?

Elijah: (nervous) They're haunting, Doctor. Distorted faces, twisted smiles. They terrify me. But there's one mask, just one, that seems different. It's sad, almost sympathetic.

Alice: (curious) Interesting. Masks often represent hidden aspects of ourselves. The sad mask might signify an emotion you're suppressing. Let's explore that. What could it be?

Elijah: (hesitant) I've lost someone, someone I loved deeply. The sadness, it feels like it's my own. But the twisted masks... I don't recognize them.

Alice: (compassionate) Grief can manifest in strange ways, Elijah. Your mind might be processing your loss through these symbols. We need to delve deeper to understand the twisted masks. What emotions do you associate with them?

Elijah: (thoughtful) Anger, confusion, fear. It's like they represent the chaos inside me, the things I can't make sense of.

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Questions:

1. Analyze Alice's approach to the therapy session. How does she create a safe environment for Elijah to express his fears and emotions?
2. Discuss the symbolism of the masks in Elijah's dreams. How might the sad mask represent his suppressed emotions, and what could the twisted masks symbolize?
3. Explore the theme of grief in the play. How does Elijah's grief influence his dreams and his perception of the masks? What psychological concepts could be related to his experience?
4. Predict how Alice might help Elijah confront his emotions in the next session. What therapeutic techniques could she use to guide him through understanding the twisted masks?
5. Consider the title of the play, "The Masked Truth." Reflect on what the "masked truth" might signify in the context of Elijah's dreams and emotions. How does this theme add depth to the narrative?
6. Imagine a monologue from Elijah's perspective. What might he say about his dreams and the masks, expressing his innermost thoughts and fears?