

Name - _____

Start time - __ : __

End time - __ : __

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

Excerpt from the Play "Behind Closed Curtains"

Eva: A brilliant detective investigating a mysterious murder.

Daniel: An enigmatic theater director, the prime suspect in the murder case.

(Scene: Eva's office. Eva and Daniel are sitting across from each other, engaged in a conversation.)

Eva: (intently) Mr. Daniel, eyewitnesses claim they saw you near the crime scene last night. Care to explain your presence there?

Daniel: (calmly) Detective, life is a play, and we all have roles to play. I was merely a spectator, watching the drama unfold in the streets. The real question is, who wrote this sinister plot?

Eva: (skeptical) Your metaphor is poetic, Mr. Daniel, but we deal in facts here. Tell me, why would someone cast you as the lead in this tragedy?

Daniel: (smirking) Ah, detective, the allure of the enigmatic protagonist. People love a good mystery, and I provide the intrigue they crave. But rest assured, my story is yet to unravel completely.

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Questions:

1. Analyze Daniel's metaphor comparing life to a play. What does this metaphor suggest about his perspective on the events unfolding around him?
2. Explain the significance of the phrase "life is a play" in the context of Daniel's character. How does this idea reflect his approach to life and perhaps his involvement in the murder case?
3. What might Daniel imply by saying, "I provide the intrigue they crave"? How does this statement shed light on his character's motivations and personality?
4. Discuss the theme of perception versus reality in the play. How does Daniel's statement, "we all have roles to play," relate to this theme?
5. Predict how Eva might challenge Daniel's metaphorical language to extract concrete information about the murder case. What tactics might she use to break through his poetic facade?
6. Imagine a continuation of the scene. How might the power dynamic between Eva and Daniel shift as they continue their conversation? What revelations might come to light?
7. If you were to stage this scene, how would you instruct the actors to convey the tension and mystery underlying the dialogue between Eva and Daniel?