

Name - _____

Start time - __ : __

End time - __ : __

Read the following passage from a 19th-century novel and answer the questions that follow.

Excerpt: From "Anna Karenina" by Leo Tolstoy

Vronsky had never taken his eyes off her from the instant she had entered, and he saw all details of her attire, he saw that she was dressed in the very gown she had worn at the ball; he saw her in her outspread cloak, with a bright sparkle of her white shoulders, saw the brilliant diamonds of her hair, saw that that hair was done in the same way, saw the exact curve of her lips, the same smile, and the same eyes. She was not the same as she had been at the ball, nor was she the same as she had been in the morning. She was quite, quite different from either. She was exaggerating the line of her lips, and the expression of her eyes was peculiarly (and that is why Vronsky took notice of it) defiant. He looked at her as a man looks at a faded flower he has gathered, with difficulty recognizing in it the beauty for which he picked and ruined it. And in spite of this he felt that then, precisely at this moment when the one hand with which she clutched her fan convulsively was more capable of crushing the lace of her fan than of keeping hold of the fan, she was more tender and would be more pliable than ever.

Questions:

1. Analyze Vronsky's perception of Anna in this passage. How does he observe her physical appearance, and what emotional nuances does he perceive? What does his observation reveal about his feelings for her?

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2. Consider the symbolism of the faded flower in this passage. How does this imagery reflect Anna's current state and her relationship with Vronsky? What deeper meanings might this symbolism convey about love and desire?
3. Reflect on Anna's transformation as described in the passage. How has she changed from the earlier instances mentioned in the text? What might be the reasons for her current demeanor, and how does this reflect her character development?
4. Discuss the impact of the third-person omniscient narrative style in this passage. How does the narrative perspective provide insight into both Vronsky's and Anna's thoughts and emotions? How does it enhance the reader's understanding of their relationship dynamics?
5. Identify any literary devices used in the passage, such as imagery, metaphor, or simile. How do these devices enhance the reader's sensory experience and emotional connection to the characters?
6. Consider the thematic elements in the passage, such as love, desire, and disillusionment. How are these themes explored through the characters' thoughts and actions? How do the themes contribute to the overall narrative of the novel?