

Ibsen's *A Doll's House* Act I: Prompts

Students should write to respond to each of the following prompts in complete sentences, analyzing evidence from the text.

1. To what extent does Ibsen provide or forgo resolution at the end of Act I? What conflicts bridge to act II?
2. How and why does Ibsen contrast masculinity and femininity at the beginning of the play?
3. The juxtaposition of Dr. Rank and Mrs. Linde's entrances at the beginning of the play (they enter together) suggests that there is something similar about the two. Compare and contrast their significance and portrayal.
4. Explain an example of dramatic irony in Act I.
5. Who said this? To whom? Analyze the significance of this quote from Act I--
  - "To be able to be free from care, quite free from care; to be able to play and romp with the children; to be able to keep the house beautifully and have everything just as Torvald likes it!" (Act I)