

Name _____ Date _____

British Literature

A Cup of Tea Response and Analysis



Part I

Read and annotate “the author’s biography”-write a one –sentence summary of each paragraph.

Read and annotate the story by providing evidence of your thought process as you read, using words, phrases, and/or symbols and pictures.

Part II

Answer the following questions in a **separate piece of paper** following response to literature guidelines: answer in complete statements, provide evidence of your statements through reasoning and quotes.

You may do research on your own about the author and/or the background of the poem to better answer the questions, but remember to *paraphrase* and come to your own conclusions.

1. Why does Rosemary offer to help the young girl?
2. How would you **characterize** Rosemary from her thoughts and actions? How would you describe her character traits?
3. What do Rosemary’s impressions of Curzon Street suggest about her emotional state?
4. What do Rosemary’s motives for helping the girl suggest about her character? In your opinion, is the girl right to distrust her?

5. Why, do you think, does Rosemary send Miss Smith on her way? What do you infer is her reason for telling Philip that Miss Smith had insisted on leaving?
6. In what ways is Miss Smith like the other “things” Rosemary picks up on Curzon Street? In what ways is she different?
7. Based on the story, what do you think is Mansfield’s opinion of the upper class? Provide evidence from the story.
8. Why might Mansfield used ellipses and dashes in this story? Do you find them effective?
9. By the end of the story, with whom or what might Rosemary be disillusioned? With what might Rosemary be disillusioned?
10. Do you think that many people today would take a homeless person into their home? In your experience, how do most people behave towards the homeless today?

Extended Response:

Briefly retell this story from Miss Smith’s point of view. Begin with her impression of Rosemary as she sees her exit the antique shop. Include her thoughts and feelings about the events in Rosemary’s house. Finally, consider what happens to Miss Smith and what her opinion of Rosemary might be. (Minimum three paragraphs)

Grading Rubric

Author’s biography is thoroughly annotated ___/5

Responses are complete and include the question as a statement. ___/5

Responses clearly indicate that you understood the selection. ___/10

Quotes and/or examples are used to support your answers ___/5

Grammar and spelling are grade level appropriate, with few or no errors ___/5

Extended response thorough and demonstrates a deep understanding of the story ___/5

Total ___/35