# The Gift Of The Magi Answer Key

- 9. Why does Dalla try to fix her heir? What is she womind about?
- She wants Zin, to will think she is posity. She is worried shout how he will must
- He is shocked and ellent, at first.
- 11. What does Rm say about Della's bair?
- Northing she could do would make him love her any less. He loves her no matter what she looks like
- What is ironic about the gifts that Dalla and Jim brought for one another.
   There each brought the other a removal that they are no longer use.
- What type of long does this represent? Deplate.
   Examined home they fill not except the other to sell their most orient except.
- Christone gift.
- 14. What do Della's and Jim's martisms to each other's gifts reveal about their character? That they love each other no matter what. They did not get mad. They were genteful for their gift
- and for each other.
- 6. What is O.Biony's opinion of the actions of Della and Ro.?
- More people might think they are foolists, but he tolaks they are was:

  "My does O.Henry refer to Delia, Jim, and all others like them so the "mag?"?
- They are wise like the magi because they gave gifts out of love. They were willing to sacrific

something important to them for the person they love.

# The Gift of the Magi: Answer Key and Deeper Understanding

Are you struggling to unravel the complexities of O. Henry's "The Gift of the Magi"? Do you need help understanding the symbolism, themes, and ultimate message? This comprehensive guide provides an "answer key" not just to plot points, but to the deeper meaning and literary techniques employed in this classic short story. We'll dissect the narrative, explore character analysis, delve into the symbolism, and offer insights to help you truly appreciate the enduring power of O. Henry's masterpiece. This isn't just a simple plot summary; it's a journey into the heart of one of literature's most beloved and poignant tales.

# **Understanding the Plot: A Summary and Key Events**

"The Gift of the Magi" centers on Della and Jim Dillingham Young, a young, impoverished couple desperately trying to find the perfect Christmas gift for each other. Della, heartbroken by their financial constraints, sells her prized possession – her beautiful long hair – to buy Jim a platinum fob chain for his cherished watch. Simultaneously, Jim sells his own treasured watch to purchase a set of combs for Della's gorgeous hair. Their selfless actions, undertaken with the purest love and sacrifice, ultimately lead to a poignant and bittersweet Christmas morning revelation. The irony of their actions forms the core of the story's emotional impact. Key plot points to remember include:

Della's desperation: Her frantic search for a gift and the emotional toll of her decision to sell her hair.

Jim's sacrifice: His parallel action of selling his watch highlights the reciprocal nature of their love. The climax: The simultaneous reveal of their gifts and the realization of their sacrifices.

The resolution: The poignant ending leaves the reader to contemplate the true meaning of their love and sacrifice.

# **Character Analysis: Della and Jim**

Della: Della is portrayed as a resourceful and loving wife, willing to make extreme sacrifices for her husband's happiness. Her emotional turmoil underscores the depth of her love and her desperation to provide him with a meaningful gift. Her character demonstrates resilience in the face of poverty and emphasizes the power of love to overcome material limitations.

Jim: Jim mirrors Della's devotion. His quiet strength and selfless act of selling his watch demonstrate his deep love and understanding of his wife's character. He is a practical and thoughtful character who values his wife's happiness above all else. The story subtly reveals the depth of his love through his quiet actions.

# Symbolism in "The Gift of the Magi"

The story is rich with symbolism, each element contributing to the overall theme of sacrifice and love:

The hair: Della's hair represents her beauty, pride, and femininity. Selling it symbolizes the immense sacrifice she makes for Jim.

The watch: Jim's watch is a symbol of his heritage and his connection to his family. Selling it represents his willingness to relinquish something precious for his wife's happiness.

The gifts: The gifts themselves are symbolic of their love and their misunderstanding of each other's needs. The irony lies in the fact that the gifts are now unusable due to the other's sacrifice.

The Magi: The reference to the wise men who brought gifts to the Christ child alludes to the selfless and precious nature of the couple's gifts, despite their impracticality.

## Themes: Love, Sacrifice, and Irony

The central theme of "The Gift of the Magi" is love and sacrifice. Della and Jim's actions demonstrate the immense power of their love, willing to make significant sacrifices for each other's happiness. The story also highlights the theme of irony, as their selfless acts result in a bittersweet outcome. Their sacrifices, though intended to bring joy, ultimately render their gifts unusable. This irony

emphasizes the true meaning of their love, which lies not in material possessions but in their willingness to give of themselves. This exploration of selfless love and its paradoxical nature is what makes the story so enduring.

# Conclusion: The Enduring Power of "The Gift of the Magi"

O. Henry's "The Gift of the Magi" is a timeless masterpiece that continues to resonate with readers because of its exploration of universal themes. The story's enduring power lies in its poignant portrayal of love, sacrifice, and the inherent irony of human experience. While it might not have a simple "right" answer, understanding its complexities allows us to appreciate the beauty and depth of its message. The true gift isn't the material object, but the selfless love and sacrifice behind it.

## **FAQs**

- 1. What is the main conflict in "The Gift of the Magi"? The main conflict is the couple's poverty and their desire to provide each other with meaningful Christmas gifts, leading to their self-sacrificing actions.
- 2. What is the significance of the title "The Gift of the Magi"? The title alludes to the wise men who brought gifts to the baby Jesus, suggesting that Della and Jim's gifts, though seemingly impractical, are precious offerings of love.
- 3. What is the irony in the story? The irony lies in the fact that Della and Jim both sell their most prized possessions to buy each other gifts that are now unusable due to their sacrifices.
- 4. What is the overall message of the story? The story emphasizes the true meaning of love lies not in material possessions but in the selfless acts of sacrifice and devotion between Della and Jim.
- 5. How does the setting contribute to the story's theme? The setting of poverty underscores the magnitude of Della and Jim's sacrifices, highlighting their love in the face of hardship and demonstrating that true value transcends material wealth.

the gift of the magi answer key: *The Gift of the Magi* O. Henry, 2021-12-22 The Gift of the Magi is a short story by O. Henry first published in 1905. The story tells of a young husband and wife and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been popular for adaptation, especially for presentation at Christmas time.

the gift of the magi answer key: *The Furnished Room* O. Henry, 2020-08-26 The Furnished Room is a short story about love and dedication, about exhaustion and despair. A young man is in search for a girl he fell in love with. He rents a room near the theaters where she is to be seen and he devotes his days to the dream of finding her. When all of a sudden the sweet fragrance of her perfume fills his room ... Is he finally blessed with success? Or this is an evil ghost from the past?

Will he get to embrace the girl he loves or she will drag him to the verge of sanity? William Sydney Porter, better known as O. Henry, was an American writer who lived in the late 19th century. He gains wide popularity with his short stories which often take place either in New York or some small American towns. The plot twists and the surprise endings are a typical and integral part of O. Henry's short stories. Some of his best known works are The Gift of the Magi, The Cop and the Anthem, A Retrieved Reformation. His stories often deal with ordinary people and the individual aspects of life. As a result of the outstanding literature legacy that O. Henry left behind, there is an American annual award after his name, given to exceptional short stories.

the gift of the magi answer key: O. Henry's The Gift of the Magi Peter Ekstrom, O. Henry, 1984 The Gift of the Magi is a short story, about a young married couple and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been a popular one for adaptation, especially for presentation during the Christmas season.

the gift of the magi answer key: Escape! Sid Fleischman, 2006-08-01 Who was this man who could walk through brick walls and, with a snap of his fingers, vanish elephants? In these pages you will meet the astonishing Houdini—magician, ghost chaser, daredevil, pioneer aviator, and king of escape artists. No jail cell or straitjacket could hold him! He shucked off handcuffs as easily as gloves. In this fresh, witty biography of the most famous bamboozler since Merlin, Sid Fleischman, a former professional magician, enriches his warm homage with insider information and unmaskings. Did Houdini really pick the jailhouse lock to let a fellow circus performer escape? Were his secrets really buried with him? Was he a bum magician, as some rivals claimed? How did he manage to be born in two cities, in two countries, on two continents at the same instant? Here are the stories of how a knockabout kid named Ehrich Weiss, the son of an impoverished rabbi, presto-changoed himself into the legendary Harry Houdini. Here, too, are rare photographs never before seen by the general reader!

the gift of the magi answer key: The Gift of the Magi Lillian Butovsky, 1980 Presents the dramatization of O. Henry's story for students for whom English is a second or a foreign language.

the gift of the magi answer key: The Cask of Amontillado Edgar Allan Poe, 2008 After enduring many injuries of the noble Fortunato, Montressor executes the perfect revenge.

the gift of the magi answer key: From Adam to Us Ray Notgrass, Charlene Notgrass, 2016 the gift of the magi answer key: The Crossover Kwame Alexander, 2014 New York Times bestseller • Newbery Medal Winner •Coretta Scott King Honor Award •2015 YALSA 2015 Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults• 2015 YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers •Publishers Weekly Best Book • School Library Journal Best Book • Kirkus Best Book A beautifully measured novel of life and line.--The New York Times Book Review With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . .The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering, announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood from Kwame Alexander. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.

the gift of the magi answer key: Holes Louis Sachar, 2011-06-01 This groundbreaking classic is now available in a special anniversary edition with bonus content. Winner of the Newbery Medal as well as the National Book Award, HOLES is a New York Times bestseller and one of the strongest-selling middle-grade books to ever hit shelves! Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnatses. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes. It doesn't take long for Stanley to realize there's more than character improvement going on

at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment —and redemption. Special anniversary edition bonus content includes: A New Note From the Author!; Ten Things You May Not Know About HOLES by Louis Sachar; and more!

the gift of the magi answer key: The Distance Between Us Reyna Grande, 2012-08-28 In this inspirational and unflinchingly honest memoir, acclaimed author Reyna Grande describes her childhood torn between the United States and Mexico, and shines a light on the experiences, fears, and hopes of those who choose to make the harrowing journey across the border. Reyna Grande vividly brings to life her tumultuous early years in this "compelling...unvarnished, resonant" (BookPage) story of a childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries. As her parents make the dangerous trek across the Mexican border to "El Otro Lado" (The Other Side) in pursuit of the American dream, Reyna and her siblings are forced into the already overburdened household of their stern grandmother. When their mother at last returns, Reyna prepares for her own journey to "El Otro Lado" to live with the man who has haunted her imagination for years, her long-absent father. Funny, heartbreaking, and lyrical, The Distance Between Us poignantly captures the confusion and contradictions of childhood, reminding us that the joys and sorrows we experience are imprinted on the heart forever, calling out to us of those places we first called home. Also available in Spanish as La distancia entre nosotros.

the gift of the magi answer key: A White Heron Sarah Orne Jewett, 2005 This beloved short story - a classic coming-of-age tale by the author of The Country of the Pointed Firs is gloriously illustrated with pencil drawings by Maine artist Douglas Alvord. Sylvia, a city girl more at home with animals than with people, has come to the Maine Woods to live with her grandmother. One summer afternoon in the late 1800s, her life is changed forever when she meets an attractive young ornithologist searching for birds to snare, stuff, preserve, and display.

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the gift of the magi answer key: Surprised by Oxford Carolyn Weber, 2013-02-04 When Carolyn Weber set out to study Romantic literature at Oxford University, she didn't give much thought to God or spiritual matters—but over the course of her studies she encountered the Jesus of the Bible and her world turned upside down. Surprised by Oxford chronicles her conversion experience with wit, humor, and insight into how becoming a Christian changed her. Carolyn Weber arrives at Oxford a feminist from a loving but broken family, suspicious of men and intellectually hostile to all things religious. As she grapples with her God-shaped void alongside the friends, classmates, and professors she meets, she tackles big questions in search of truth, love, and a life that matters. From issues of fatherhood, feminism, doubt, doctrine, and love, Weber explores the intricacies of coming to faith with an aching honesty and insight echoing that of the poets and writers she studied. Surprised by Oxford is: The witty memoir of a skeptical agnostic who comes to a dynamic personal faith in God Rich with illustration and literary references Gritty, humorous, and spiritually perceptive An inside look at Oxford University Weber eloquently describes a journey many of us have embarked upon, grappling with tough questions and doubts about the meaning of faith—and ultimately finding it in the most unlikely of places.

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the gift of the magi answer key: Spectrum Language Arts, Grade 8 Spectrum, 2014-08-15 Spectrum Eighth Grade Language Arts Workbook for kids ages 13-14 Support your child's educational journey with Spectrum's Eighth Grade Workbook that teaches basic language arts skills to 8th grade students. Language Arts workbooks are a great way for kids to learn basic skills such as vocabulary acquisition, grammar, writing mechanics, and more through a variety of activities that are both fun AND educational! Why You'll Love This Grammar Workbook Engaging and educational

reading and writing practice. "Writing a dialogue", "dictionary practice", and "proofing letters" are a few of the fun activities that incorporate language arts into everyday settings to help inspire learning into your child's homeschool or classroom curriculum. Testing progress along the way. Lesson reviews test student knowledge before moving on to new and exciting lessons. An answer key is included in the back of the 8th grade book to track your child's progress and accuracy. Practically sized for every activity The 160-page eighth grade workbook is sized at about 8 inches x 11 inches—giving your child plenty of space to complete each exercise. About Spectrum For more than 20 years, Spectrum has provided solutions for parents who want to help their children get ahead, and for teachers who want their students to meet and exceed set learning goals—providing workbooks that are a great resource for both homeschooling and classroom curriculum. This Language Arts Kids Activity Book Contains: 4 chapters full of tips, fun activities, and lesson reviews An answer key and writer's guide Perfectly sized at about 8" x 11

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the gift of the magi answer key: The Baby Party F. Scott Fitzgerald, 2018-11-28 The Baby Party (+Biography and Bibliography) (6X9po Glossy Cover Finish): When John Andros felt old he found solace in the thought of life continuing through his child. The dark trumpets of oblivion were less loud at the patter of his child's feet or at the sound of his child's voice babbling mad non sequiturs to him over the telephone. The latter incident occurred every afternoon at three when his wife called the office from the country, and he came to look forward to it as one of the vivid minutes of his day. He was not physically old, but his life had been a series of struggles up a series of rugged hills, and here at thirty-eight having won his battles against ill-health and poverty he cherished less than the usual number of illusions. Even his feeling about his little girl was qualified. She had interrupted his rather intense love-affair with his wife, and she was the reason for their living in a suburban town, where they paid for country air with endless servant troubles and the weary merry-goround of the commuting train. It was little Ede as a definite piece of youth that chiefly interested him. He liked to take her on his lap and examine minutely her fragrant, downy scalp and her eyes with their irises of morning blue. Having paid this homage John was content that the nurse

should take her away. After ten minutes the very vitality of the child irritated him; he was inclined to lose his temper when things were broken, and one Sunday afternoon when she had disrupted a bridge game by permanently hiding up the ace of spades, he had made a scene that had reduced his wife to tears

the gift of the magi answer key: Revelation of the Magi Brent Landau, 2010-11-02 Each Christmas, adults and children alike delight at the story of the kings from the East who followed the star to Bethlehem to offer gifts to the newborn Christ. While this familiar tale is recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, another little-known version later emerged that claimed to be the eyewitness account of the wise men. This ancient manuscript has lain hidden for centuries in the vaults of the Vatican Library, but through the determined persistence of a young scholar, Brent Landau, this astonishing discovery has been translated into English for the very first time as the Revelation of the Magi. Everything we know about the wise men is based on only a few verses from the Bible. With the Revelation of the Magi, we can now read the story from the Magi's perspective. Readers will learn of the Magi's prophecies of God's incarnation from the beginning of time, their startling visitation in the form of a star, the teachings they receive from the baby Jesus, and the wise men's joyous return to their homeland to spread the good news. This ancient version of the Christmas story is guaranteed to astonish and delight. It will also raise larger guestions of the significance and meaning of Christ's birth, and the mission to spread the good news to every corner of the globe. All the drama and intrigue of the brief description of Jesus's birth in the Bible is filled out in greater, more colorful detail, offering for the first time the complete story of these beloved characters.

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reading literature different from other kinds of reading? Why is artful reading so hard? What do poems do? How should a poem be read for its comparisons—metaphors and similes? What, according to Poe, should be the method of the short story writer? How do you recognize the difference between story and plot in a short story? How can you recognize a symbol? What are the defining characteristics of the novel? How did the novel evolve from a popular literary entertainment to the modern novel? What is the difference between drama and theater? What is the best way to understand and appreciate Shakespearean drama? What approaches should you take in reading an essay? What are characteristics of a memoir? This handy primer from two highly regarded experts also includes a glossary of essential literary terms, a timeline, a helpful bibliography, and an extensive index, adding to its usefulness. Making reading more enriching, rewarding, and enjoyable, The Handy Literature Answer Book is a wonderful, eye-opening read!

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**the gift of the magi answer key:** *The Gift of Scripture* Catholic Church. Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, Catholic Church. Bishops' Conference of Scotland, 2015-01

the gift of the magi answer key: The Gift of the Magi and the Ransom of Red Chief O. Henry, 2020-04-20 || The Gift of The Magi || The Gift of the Magi is a short story by O. Henry first published in 1905. The story tells of a young husband and wife and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been popular for adaptation, especially for presentation at Christmas time. The plot and its twist ending are well-known, and the ending is generally considered an example of comic irony. It was allegedly written at Pete's Tavern on Irving Place in New York City.\*\*\*The Ransom of The Red Chief \*\*\*: The Ransom of Red Chief is a 1910 short story by O. Henry first published in The Saturday Evening Post. It follows two men who kidnap and attempt to ransom a wealthy Alabamian's son; eventually, the men are driven crazy by the boy's spoiled and hyperactive behavior, and pay the boy's father to take him back. The story and its main idea have become a part of popular culture, with many children's television programs using a version of the story as one of their episodes. Things make it different from other books: 1. Illustrations 2. Author Biography 3. Summary

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the gift of the magi answer key: Chaparral Christmas Gift O. Henry, 2022-03-29 It possessed a quantity of jet-black hair, a pair of extremely frank, deep-brown eyes and a laugh that rippled across the prairie like the sound of a hidden brook. The name of it was Rosita McMullen... Though Rosita has many suitors, she ultimately chooses the young cattleman Madison Lane and the two are wed on Christmas Day. Rejected lover Jonny McRoy crashes the wedding and fires off his handgun yelling, I'll give you a Christmas present! But luckily he is deterred by the armed guests. It's only a matter of time, however, until Christmas time comes around once more and it's McRoy's turn to

bring presents... American short story master O. Henry is best known for his pithy, witty scores and surprise endings. In doing so he made commonplace experiences extraordinary and memorable. His work has been immortalised in the popular 1952 film 'O. Henry's Full House' starring Fred Allen, Anne Baxter, Marilyn Monroe and Jeanne Crain. William Sidney Porter (1862-1919), known simply as O. Henry, was a prolific American author of humorous literary pieces. His fame came exceptionally quickly and he became a bestselling author of short story collections. Perhaps the most famous of these are, 'Cabbages and Kings,' 'The Voice of the City' and 'Strictly Business.' The immensity of O. Henry's impact on the American short story genre for time to come is evidenced by the fact that an annual award in his name is given out each year in the United States. O. Henry's work is a must read for fans of Hemingway, Guy de Maupassant and Anton Chekhov.

the gift of the magi answer key: *Modes of Discourse* Carlota S. Smith, 2003-04-17 In studying discourse, the problem for the linguist is to find a fruitful level of analysis. Carlota Smith offers a new approach with this study of discourse passages, units of several sentences or more. She introduces the key idea of the 'Discourse Mode', identifying five modes: Narrative, Description, Report, Information, Argument. These are realized at the level of the passage, and cut across genre lines. Smith shows that the modes, intuitively recognizable as distinct, have linguistic correlates that differentiate them. She analyzes the properties that distinguish each mode, focusing on grammatical rather than lexical information. The book also examines linguistically based features that appear in passages of all five modes: topic and focus, variation in syntactic structure, and subjectivity, or point of view. Operating at the interface of syntax, semantics, and pragmatics, the book will appeal to researchers and graduate students in linguistics, stylistics and rhetoric.

the gift of the magi answer key: Max the Mighty Rodman Philbrick, 2013-06-25 A companion to Newbery Honor winning author Rodman Philbrick's Freak the Mighty. This is the dramatic, heart-wrenching tale of Max and Worm, two outsiders who turn to each other for survival. Meet Maxwell Kane, the brooding giant-of-a-boy who escaped from his basement hiding place and faced the real world in FREAK THE MIGHTY. Still grieving over the loss of his best friend, Kevin, Max finds himself defending a young, solitary girl cruelly nicknamed Worm because she loves to read so much. When Max gets blamed for a horrific crime, he and Worm are forced to run for their lives. They flee across America -- hunted by the police, and pursued by the mysterious man known as the Undertaker. The only way they can survive is to confront Worm's darkest and most revealing secret. And that means facing something more frightening than death itself.

the gift of the magi answer key: A Service of Love O. Henry, 2016 Delia and Jim are poor, but newly married and in love. They both want to be great in Art, but don't have enough money for their lessons. They want to support each other's dreams. They both secretly take action.

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