

The background of the slide features a dark blue world map. On the left side, there is a vertical bar with the colors of the Irish flag: green, white, and orange.

Irish Short Stories: Questions for “Sarah”

- Contrast Sarah’s reputation as being “an example to all” regarding her religious piety versus her other, murkier reputation. What might this say about the townspeople?
- Contrast Sarah’s brother’s reliance on her as a cook and housekeeper versus their treatment of her regarding her latest pregnancy. Might there be a statement being made here about gender roles?
- How do the ladies of town seem to feel about Sarah caring for the Kendrigan household in Kathleen Kendrigan’s absence?
- Contrast Oliver’s flat denial of the affair to Kathleen versus his yelling at her at the end of the story. What does this say about hypocrisy and morality?
- Why is the sheep-raddle significant at the end of the story?



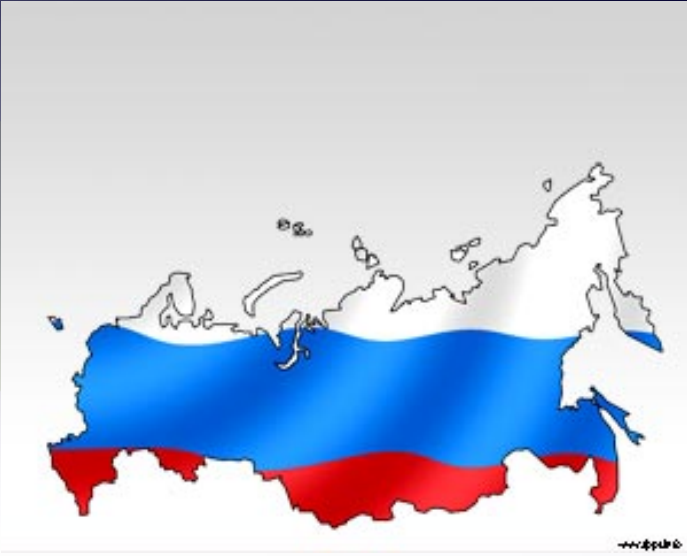
Irish Short Stories: Questions for “Araby”

- Why does the narrator want to go to the bazaar? Why does he arrive so late? Why doesn't he buy anything for Mangan's sister?
- What had the narrator expected to find at Araby? What was the basis of his expectation?
- Define the narrator's feelings for Mangan's sister. To what extent is she the cause of those feelings? What, as they say, does he see in her?
- What purpose might Joyce have had in choosing not to mention the object of the narrator's affections until the middle of the third paragraph? Describe the context into which she is introduced. In what ways is she part of the world of North Richmond Street?
- What is the role of the narrator's uncle in the story? What values and attitudes does he represent? Are they preferable to those of the narrator?

Russian Short Stories: Questions for "Twenty-six Men and a Girl"



- Recall some of the imagery Gorky uses to describe the working conditions.
- What are some of the effects on the men of the sheer monotony of their lives?
- How do the men pass the time in order to make their situation more bearable?
- Recall some of the phrasing used to describe Tanya; what theme pervades this description of her?
- What causes the men to change the way they feel about Tanya?



Russian Short Stories: Questions for “Anket Anketov”

- Reread paragraph 2; what historical figure is being satirized here, what about him is being satirized, and what particular words or phrases are effective in doing so?
- Given that this story was published in 1932 (height of Stalinism) how do you think that Jalal avoided prosecution for publishing it?
- How does Anketov treat his files?
- Explain the irony in the first full paragraph on page 3.
- What specifically occurs in this story that shows that Anketov has lost connection with other people?



Latin American Stories:

Questions for "Balthazar's Marvelous Afternoon"

- Contrast Ursula's concept of the value of labor versus Balthazar's.
- Why doesn't Balthazar want to sell the cage to the doctor?
- At the top of p.387, it states that Balthazar felt "pity" for the rich. Why do you think so?
- Is there anything ironic about the advice that the doctor had given José Montiel?
- Why does Balthazar lie to the people in the pool hall about selling the cage to Montiel?



Latin American Stories:

Questions for "Garden of the Forking Paths"

- Why has the narrator come to Stephen Albert's house? Does he succeed in his aims?
- What project had the narrator's great-grandfather been working on?
- What exactly is the solution that Stephen Albert has discovered to the mystery concerning this project?
- What precisely is the analogy that connects a labyrinth in space with a labyrinth in time?
- What are the different pieces of evidence that indicate that the narrator himself is negotiating a labyrinth, in passing through the series of events that constitute his story?



Latin American Stories: “The Warmth of Things”

- Identify the humor (pun?) in the medal Oscar hangs around his neck.
- Why were summers particularly bad for Oscar?
- Why does Oscar resent his mother?
- Once he reached thirty, what did Oscar become determined to do?
- What do you make of the resolution of this story?



Native American Stories: "Tony's Story"

- How might this story have been different if it was narrated from Leon's POV?
- Find examples in the text of the materialistic mode (the world off the reservation) and examples of the traditional (Pueblo) mode.
- Why do you think the narrator provides so much imagery regarding the current drought? How is Big Cop connected to the drought?
- Compare the wisdom of Leon to that of Tony; where did each get his wisdom?
- Contrast Leon's reaction to the initial assault by Big Cop to his reaction after Tony shoots him. Why the shift?