

### **Questions and Answers - Daisy Miller – Set 1**

1. How many pages long is Daisy Miller?

- The book Daisy Miller is a short read at 72 pages length. Alternate page counts in other published versions are 80 pages long and 82 pages long.

2. Who wrote Daisy Miller?

- "Daisy Miller" is a very famous short story authored by Henry James, an American British author in the late 1800s. The story was penned in June 1878.

3. What point of view is Daisy Miller?

- In this story, the author uses a third person POV to narrate the story which means that the reader can see, listen to and understand the story through the eyes of the protagonist who is existing in the story. While the story is about a character called Daisy Miller, we don't hear or listen to Daisy's POV but rather see it through the eyes of Mr. Winterbourne who is the protagonist of the story. Mr. Winterbourne can be said to be the central intelligence of the story and we listen to his thoughts, feelings and his experiences.

4. Who are the main characters in Daisy Miller?

- The story has many main characters. Annie P. Miller or Daisy Miller as she is called by everyone is the principal character around whom the story revolves. Mr. Winterbourne is romantically interested in her and provides the focus point of view in this story. The other minor characters are Mrs Costello (Winterbourne's aunt), Randolph Miller (Daisy's brother), Mrs Miller (Daisy's mother) and Giovanelli (Daisy's friend).

5. Is Daisy Miller a tragedy or what genre of story is it?

- The story Daisy Miller written by Henry James is one of the famous romance tragedies written in the 19<sup>th</sup> century where the protagonists' love interest who is the story titles' namesake dies and then proves to be truly innocent.

### **Questions and Answers - Daisy Miller – Set 2**

6. Why is Winterbourne angry with Giovanelli?

- Winterbourne is infuriated with Giovanelli because he brings her to the Colosseum at night, a place where she runs a high risk of catching "Roman fever" which is malaria. Daisy tragically falls ill and dies a few days later.

7. What illness does Daisy Miller die of?

- Daisy miller is infected by and dies of malaria.

8. Why does Mrs Costello refuse to meet Daisy?

- Mrs. Costello is very aristocratic and does not approve of Daisy Miller as she is not what society of early 1800s Europe deems her to be which is “proper”.

9. Is Daisy Miller a work of feminist literature?

- It is widely considered by literature experts that the way Henry James written Daisy Miller is a work of early feminism. Daisy identifies as an innocent American girl instilled with the spirit of freedom and equality which men naturally have in a patriarchal society. She is shown to pursue gender equality by making friendships with men.

10. What point of view (POV) is Daisy Miller?

- The American author, Henry James wrote Daisy Miller with a third party point of view. The writing style can be described as “limited” which means that the reader can learn only what Mr. Winterbourne sees or hears and also his opinions but not anything more.

### **Questions and Answers - Daisy Miller – Set 3**

11. Why Daisy Miller was considered a flirt?

- Daisy is seen to be a flirt when looked through the eyes of 1800s European standards. From a more feminist point of view, she was ahead of her time and only chose to follow and seek what she liked which was conversation and company.

12. What is the irony in Daisy Miller?

- The irony is that upon her death, a note written by her is given to Mr. Winterbourne telling him that she had feelings for him. This is ironic because Winterbourne had feeling for Daisy from the beginning.

13. Does Winterbourne love Daisy?

- In the story, it is shown that Winterbourne does have strong feelings Daisy and spends most of the time thinking about her and wants to be with her. At one point he asks her to flirt only with him and with no one else.

14. What does Mrs Walker try to force Daisy to do and why?

- Mrs Walker requests and eventually tries to force Daisy to get into the carriage and leave with her and Winterbourne saying that she is behaving improperly. However Daisy refuses, telling Mrs. Walker that if this is improper, then she is all improper, and must be given up. Daisy walks away with Giovanelli, leaving Mrs. Walker stunned.

15. How does Giovanelli describe Daisy at her funeral?

- Giovanelli tells Winterbourne that Daisy was the most beautiful, most innocent and the most amiable lady that he ever saw and spoke to.

#### **Questions and Answers - Daisy Miller – Set 4**

16. What does Mr. Winterbourne do after Daisy Miller's death?

- Mr. Winterbourne leaves Rome after Daisy Miller's funeral but is unable to forget about her.

17. Is Daisy Miller truly innocent?

- While her behaviour was flirtatious from the POV provided by the protagonist of the story, Daisy is shown to be innocent and savvy. She is happy to make social interactions with men as well as with women and is not bound by the rigid structures forced upon women in the 1800s in Europe.

18. Who is the antagonist in Daisy Miller?

- While there is no true antagonist in the story, one element of antagonism in the story Daisy Miller is the society's refusal to accept freedom of women in Europe, which frowns upon women being flirtatious.

19. Who is the protagonist of the story Daisy Miller?

- The protagonist shown throughout the story is a young man called Mr. Winterbourne. He comes from North America and is settled in Geneva, Switzerland.

20. What happened in the start of story Daisy Miller?

- In the start of the story, the protagonist of the story Mr. Winterbourne meets Daisy Miller as well as her brother.

#### **Questions and Answers - Daisy Miller – Set 5**

21. What is the theme of Daisy Miller?

- One of the main themes in "Daisy Miller" is the difference in characters and repressiveness between the American woman and European women. It also delves into themes such as female independence, judgement based on archaic thought processes and society's expectation from women in Europe in the 1800s.

22. Explain the theme of character difference between European Women and American Women in Daisy Miller?

- The American girl is shown to be a flirt when seen through the eyes of the protagonist. However it can be seen at the end of the story that while she may have seemed to be flirtatious, she was innocent and only seeks to maintain good company and friendships with men and women alike. European women are very repressed and expect the same out of women from that era.

23. What is the moral of Daisy Miller?

- While the author did not write this to be a moral story, the moral can be considered as “Don't judge people before you truly know them.” The author judges Daisy based on what little he knows and sees of her and in the end, loses her because of his own patriarchal views.

24. Explain the tone of the story?

- Similar to the great works of Shakespeare, Daisy Miller is a romance tragedy written by the famous American author Henry James.