Vice and Virtue Lesson 4

Woman and Wives

VOCABULARY

VOCABULARY EXERCISE: SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS

- 1. c
- 2. e
- 3. a
- 4. b
- 5. b
- 6. d
- 7. d
- 8. a
- 9. d
- 10.a

READING QUESTIONS

- 1. c
- 2. a
- 3. d
- 4. c
- 5. e
- 6. b
- 7. c
- 8. b
- 9. e
- 10.a

LITERARY WORDS: PERIODS OF LITERATURE AND CENTURIES

- 1. 19th
- 2. 11th
- 3. 5th
- 4. 15th
- 5. 18th
- 6. 18th
- 7. 19th, 20th

- 8. 17th
- 9. 1st
- 10. 5th

LITERARY EXERCISE: IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Byron
- 2. Addison
- 3. second
- 4. Handel

Mystery word: Bach

True Greatness

QUESTIONS FOR CLASS DISCUSSION

1. What does the author mean by his first sentence, "True greatness has nothing to do with feeling above others"? What is a word that describes people who think that they are better than others but in fact are not?

Many people feel inadequate around braggarts who boast about their accomplishments and look down on others that they deem inferior; however, just because these proud people see themselves as better than others does not make them better. Some words that describe these people are proud," "arrogant," supercilious," and "conceited."

2. The author uses two analogies or examples for comparison to explain his previous statement that fools "Judge how great they are from how much they can brag about themselves." In the first example the author compares pennies to genuine gold, and in the second, he compares a tin kettle to a golden plate. In the second analogy, what is like the tin kettle and what is like the golden plate?

The tin kettle makes a lot of noise like the fool bragging about his accomplishments, while the golden plate is more quiet about them, like the humble person.

3. What does the author of this passage mean by saying "This was true greatness?" Why is the author's point made more powerfully by using Thomas Jefferson as an example and not some unknown person?

Jefferson was truly great because he did not feel himself so important that he could not help another. Performing one act of kindness is more admirable than having made many advances in science, literature, or medicine. Thomas Jefferson was a good example to use to make the point that true greatness has nothing to do with feeling above others, as Jefferson was indeed a very accomplished man, yet he did not let those accomplishments go to his head: though he was a statesman and the third President of the United States, he was humble enough to help a beggar. 4. The reputation of Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826) is matched by only a few Americans. He was one of the Founding Fathers and the author of the Declaration of Independence, which is the most famous document in American history except for the Constitution. If a man could be proud of his achievements and believe himself to be "above others," that man is Thomas Jefferson. Think of another man or woman who had done great things, yet remained humble and kind to others. Be able to discuss your thoughts about what enabled them to remain humble despite their greatness in the eyes of others. *Answers will vary*.