

Name _____

The Fisherman's Wife

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Eliza's character undergoes a significant transformation in the story. Initially content, she becomes increasingly greedy and power-hungry with each wish granted by the magical fish. She believes herself to be all-powerful, which ultimately leads to her downfall as the fish reverses her wishes. The story highlights the dangers of unchecked desires and the importance of learning humility and contentment.
2. "The Fisherman's Wife" explores the theme of greed and its consequences. Eliza's insatiable greed leads to the reversal of her wishes, emphasizing the dangers of excessive desire for wealth and power. The story teaches us that unchecked greed can have severe repercussions and encourages us to value contentment and humility.
3. Hans plays the role of a kind and compliant husband in the story. He is willing to grant his wife's wishes, even though he is initially reluctant to do so. Hans's actions contribute to the unfolding of the story's events, as his compliance leads to Eliza's continuous demands and the eventual reversal of their wishes. His character underscores the theme of the consequences of unchecked desires.
4. The moral of "The Fisherman's Wife" centers on the importance of contentment, humility, and the consequences of greed. The story teaches us that unchecked desires and insatiable greed can lead to negative outcomes and that being content with what we have is a valuable virtue. It underscores the idea that material wealth and power should not come at the expense of one's character and humility.

