

OUR TOWN STUDY QUESTIONS

ACT I

Identify the following characters: Stage Manager, Dr. Gibbs, Mrs. Gibbs, George Gibbs, Mr. Webb, Mrs. Webb, Emily Webb

How is the Stage Manager similar to the Chorus of a Greek play?

What relationships between characters seem to have potential for further development?

How does the audience learn about the life of the people of Grover's Corners?

What human weaknesses and failings are revealed in Act I?

What idea is conveyed by Rebecca's story about the uniquely addressed letter?

What problems and limitations of Grover's Corners are apparent?

What problems and limitations of Fayetteville Arkansas are apparent today?

ACT II

What is meaning of Dr. Gibb's line he felt he was "marryin' a total stranger"?

When George's parents talk about his marriage to Emily, which parent has the greater understanding of George and why?

Do you think George and Emily are approaching marriage realistically?

What is the sermon that the Stage Manager gives at the end of Act II essentially saying?

Before the marriage ceremony, Mrs. Gibbs tells her son. "George you're a man now."

What meaning is she trying to convey?

What is the meaning of the Stage Manager's line "Once in a thousand time's it's interesting"?

ACT III

What details in the Stage Manager's opening monologue prepare the audience for the events in this act.

Unlike Emily the rest of the dead do not seem particularly interested in life? Why? What have they learned?

What does Emily discover after returning to the world of the living?

Which character in death is true to their character? Explain.

What is Simon Stimson's judgment about life?

Do think this play is a good or bad representation of life today? Explain.