

“A ROSE FOR EMILY” BY WILLIAM FAULKNER PART IV-VI

DIRECTIONS: Answer in complete sentences. The length should be 1 short paragraph.

1. Why is Emily Grierson's relationship with Homer Barron considered scandalous?
2. Re-read the last paragraph. Explain in your own words what is revealed, particularly the gray hair.
3. Who is Tobe? He is named only once at the end of Part I, but his character appears throughout the story. Describe his relationship with Miss Emily.
4. How is the use of lime an example of foreshadowing? Explain.
5. Why do you think the townspeople turn a blind eye to the odd behavior of Emily Grierson (bad smell, purchasing rat poison, Homer's disappearance, never leaving her house, not paying taxes, etc.)?

6. Is Emily Grierson a victim or a villain?
7. Explain in your own words what the title means.
8. Faulkner called "A Rose for Emily" a ghost story, but no supernatural ghosts appear. What does Faulkner mean?
9. If Homer Barron symbolizes the North and Emily Grierson symbolizes the South, interpret their relationship and his death in the context of the Civil War and post-Civil War tensions between the North and South. (The story is set in Mississippi.)
10. Faulkner plays with the timeline of the story (it begins with her funeral, the story is not presented chronologically). What effect does this have on the reader? Does it create suspense and interest or confusion? Explain your answer.