The Spectacles – Three-Level Guide

Level 1 – on the lines: Answer true or false:

- 1. The narrator is telling this story to advocate the existence of hate at first sight.
- 2. Napoleon Bonaparte Simpson changed his name to escape the law
- 3. Napoleon is tall and handsome.
- 4. Napoleon pays little attention to the theatre.
- 5. When the Napoleon sees the woman's face for the first time he falls in love instantly.
- 6. The audience are amused when Mme Lalande observes Napoleon with her looking glasses.
- 7. Lalande has "pearly teeth"
- 8. Napoleon promises to don his glasses when he marries Lalande

Level 2 – between the lines - Answer true or false and provide evidence to support you answer:

- 9. Napoleon is a womaniser.
- 10. His view of the woman is reliable.
- 11. Napoleon's following claim is true: If the woman were less beautiful, her" features, yet unseen, proved of merely ordinary character", he would still have felt the same way.
- 12. Napoleon describes the woman's face as matronly. We know this is because she was mature for her age.
- 13. Opera eye glasses are not fashionable at the time and so nobody uses them.
- 14. The woman stares at Napoleon in the theatre because she likes the look of him.
- 15. Napoleon's friend says Lalande is "still" good-looking because she is healthy looking.
- 16. Napoleon is not fully aware of the "discrepancy of their age".
- 17. Lalande has an excellent singing voice.
- 18. Napoleon doesn't wear glasses because he doesn't need them.

Level 3 – beyond the lines - Answer true or false and provide evidence to support your answer:

- 19. The spectacles are a symbol of vanity.
- 20. The writer uses irony to convince the reader of the existence of love at first sight.

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