Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Fegley

American Literature

Women Authors: The Story of an Hour

1. Why are Mrs. Mallard's relatives concerned about her hearing the news of her husband?

2. What is Mrs. Mallard's reaction when she hears about her husband?

3. Why does Mrs. Mallard eventually lock herself in her room?

4. What is Josephine afraid Louise will do?  Why?

5. What true feelings does Mrs. Mallard have concerning her husband's death?

6. Explain why she would feel this way.

7. What literary element is utilized predominantly in this selection?

8. Discuss how this selection is an example of naturalism.

9. What possibilities occur to us for what might have been the real roots of the "heart trouble" with which Mrs. Mallard has evidently been for some while "afflicted"?  Is it possible that the doctors have misdiagnosed the problem in the first place?  And if so, what factors may have prevented them from guessing the truth?

10. What would have to be different if Mrs. Mallard's bedroom were located on the main floor of the house instead of upstairs?