

This is a follow on activity from part one. The structure is the same but the passage and the question are different. Therefore, you can start to allow the students to be more independent this time.

Some words are glossed if needed but push the student towards employing some reading strategies to work out the meaning too: look at root word/prefix/suffix, see if it looks like a word they know, read the word in a sentence/read before and read after, use a dictionary.

Students should read the passage and then they are presented with a question. Depending on the ability and needs of the group, this can be discussed together as a class, in pairs or groups or students can be asked to complete the activity on their own first and then feedback be taken as a class.

- Responses the students might come up with: Conscientious and proud are the focus so encourage them to consider these.

Screen 1

- Tidy/Clean/House-proud
- Curious about the stranger
- Professional and knows how to do her job well
- Conscientious/proud of her work

Screen 2

Students are expected to base their opinions or ideas on the text. Therefore they need to find examples of words/phrases that Wells has used to show someone who takes great pride in their job. When they find one, they are to highlight the piece of text that shows this.

Language they may select:

- "she went to prepare him a meal with her own hands."
- "she was resolved to show herself worthy of her good fortune."
- "began to lay them with the utmost éclat."
- "She noticed that the melting snow...dripped upon her carpet."
- "Very well, sir."

It may help the students to have a copy of the extract in front of them to highlight or note down where they are finding these.

Screen 3

Students should then be able to pick out some evidence that shows each of the techniques that are used by the author and offer some suggestion as to how the effect helps to create a sense of pride.

Suggestions:

- Complex sentences – “As soon as the bacon was well under way, and Millie, her lymphatic maid, had been brisked up a bit by a few deftly chosen expressions of contempt, she carried the cloth, plates, and glasses into the parlour and began to lay them with the utmost éclat.” The reader feels like they are reading a list of the chores in the order she completes them, proving Mrs Hall’s organisation skills. Also, we read about how she treats the maid as she appears to consider her lazy and not as skilled as she is in looking after the new guest.
- Adjective – “utmost”, emphasises how she does things to her very best, not half heartedly.
- Dialogue – “Very well, sir,” she said. “As you like.” Her tone is very respectful and shows she is eager to please him.
- Verb – “resolved”, portrays her determination to do her very best.

Creating a response

Screen 1

Students are to drag sentence starters around to match up with the evidence that supports the point being made. They then need to complete the different responses that they are starting to create, this can be done together on the board, in pairs in their books or individually on laptops.

Matching Answers:

- From the start of the paragraph, Mrs Hall is presented as keen to impress her guest as Wells tells us, “she went to prepare him a meal with her own hands” despite having a maid who could do this. This suggests...
- Wells conveys how much Mrs Hall wanted to prove herself to her new guest. He writes, “she was resolved to show herself worthy of her good fortune.” This seems as if...
- Wells portrays a woman who clearly takes pride in her work, laying the table with enthusiasm. He writes, “[she] began to lay them with the utmost éclat.” The gusto she shows when setting his place shows...

- When watching the man, Wells shows how house-proud Mrs Hall is by her focus on the possible spoiling of the carpet, from his wet clothes. “She noticed that the melting snow that still sprinkled his shoulders dripped upon her carpet.” Her concern for her furnishings over her new guest suggests...

Screen 2

By incorporating technique into their comments on language, they will be hitting both bullet points from the question. For example,

I agree that the writer does present Mrs Hall as a very conscientious housekeeper who clearly takes pride in her work. It is clear from the beginning how determined she is to do her very best. Wells uses the verb ‘resolved’ to describe how committed she is to doing a good job and making a good impression.