

Little Women

Louisa May Alcott

How do the four sisters reveal different ideas about what it means to have enough?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	The sisters define what poverty means
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter I · Playing Pilgrims
START	Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents
END	You know the reason mother proposed not having any presents this Christmas was because it is going to be a hard winter for every one
PASSAGE ID	sec-lw-01

THE MOVE

Compare competing value systems inside one conversation

WHY THIS PASSAGE

The opening argument about Christmas presents gives each March sister a different definition of deprivation. Their complaints are not interchangeable: money, beauty, status, and fairness matter differently to each of them, so the conversation becomes a compact map of competing values.

MARK

Underline each sister's complaint and write one word beside it naming what she thinks she lacks most. Then circle any line where one sister challenges another sister's definition of being poor.

NOTICE

- Which sister defines 'not enough' in material terms, and which defines it in social or emotional terms?
- Where do the sisters agree about their situation even though they value different things?
- What does the conversation reveal about each sister before the plot has asked her to make a serious choice?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How do the four sisters reveal different ideas about what it means to have enough? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: How do the four sisters reveal different ideas about what it means to have enough? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	The sisters do not mean the same thing by 'poor.' Meg notices social comparison and nice things, Jo values books and freedom, Beth values home and family comfort, and Amy worries about status and appearance. Their complaints reveal different definitions of enough.
EVIDENCE	Use at least two sisters' specific complaints and show what each complaint treats as necessary for a satisfying life.
WATCH FOR	Do not flatten the conversation into 'they all want more money.' The lesson depends on distinguishing the different values hidden inside similar complaints.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

Little Women

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How do the four sisters reveal different ideas about what it means to have enough?

START ANCHOR	Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents
END ANCHOR	You know the reason mother proposed not having any presents this Christmas was because it is going to be a hard winter for every one

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline each sister's complaint and write one word beside it naming what she thinks she lacks most. Then circle any line where one sister challenges another sister's definition of being poor.
2. NOTICE - Which sister defines 'not enough' in material terms, and which defines it in social or emotional terms? Where do the sisters agree about their situation even though they value different things? What does the conversation reveal about each sister before the plot has asked her to make a serious choice?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: How do the four sisters reveal different ideas about what it means to have enough?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.