Eng. 126

Analysis Paragraph Practice

**A**

In his “Self Actualization and Beyond,” Maslow refers to what he has termed “meta-needs,” basic intrinsic needs in all of us that give a meaning to life (110). We might effectively apply this notion to the condition in which Nora finds herself.

*Finish the paragraph in five or six sentences. In it, you should round out the discussion of Maslow’s idea about “Meta-needs.” In other words, explain Maslow’s concept more fully. From there, apply this idea to the character of Nora , providing at least one relevant quote from the literary text.*

**B**

It is apparent that Nora’s own sense of herself throughout the play is tied inextricably to Torvald and his own views and perceptions of Nora. Nora’s own identity cannot be defined apart from Torvald. This is illustrated clearly when Nora urges Torvald to guide her, “to sit down and play for [her]….Direct[her]….Teach her, the way [he] always [has]”(889). Although these words are in direct reference to practicing for the fancy ball dance performance, they can also apply to the entire state of the relationship between Nora and Torvald, a state of utter dependence of one on the other. This state of dependence and its harmful effects can to some extent be explained by what Mark Karpel refers to as “ambivalent fusion”…

*Finish the paragraph, explaining Karpel’s notion of ambivalent fusion and how it relates to Nora and Torvald. Pay particular attention to the relational forms or patterns Karpel describes on pages 812 and 813.*

**C**

Locate a key concept in Erving Goffman’s introduction to *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life,* and craft a paragraph in which you clarify for your reader your understanding of that concept, and discuss how that concept might be applied to one of the characters in *A Doll’s House* .