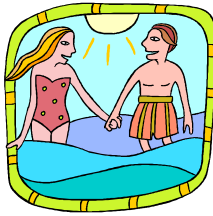


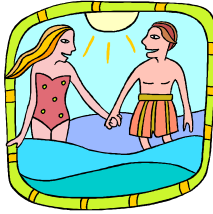
## THE AWAKENING



Reading Check – Ch. 1 – 11  
Grading: Short Answer Scale

1. In what way does the green and yellow parrot screeching beside the doorway [opening lines] set the tone for the novel? Why?
2. Discuss the implication in Mr. Pontellier's thinking of his wife as "*a valuable piece of personal property.*"
3. React to this critic's quote: "*It is a temptation to make an easy villain of Leonce Pontellier, but he is no villain...his responsibilities are practical and include making a living for the family.*"
4. Compare/contrast [briefly] Edna with her friend Adele Ratignelle – the "*mother-woman.*"
5. It has been said that in some novels, such as Thomas Hardy's Return of the Native, Ernest Hemmingway's Old Man and the Sea, and Kate Chopin's The Awakening, the setting functions as an essential character or element in the story. Explain how the sea, with its "*seductive voice*", fulfills this role in *The Awakening*.

## THE AWAKENING



6. Chopin consistently uses a “*set of lovers*” and “*the lady in black*” as background characters in this section. Explain what her purposes might be for doing so.
7. Recount how Edna came to marry Mr. Pontellier in the first place.
8. Describe the relationship between Edna and her children. Give specific example(s).
9. Describe Edna’s reaction to Mademoiselle Reisz’s piano recital. Speculate as to why she so reacts.
10. As this section ends, Edna makes her first move towards self-assertion. Explain what takes place between her and Leonce Pontellier.