

## Appendix 2

### The think-aloud questions

#### Section A

*Reading comprehension questions.*

1. What do you think the significance of the short story's title is?
2. Read this passage:

*Tell me, was I very terrible last night?"*

*"Oh, goodness," she said, "everybody was feeling pretty high. You were all right."*

*"Yeah," he said. "I must have been dandy. Is everybody sore at me?"*

*"Good heavens, no," she said. "Everybody thought you were terribly funny..."*

What does 'sore' mean in the passage above?

- a. shocked b. angry c. surprised

3. *"I did think that maybe you were a little tight at dinner—oh, you were perfectly all right, and all that, but I did know you were feeling pretty gay."*

- What do you think 'tight' means?

4. How does the young man feel at the beginning of the story? How do you know?
5. How do you think the young woman feels throughout the story? What evidence is there for this?
6. What time did the young man get up? Why?
7. What does the young man want to know about the previous evening?
8. According to the young woman, why is Jim Pierson *a little stuffy*?
9. Why was Elinor *a tiny little bit annoyed*?
10. How long was the young man singing? How did the maître d'hotel react?
11. Why did the young man not eat anything?
12. Why was the young man taken out of the hotel?
13. What happened on the sidewalk?
14. Where did Peter and the young woman go in the taxi?
15. How does the young woman feel about what happened in the taxi?
16. Why do you think Peter asks for a drink?
17. How do you think Peter feels after the young woman leaves the room?

#### Section B

*Match the expressions in the bold below with their definitions in the right-hand column.*

1. You **made too much fuss over here** A. paid excessive attention to
2. Was I **making a pass at** her? B. to behave recklessly
3. I am **off the stuff for life**. C. to make an amorous advance
4. I **made such a fool of myself**. D. to give something up

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**Section C**

*Literary questions*

1. How are the young man and the young woman described in the beginning of this story? What do these descriptions tell us?
2. In your opinion, what are the main themes covered in the story?
3. Alcohol consumption seems to play a significant role in the story. Discuss the ways in which it contributes to the themes of the story.
4. Is the atmosphere of the story light-hearted or is there a dark side to it? Give reasons for your answer.
5. *“Look at that hand; steady as a hummingbird. Tell me, was I very terrible last night?”*

-Identify the figure of speech in the sentence above.

6. Do you believe the young woman’s version of events from the previous night. Why?
7. Most of the story consists of direct speech? What effect does this have on the reader?

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