

# WorksheetCloud: Worksheet Memo

Grade: 8

Subject: English

Topic: Short Story

## MEMO TO ANSWERS

1. She manages to save \$1.87 by “bulldozing the grocer...”. This means that she argued for a lower price when buying groceries in order to save money.
2. Della was upset because she had not saved up enough money to buy her husband, Jim, a Christmas gift.
3. Della’s most valued possession was her hair and Jim’s most valued possession was his gold watch.
4. Della goes to Madame Sofronie to sell her hair in order to buy Jim a gift.
5. Hyperbole - a figure of speech that uses extreme exaggeration to make a point or show emphasis.
6. O. Henry, through a third person narrative, adopts a sentimental tone. This reflects the love and devotion that Della and Jim share.
7. **Love** - A prominent theme in “The Gift of the Magi” is love. Jim and Della are willing to part with their most prized possessions to make each other happy, demonstrating that a wealth of love makes up for material poverty.

**Sacrifice** - Jim and Della give up their most precious possessions to be able to afford gifts for each other on Christmas Eve. We watch Della go through the process of deciding to make the sacrifice and going through with it, only to discover that her husband has made the same sacrifice.