

## Questions:

1. What is the summary of this literary piece?
2. What lesson does the author want to convey?
3. What is the relationship of this story to the current time?

## Answers:

### 1. Summary

"The Butcher, The Baker and The Candlestick Maker" is a short story written by Gilda Cordero-Fernando, which was first published in 1962. The story revolves around a community of people living in a small village in the Philippines, where everyone knows each other and are involved in each other's lives.

The story focuses on three characters - a butcher, a baker, and a candlestick maker - who represent different aspects of the community. The butcher, Mang Nano, is respected for his hard work and honesty, but is also feared for his violent temper. The baker, Tandang Selo, is a wise and kind man, who is highly regarded for his delicious bread. The candlestick maker, Mang Tasyo, is a poor and lonely man, who spends his days making candles and observing the lives of his neighbors.

As the story unfolds, we see how the lives of these characters become intertwined, and how their actions affect each other. Mang Nano's violent temper leads to a tragic incident, which impacts the entire village. Tandang Selo's generosity and kindness make him a beloved member of the community, while Mang Tasyo's observations of the villagers' lives make him a source of gossip and intrigue.

Overall, "The Butcher, The Baker and The Candlestick Maker" is a story about the interconnectedness of people's lives, and how the actions of one person can have far-reaching consequences for others. It also highlights the importance of community, and how people can come together to support each other in times of need.

## **2. Lesson**

The lesson in "The Butcher, The Baker and The Candlestick Maker" by Gilda Cordero-Fernando is about the interconnectedness of people's lives and how the actions of one person can have a ripple effect on others. The story emphasizes the importance of community and how people can come together to support each other in times of need.

It also portrays the contrast between positive and negative actions and how they can lead to either positive or negative consequences. For instance, Mang Nano's violent temper leads to a tragic incident, while Tandang Selo's generosity and kindness make him a beloved member of the community. This suggests that our actions can have a significant impact on the people around us.

Furthermore, the story highlights the importance of understanding and accepting people's differences, as seen in the character of Mang Tasyo, who is a poor and lonely man, but is still accepted and valued by the community for his unique perspective and observations.

Overall, the lesson in "The Butcher, The Baker and The Candlestick Maker" is to be mindful of our actions and their impact on others, to value and appreciate the importance of community, and to accept and embrace people's differences.

### **3. Relationship of this story to the current time**

The themes and lessons presented in "The Butcher, The Baker and The Candlestick Maker" by Gilda Cordero-Fernando remain relevant in current times. The story highlights the importance of community, the interconnectedness of people's lives, and the impact of our actions on others.

In today's world, where there is growing social fragmentation and isolation due to factors such as social media and urbanization, the importance of community and the need for human connection are even more relevant. The story reminds us that we are all connected, and that our actions can have far-reaching consequences on the lives of those around us.

Furthermore, the story highlights the importance of understanding and accepting people's differences, which is especially relevant in today's world, where there is a growing recognition of the importance of diversity and inclusion.

Overall, "The Butcher, The Baker and The Candlestick Maker" provides valuable lessons and reminders on the importance of community, connection, and empathy, which remain relevant in today's world.

