**COMMENT TO EVELINE: FIRST PART**

**EX. 2 COMPREHENSION**

2.A It’s evening (l. 1), E. is at home, in the living room. Her house is poor, full of old and dusty objects (the yellow photograph and the broken armonium in l. 24); “dust/dusty” is repeated 4 times, in lines 3, 21 and 92)

2.B She is looking out of the window and she remembers her childhood and the fields where she played with her friends (l. 8-9). She was happy at that time because her mother was alive and her father was not so bad (l. 15-16)

2.D She doesn’t like her job and her boss. She won’t miss them if she goes away (l. 34 and 38)

2.E She has agreed to marry Frank and to leave her house to go to Buenos Aires, where Frank lives

2.F Frank is her boyfriend and he is a sailor. He left Ireland a long time ago, he worked on many ships and, after many adventures, he lives a good life in Argentina now. The description of Frank is positive, Eveline likes him and she thinks she is kind and strong

2G. She remembers the first time they met (l. 63) and when they went to the theatre. She knows that he likes music and singing and he always tells her stories about his adventures and the distant countries he has visited (l. 68 and 71). They are wonderful stories for Eveline who has never travelled

2H. Her father doesn’t accept him because he doesn’t trust sailors (l.78), so she has to meet Frank secretly (l. 79)

2I. The sound of the organ reminds her of the promise she made to her mother while she was dying (l. 93-96), that is to keep the family together

2J. She thinks that her mother lived a sad life, full of sacrifices, that finished with death and craziness. The words in Gaelic that her mother repeated before she died suggest that everything finishes in pain

2L. Eveline thinks that if she remains in Dublin, she will live the same life as her mother, a poor and sad life

2M. Frank represents the opportunity to live a new and better life in a distant country. She thinks Frank will save her (l. 108-110)

**EX. 3 ANALYSIS**

1. The sound of the **organ**, that is an ordinary and casual event, causes the **epiphany** of this story. It makes Eveline remember the **promise** to her mother. She starts realizing that she will not be able to escape, even if she tries to convince herself that she will change her life (l.108-111)
2. At first she wants to leave her house and her miserable life. She thinks about all the **negative aspects of her present life**: her father is violent and threatens her (l.44), she is afraid of him (l.42), nobody can protect her now (l. 45-46) because her favourite brothers is dead (l.46) and the other has left the house (l.46-47), she has to take care of the house, of her father and of her younger siblings (l.56-57), she doesn’t like her job and her boss (l.34-38). However, later, she begins having **scruples**: she thinks that her father is getting old, that he will miss her (l.82) and that sometimes he is nice to her (l.83). She thinks about her younger siblings who will remain alone (l.57-58) and especially she remembers the promise she made to her mother (l.95-96)

**SECOND PART**

**Ex. 4 COMPREHENSION**

1. She is at the station to take the ship
2. She is surrounded by a lot of people who are leaving Dublin by ship
3. She is in panic, she wants to get on the ship, but she can’t. Joyce uses a **metaphorical image** to represent her panic and terror: she can’t leave the iron bars because she feels as if she was drowning (l. 123-124)
4. Her love for Frank is not strong enough to give her the courage to leave her family, her city and her present life. She **surrenders to paralysis** and realizes she will never change her life

**COMPLETE STORY**

**EX. 5 ANALYSIS (STYLE)**

1 / 2. The story is told by a **third-person narrator**, but everything is seen from **Eveline’s point of view**. Almost everything happens in her mind and the events are **not narrated in chronological order**, but there is a continuous shift between the past, the present and the future.

1. Joyce expresses Eveline’s thoughts using the **free indirect speech** and thought (for ex l. 108 and 126)

**EX. 6 THE CHARACTER OF EVELINE**

1. Joyce doesn’t introduce Eveline in a traditional way: at the beginning he doesn’t give the readers information about her physical appearance, her family and so on. The readers learn some of this information during the story. So, the beginning is in **media res**
2. She is tired. She sits still and thinks. Her physical paralysis anticipates her moral paralysis that will stop her from leaving.
3. At the end E. is compared to a **helpless animal** because she is paralysed by fear, passive and unable to make any decision, she lets Frank go away and, with him, also the possibility of a new life disappears