Character Quotes Worksheet
A Streetcar Named Desire

Who says the quote? At what moment in the play? Why is it significant to the character?

1. I don't listen to you when you are being morbid.
2. Honey, would I be here if the man weren't married?
3. This is my house and I'll talk as much as I want to!
4. You know what luck is? Luck is believing you're lucky.
5. Deliberate cruelty is not forgivable. It is the one unforgivable thing in my opinion and it is the one thing of which I have never, never been guilty.
6. Ticket! Back to Laurel! On the Greyhound! Tuesday!
7. Open your pretty mouth and talk while I look around for some liquor! I know you must have some liquor on the place! Where could it be, I wonder? Oh, I spy, I spy!
8. You take it for granted that I am in something that I want to get out of.
10. I don't want Stan's liquor.
11. You left nothing here by spilt talcum and old empty perfume bottles – unless it's the paper lantern you want to take with you. You want the lantern?
12. But I guess I was asking, hoping too much! Kiefaber, Stanley and Shaw have tied an old tin can to the tail of the kite.
Character Quotes Answer Sheet
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I don't listen to you when you are being morbid. (Stella, scene five)
Stella has heard this kind of talk before from Blanche and this quote shows how sometimes she ignores Blanche. When and why has she ignored Blanche before? The definition of morbid is very key: suggesting an unhealthy mental state or attitude.

Honey, would I be here if the man weren't married? (Blanche, scene four)
Blanche would rather be with a man than with Stella. Stella is Blanche's last resort, which suggests their relationship is not really all that close or loving.

This is my house and I'll talk as much as I want to! (Stella, scene three)
This is quite a bold statement for Stella. She is talking back to Stanley, (even though she says the line to Blanche) and shows assertiveness. This is a side to Stella Stanley has probably never seen.

You know what luck is? Luck is believing you're lucky. (Stanley, scene eleven)
This is Stanley's last grand statement in the play. It is an arrogant, confident and death defying statement. It's more than a little odd given what's happened between Stanley and Blanche and Blanche's subsequent break down. There's no remorse.

Deliberate cruelty is not forgivable. It is the one unforgivable thing in my opinion and it is the one thing of which I have never, never been guilty. (Blanche, scene ten)
The problem with this statement is that it's not true. Blanche was deliberately cruel to her first husband when she told him he disgusted her (on finding out that Alan was gay) and she's consistently cruel to Stanley when she calls him an ape and an animal.

Ticket! Back to Laurel! On the Greyhound! Tuesday! (Stanley, scene eight)
Stanley asserts his command of his kingdom by demonstrating to Stella, in short forceful sentences, that Blanche leave their home.

Open your pretty mouth and talk while I look around for some liquor! I know you must have some liquor on the place! Where could it be, I wonder? Oh, I spy, I spy! (Blanche, scene one)
Before this moment with Stella, Blanche has already ferreted out the liquor and taken some. Blanche is an alcoholic who thinks she's hiding it well with grace and gentility. The opposite is true – no one really believes she drinks so sparingly.

You take it for granted that I am in something that I want to get out of. (Stella, scene four)
Stella clearly states that she is not interested in leaving her relationship. She's not upset over Stanley's violent behaviour and seems to believe his apology afterwards. This goes against everything that Blanche, and her gentle attitude stands for.

Not in front of your sister. (Stanley, scene five)
Stanley again asserts his command over his kingdom by determining when and where Stella gets a kiss. He's also demonstrating his dislike for Blanche.
I don't want Stan's liquor. (Mitch, scene ten)
Mitch has heard the whole sad story of Blanche from Stanley. He makes one last appearance for a show down of sorts. He's not exactly sure. When Blanche continues her pious non-drinking act, Mitch shuts her down. He's not buying it, he knows exactly who's liquor it is and that they should not be drinking it. This moment seems to solidify for Mitch that Blanche has been lying.

You left nothing here by spilt talcum and old empty perfume bottles -- unless it's the paper lantern you want to take with you. You want the lantern? (Stanley, scene eleven)
Stanley is deliberately cruel here as he shows Blanche, and the audience the shell Blanche has become. There is nothing left to the image she has tried to create, nothing but powder, empty perfume and paper. Blanche's ruse is fully exposed.

But I guess I was asking, hoping too much! Kiefaber, Stanley and Shaw have tied an old tin can to the tail of the kite. (Blanche, scene nine)
Blanche's fabricated story has been brought crashing down (like the weight of cans on a kite) by the men who have verified Blanche's history at the Flamingo Hotel.