

Q. Why does Candida finally decide to stay with Morrell? 2

Candida decides to stay with Morrell because he needs her. She also understands that a relationship with Marchbanks would not last because it would depend on naïve ideas of romance.

Q. How is Candida a representation of new women in Bernard Shaw's drama Candida?
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George Bernard Shaw's *Candida*, the title character exhibits many of the traits of a "new woman," but she nevertheless embodies a woman firmly in step with Victorian traditions and values of late nineteenth-century England. Candida dutifully stays at home, attends to the needs of her husband, the Reverend James Mavor Morell performs obligatory household duties, and takes care of the children.

Throughout the play, Candida demonstrates increasingly independent and self-assured thought and behavior, criticizes her husband, and actively takes control of the direction of her own life.

At the same time that she's exercising these "new woman" attributes, Candida personifies Victorian attitudes towards women and even seems to take pride in caring for the men around her.

Candida chooses to keep one foot in each world. She chooses to continue to live in a Victorian-minded world, and to take care of her "great baby"—who obviously needs her more than Marchbanks does—but at the same time, she has clearly established the "new woman" parameters of her relationship with her husband.

Q. Establish George Bernard Shaw's *Candida* as an anti-romantic comedy. 10

Ans: Numerous aspects of George Bernard Shaw's play *Candida* support the assertion that it is an anti-romantic comedy. Love and romance play prominent roles in the play, which is largely concerned with the title character's decision between two men who love her: her husband and a young suitor. The play has a happy ending for Candida and her husband, James Morell. However, *Candida* is mainly a social satire, not a romantic comedy. Shaw's satiric intent serves to challenge the unthinking, effervescent romantic comedies of his day.

Although the passionate young poet Marchbanks is an appealing character in many ways, his ardor fails to win over Candida. Instead, she opts for a thoughtfully considered, mature course: to stay with her husband, who both loves and needs her. Candida is a sensible, clear-headed woman who is not won over by the adolescent poet's heartfelt declarations of concern for her "soul." Throughout the course of the play, it also becomes clear that Proserpine Garrett, Morell's secretary, is in love with him. The fact that this plot is not further developed, and her passion does not precipitate his marriage breaking up, is also anti-romantic.

The socially relevant content and intellectual tendencies of the play also support its identification as anti-romantic, and even veering toward naturalism. Shaw includes some important social issues of the day, as Candida's industrialist father, Mr. Burgess argues with Morell about work conditions and employee wages.

Although it is concerned with love and has a happy ending, *Candida* can be considered an anti-romantic comedy because mature love prevails over youthful passion. *Candida* is primarily a social satire, and the foolishness of young love is one of the playwright's main targets. Along with the primary plot involving Marchbanks's fervent love for Candida, a sub-plot of Proserpine's unrequited love sustains the premise that irresponsible emotion does not triumph.

1 mark questions answers

1. Pygmalion is written by.....

G B Shaw

2-Shaw was primarily a

Dramatist

3 What reward was given to Shaw as a literary figure?

He was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature.

4-In which year was Shaw awarded the Nobel Prize for literature?

-1925

5 Who is the father of Candida?

Mr. Burgess is Candida's father.