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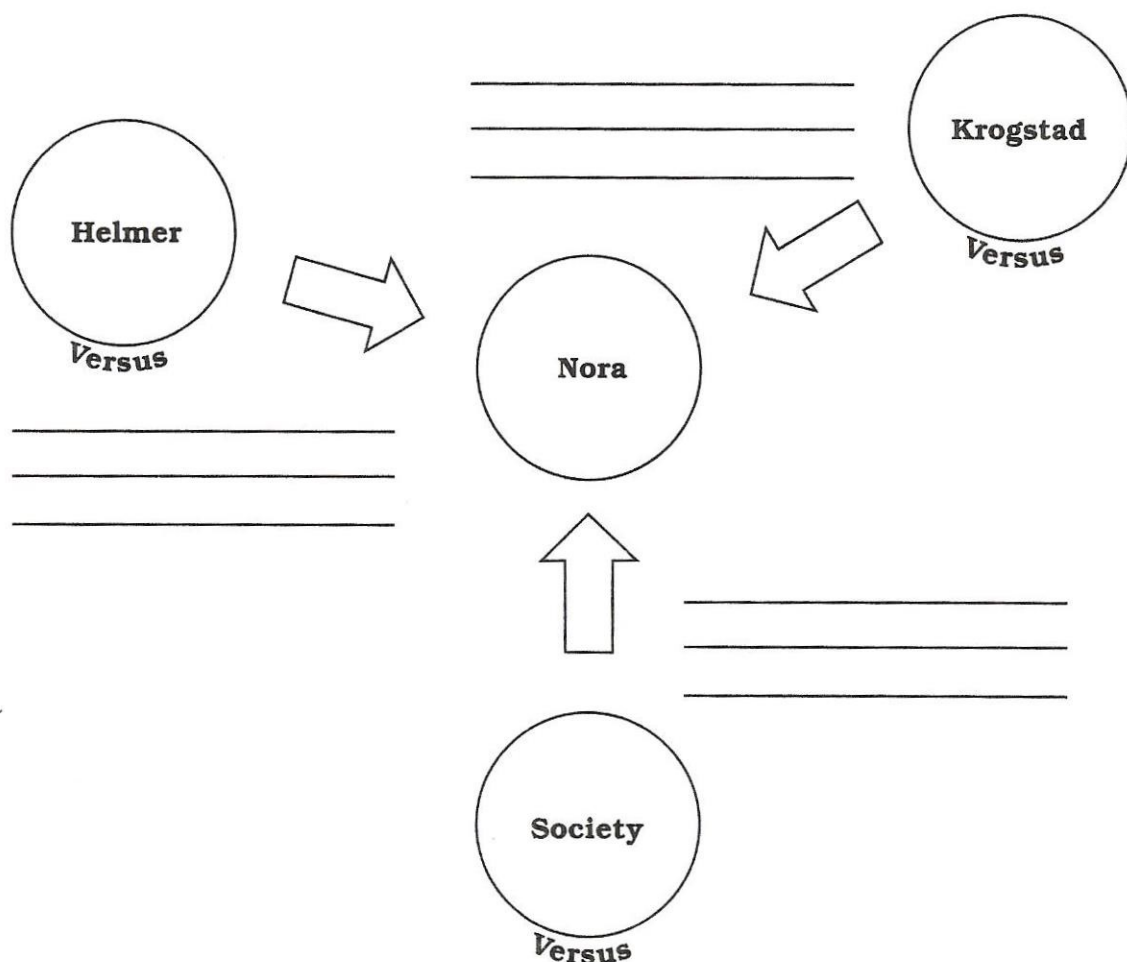
A Doll House, Act II, by Henrik Ibsen

Literary Analysis: Protagonist and Antagonist

The main character of a drama is its **protagonist**. The protagonist is the character at the center of the play's action, the character with whom the audience feels the most sympathy. Nora Helmer is the protagonist of *A Doll House*.

The character or force in conflict with the protagonist is the **antagonist**. In Act II, Nora feels desperately overwhelmed as she struggles to survive opposition from three mighty antagonists: her husband, Krogstad, and society's expectations of women.

DIRECTIONS: Complete the following diagram by describing how each character or force pushes Nora to the brink of despair in Act II. Then, evaluate Nora's antagonists by answering the final question.



Of Nora's three antagonists, which one do you consider the fiercest and most difficult to overcome? Give reasons to support your answer.
