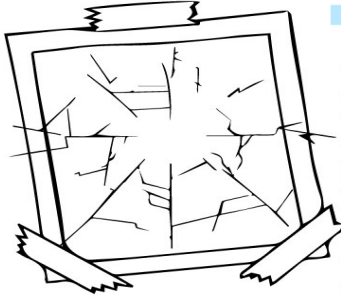


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Damaged PICTURE



Read the text and answer the questions.

If one had been seeking for a man who combined all the qualities of goodness, one would have chosen artist Laurier. He bore the title of "Master of Arts" and his works, mostly landscapes, were famous far and wide. He had amassed a considerable fortune, and his house equipped with every luxury. But conditions changed following in the wake of wars. However, he continued to paint, for he hoped with the betterment of the times; or he would leave them as a heritage, for his wife and children. Alas, a contagious disease swept over the country, he also among its victims; one night filled with great pain, his wife was seated at his bedside and his two little daughters stood there. The dying man said: "Be comforted and weep not." And with his last breathe his eyes closed. Mother and daughters stood in tears. The widow now found herself in much straightened circumstances. Her house was mortgaged that she could no longer hold it. Soon it became imperative to sell them at auction, at any price. Still, a certain pride and satisfaction filled the widow's heart that, her husband owed no one a penny that his name stood in the community. The widow was obliged to seek a new home. She was an expert in the art of sewing. Each night found the widow busily engaged with her work. Her two daughters, whom she had brought up with the utmost care, were her only joy. Mother and daughters often talked about their departed father. "It gives me great pain," said the mother, "that every picture which your father painted should have been taken from us. If it were but a little landscape that we possessed, how happy I should be." Mother and daughters went to the church there, on those sacred walls, hung a beautiful painting executed by their father. Sunday after Sunday, rain or shine, found them carrying out the same program, always returning with hearts filled with peace.

What thing did give her a great pain?

Who was Laurier?

What difficulties his wife had faced after him?

What do you think about Millie's hair style?

How did Laurier die?

How did she earn the money?