Questions and Topics for discussion

1. Why does Oriane not intend the party at Mme de Saint-Euverte’s?
2. How does Proust show that the way Françoise and her daughter talk is similar to a Bach fugue?
3. Two ladies tell the duc de Guermantes that his cousin Amanien has died. What is the duke’s strategy for not believing this news?
4. Saint-Loup, who has noticed how Charlus attached himself to Mme Molé, remains blind to his uncle’s sexual orientation. Why is his “gaydar” not functioning?
5. Why is Charlus so kind to the duc de Guermantes’s new mistress?
6. Why does the duc de Guermantes blush on telling Charlus: “Ah, you were always an odd one, for I can honestly say that you never had the same tastes as other people in anything.”
7. Why is Marcel now bored with the name Gilberte Swann? And “Mme de Guermantes . . . no longer spoke to my imagination.”
8. What justifies the comparison of Charlus’s eyes to those of a tailor?