Questions and Topics for discussion

1. How and why does Gilberte alter the pronunciation of her family name?
2. Why does Marcel say that a newspaper is a “collective Venus”?
3. Why does he criticize the famous *Lundis* of Sainte-Beuve? For which newspaper did Sainte-Beuve write?
4. How does Françoise always mispronounce Mme Sazerat? What general conclusion about life does Marcel draw from this?
5. Why does the duchess prefer her two drawings by Elstir to his paintings?
6. Why does Gilberte deny knowing Mme Lady Rufus Israels?
7. What examples does Marcel give to illustrate why he sees Venice as Combray, but transposed into a wholly different and far richer key?
8. How does Mme Sazerat react on finally seeing Mme de Villeparisis?
9. How does Mamma think that the grandmother would have reacted on learning of the marriage of Saint-Loup to Gilberte and of Jupien’s niece to the young Cambremer?
10. What is the effect of the death of Jupien’s niece on European high society?