

***Don Pasquale* 2026|27**

Lyric

Post-performance discussion and reflection questions

Now that you have seen the opera, consider the following questions:

1. Did you like the opera? Why or why not?
2. Did you relate to any of the characters? Which one(s) and why?
3. Did you have a favorite part?
4. Did anything surprise you?
5. Did you change your mind about anything? Did it affect your view of opera?
6. If you were writing the opera, would you make any changes to it? How?
7. What did you see that was visually interesting?
8. Did you recognize any of the music?
9. Was there any music that stood out to you? What made it remarkable?
10. Now that you've seen an opera, why do you think we've performed them for hundreds of years? Why do you think we are still performing them today?
11. How did you feel about being in the opera house?
12. Would you see another opera? Why or why not?
13. If you worked in an opera house, what job would interest you? (singer, lighting designer, usher, director, orchestra member, costumer, set designer, carpenter, etc.)
14. Is there a story that you would like to see in the form of an opera?

Consider these additional prompts for ***Don Pasquale***, listed here and in Lyric's learning resources slide deck:

15. **Comedy and serious ideas:** *Don Pasquale* is a comedy, but it deals with serious topics such as love, money, marriage, age, and independence. Choose one of these topics and discuss how the opera uses humor to explore it.
16. **Love or money:** In the opera, Ernesto is forced to choose between giving up his inheritance and pursuing his love for Norina. What would you choose if you were Ernesto, love or money?
17. **Norina's Character:** Norina is clever, confident, and crafty. How does she challenge the way women were expected to behave in the 1800s? Do you think she is a positive role model? Explain your answer.
18. **The Moral of the Story:** At the end of the opera, Don Pasquale claims the lesson he has learned is that it's better to get married young. Do you think this is a good moral? Why or why not? If not, what moral do you think the characters could sing about instead?