

Brooklyn

Section 1 - Enniscorthy to Brooklyn - 'The Crossing'

1. Rose refers to the shop keeper 'Nettles' as a 'terrible old witch'. Do you agree with this view? How does she behave in an unfair or snobbish way? How is she unkind to Eilis?
2. Why is Eilis leaving to go to New York?
3. What is her opinion of the local young men who will be attending the dance?
4. What do you think Eilis is thinking and feeling as she looks around the dance hall before she leaves?
5. When Eilis tells Rose that she'll come home to visit do you think either of them believe it?
6. Why do Eilis, Rose and their mother spend so much time talking about her clothes and packing?
7. When Eilis is waving goodbye to Rose and their mother why do you think they turn away? Why is this scene shown in slow motion? Why does the camera pan to the other people on the quay?
8. On board the ship how is Eilis's innocence and experience shown?
9. How is her roommate different from Eilis? Why do you think we never learn her name? Were you surprised that she and Eilis didn't stay in touch and she didn't reappear in the film?
10. As Eilis passes through immigration she turns and looks back in slow motion. What do you think the film maker is trying to communicate here?