Ibsen’s chiefly traditional staging of *A Doll’s House* involves the use of multiple physical elements while Wilder’s more unorthodox staging of *Our Town* employs little in the way of stage scenery or props. In *A Doll’s House* and principally through the character of Nora,Ibsen is seeking to provoke the audience into exploring and perhaps questioning the traditional expectations of a wife. Wilder, on the other hand, wants the audiences who view *Our Town* to contemplate whether they are really experiencing all that life has to offer. For these reasons, each playwright chooses to use the physical elements of drama such as props, stage scenery and the staging of the opening scene in rather contrasting ways.

In *A Doll’s House,* props are deliberately used by Ibsen to convey the importance of status and money in the Helmer household. In contrast, the lack of even basic properties is employed by Wilder to depict the sheer ordinariness of life in Grover’s Corners, the New England town that is the setting for *Our Town*.