



**Social Studies
School Service**

www.socialstudies.com

Downloadable Reproducible eBooks

Thank you for purchasing this eBook from
www.socialstudies.com or www.writingco.com.

To browse more eBook titles, visit
<http://www.socialstudies.com/ebooks.html>

To learn more about eBooks, visit our help page at
<http://www.socialstudies.com/ebookshelp.html>

For questions, please e-mail eBooks@socialstudies.com

Free E-mail Newsletter—Sign up Today!

To learn about new eBook and print titles, professional development resources, and catalogs in the mail, sign up for our monthly e-mail newsletter at
<http://socialstudies.com/newsletter/>

Individual Learning Packet

Teaching Unit

Jane Eyre

by Charlotte Brontë

Copyright © 1999 by Prestwick House Inc., P.O. Box 658, Clayton, DE 19938. 1-800-932-4593.
www.prestwickhouse.com Permission to copy this unit for classroom use is extended to purchaser for his or her
personal use. This material, in whole or part, may not be copied for resale. Revised April 2002.

ISBN 10: 1-58049-094-8
ISBN 13: 978-1-58049-094-8
Reorder No. 300560

Jane Eyre

Terms and Definitions

Narrator - the one who tells the story. If the narrator is a character in the book, the term is first-person narration. (Example: *Moby Dick* is narrated by Ishmael, a crew member). If the narrator is not a character, the term is third-person narration. (Example: *Sense and Sensibility*).

Sometimes, first-person narrative can vary. The author switches narrators to relate a personal experience, or occasionally breaks out of the narration to speak directly to the reader. Look for examples of both these variations in *Jane Eyre*.

Third-person Narration - a manner of storytelling in which the narrator is not a character within the tale and is outside the plot. In a third-person narrative, all characters within the story are, therefore, referred to as he, she, or they; this does not prevent the narrator from using the first person “I” or “we” in commenting on the events and their meaning. Third-person narrative is the most common form of storytelling.

Omniscient - a third-person narrative which allows the author to relate the thoughts and feelings of all the characters in a godlike manner. Example: Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*.

Limited omniscient - a third-person narrative which allows the author to tell the thoughts of only one character. Example: *The Catcher in the Rye*.

Objective View - third-person narration in which the author is recording action from a neutral point of view. Example : Most nonfiction.

Allusion - a reference to a person, place, poem, book, event, or movie outside of the story that the author expects the reader will recognize. Example: In *The Glass Menagerie*, Tom speaks of “Chamberlain’s umbrella,” a reference to the British Prime Minister

Metaphor - A comparison of two things that are basically dissimilar in order to create a sharp picture. Example: The moon, a haunting lantern, shone through the clouds.

Local Color - details and descriptions common to a certain place. Example: The Mississippi River, the people living around it, the way they talk, etc., in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Simile - a comparison between two different things using either *like* or *as*. Example: I am as hungry as a horse.

Foil - a character whose qualities or actions usually serve to emphasize the actions or qualities of the main character, the protagonist, by providing a strong contrast. On occasion, the foil is used as a contrast to a character other than the main one.

Foreshadowing - the use of hints or clues in a story to suggest what action is to come. Foreshadowing is used to create interest and build suspense.

Personification - a figure of speech in which an object or animal is given human characteristics. Example: The pig laughed all the way to the barn.

Symbol - an object, person, or place that has a meaning in itself and that also stands for something larger than itself, usually an idea or concept; some concrete thing which represents an abstraction. Example: The sea could be symbolic for "the unknown;" since the sea is something which is physical and can be seen by the reader, but has elements which cannot be understood, it can be used *symbolically* to stand for the abstraction of "mystery," "obscurity," or "the unknown."

Romanticism - an 18th and 19th century literary movement that is frequently characterized by the following:

- a depiction of emotion and imagination
- a depiction of the beauties of nature
- settings that are in exotic or remote locations. Old castles or mansions frequently play a big role
- a hero or heroine who rebels against the social norms of his or her society.
- an intense interest in nature and its beauty and/or fierceness.
- an interest in the irrational realms of dreams, folk superstitions, legends, and ghosts.
- language and characters that are frequently marked by emotional intensity.

Examples: *Frankenstein*, *Wuthering Heights*. A subgenre of romanticism is the *Gothic novel* or *Gothic romance*. These novels are characterized by the presence of superstitions, terror, and suspense. They are usually set in gloomy, old castles, houses, or monasteries. *Jane Eyre* typifies the 19th century variety of Gothic novel and adds the element of the endangered heroine. The book includes the concept of a *Byronic hero*, which is defined as a self-tormented outcast, who is cynical and contemptuous of social norms and is also suffering from an unnamed or mysterious sin.

Jane Eyre

Objectives

By the end of this unit, the student will be able to

1. recognize the three different ways the author uses first-person narration:
 - Jane is the narrator using “I” to tell the story.
 - Jane as the narrator seems to speak directly to the reader.
 - Rochester, a temporary narrator, takes over, still in first person, to relate a past event from his experience.
2. point out and give examples of how the descriptions of nature mirror the changes in Jane’s life.
3. by referring to the story support or refute the following: “Above all, the novel *Jane Eyre* is a love story in which the heroine searches for an earthly love that is acceptable to God.”
4. point out the ways in which Jane’s quest makes this a “coming of age” story.
5. point out where and when the following themes emerge:
 - One must endure life’s hardships while striving to follow God’s teaching.
 - Despite earthly temptations, the laws of God must be obeyed.
6. discuss how and where the following topics emerge:
 - poverty
 - forgiveness
 - cruelty
7. support or refute the following statement of theme by referring to the novel: “To grow into healthy, mature adults, in addition to both love and discipline, we need to develop inner resources and have a purpose in life.”
8. discuss the use of the following literary figures of speech:
 - metaphor
 - simile
 - personification
9. identify and point out the following literary devices:
 - allusion
 - foreshadowing
 - foil

10. point out how light is used as a symbol for hope and eternal life.
11. define romanticism and by citing incidents from the novel show that this novel contains elements of romanticism.
12. comment on Jane's belief in premonitions, dreams, and intangible sympathetic connections between kin.
13. list the qualities of the ideal Victorian woman.
14. point out the reasons that some readers see this as an early feminist novel arguing for the equality of men and women.
15. point out what there is about this novel that might be labeled "realistic."
16. identify and discuss the incidents in this plot that a reader might consider improbable.

Jane Eyre

Questions for Essay and Discussion

1. Discuss the various types of first-person narration and the reason Brontë occasionally employs more than one narrator in this novel.
2. The introduction states, “The narrative is compelling and moving as a work of romantic fiction. Following the classic trajectory of that form the heroine moves from isolation through trials and complications towards marriage as an ideal resolution.” Trace the incidents in the story that show this is an example of romantic fiction.
3. Review the definition of a symbol. In Jane’s dreams, what do “light,” the “child,” and the “chestnut-tree” symbolize?
4. How does the author use foreshadowing to add suspense and keep the reader’s interest?
5. Discuss the author’s use of nature to mirror Jane’s life. If she is happy, the weather is great. If she is in trouble, there is a storm. Find an instance when the weather confirms to the reader that Jane has made a correct decision according to the Lord.
6. In the novel, how important is physical beauty for a person’s ultimate happiness.
7. Do you think Jane’s religious beliefs, which prevent her from staying with Rochester after she learns about his marriage, lead her to ultimate happiness or unnecessarily complicate her life?
8. Jane clearly believes in premonition, signs or dreams, and sympathetic-familiar connections. Find examples of each of these in the novel.
9. In what ways does the character of Miss Temple represent the “ideal” Victorian woman of Jane’s class? In what ways does Bessie do the same thing for the lower class?
10. What lessons about life and God does Jane learn from her friend Helen?
11. Family connections are important to Jane. Which of the characters in the novel are her “blood” relations?
12. Write a character sketch of St. John, contrasting him to Rochester. Why do you think Jane prefers Rochester?
13. How does Jane’s artistic talent help her to find love and her long lost family?

14. Either support or refute the following themes:
 - A person needs for both love and self-fulfillment in life.
 - An earthly love can not violate God's love.
 - A young girl grows to maturity by dealing with temptations, hardships, and cruelties.
15. Point out how the following topics appear in this novel:
 - poverty
 - forgiveness
 - cruelty
16. Some critics consider the plot of this novel to be weak because it relies on improbable coincidences to resolve plot complications. Point out and discuss improbable coincidences in the novel.
17. Although *Jane Eyre* is considered a romantic novel, some critics assert that this novel is realistic in many ways. Discuss the ways in which this novel may be realistic.
18. For what reason can this novel be called a feminist novel? List and discuss the elements in the novel that support that point of view.

Jane Eyre

Test

1. "Jane, be still; don't struggle so, like a wild frantic bird that is rending its own plumage in its desperation." This quotation is an example of
 - A. simile.
 - B. personification.
 - C. metaphor.
 - D. local color.
2. We say of Mr. Rochester that he is a Byronic hero because
 - A. he is a noble man with one/a tragic flaw.
 - B. his one flaw causes him to lose his good fortune and his high estate.
 - C. he is something of an aloof loner who, while contemptuous of social norms, suffers for some mysterious sin.
 - D. Both A and B.
3. Jane is said to be a feminist hero primarily because
 - A. she does not need to be married to be happy.
 - B. she seeks to find a fulfillment in life in what she does.
 - C. she argues that women should have the same political rights as men.
 - D. she maintains that women should not have less access to laws than men.
4. Jane is eager to leave Gateshead mostly because
 - A. Bessie is strict and cross with her.
 - B. John is a bully and torments her.
 - C. Jane is not attractive and Georgiana makes her feel inferior.
 - D. she is unloved and treated as if she has no feelings.
5. Brocklehurst fulfills Jane's worst fears when he
 - A. tells the whole school that Jane is deceitful and to be avoided.
 - B. beats Helen with twigs because she has dirty fingernails.
 - C. shows her the cold school and its unhealthy atmosphere.
 - D. disciplines Miss Temple for giving the students extra food and clothes.
6. Helen teaches Jane to
 - A. accept her fate, forgive the wrongs of others, and believe in a good God.
 - B. endure the punishments without complaining.
 - C. enjoy nature in the areas surrounding the school and its garden.
 - D. draw landscapes and portraits.
 - E. Both A and B.

7. Eliza and Georgiana Reed are presented as
 - A. the novel's ideal Victorian womanhood.
 - B. unintelligent young ladies without any inner resources.
 - C. poor but honest females victimized by the males in their lives.
 - D. greedy, cunning women who use their beauty to dominate men.
8. "My tale draws to its close: one word respecting my experience of married life, and one brief glance at the fortunes of those whose names have most frequently recurred in this narrative, and I have done." This passage is an example of
 - A. first-person narrative, speaking directly to the reader.
 - B. first-person narrative, the narrator is no longer the main character.
 - C. third-person narrative, omniscient view.
 - D. third-person narrative, limited view.
9. We get a positive view of religious faith in the person of
 - A. Rochester.
 - B. St. John.
 - C. Mr. Broklehurst.
 - D. Helen Burns.
10. Which incident described below is an example of presentiment?
 - A. The gypsy is able to tell Mary, Amy, and Louisa personal things about their childhood.
 - B. Jane does not attach the name tags to her luggage the night before her wedding.
 - C. Jane dreams about the destruction of Thornfield.
 - D. Jane feels a connection to Diana and Mary.
11. St. John wants Jane to marry him because
 - A. he thinks she will grow to love him in time.
 - B. she is strong and will be able to live in India.
 - C. he thinks she is free of vice, capable of sacrifice, and can adapt to difficult working conditions.
 - D. St. John loves her and needs a wife despite her plain looks.
12. Which of the following characters does NOT contribute to stopping Jane's wedding to Rochester?
 - A. Mr. Rivers
 - B. Mr. Briggs
 - C. Mr. Mason
 - D. Mr. Eyre
13. Which of the following has an element of the supernatural?
 - A. Jane's inheritance from her uncle
 - B. the burning down of Thornfield
 - C. the voice at Moree House calling Jane's name
 - D. the death of Helen Burns

14. Jane's drawing proves most valuable to her when
- A. St. John notices her signature on the corner of a worksheet.
 - B. Mr. Rochester likes some of her pictures.
 - C. she is accepted into Mr. Oliver's home because of her portrait of his daughter.
 - D. she is living with Diana and Mary because it is the one thing she can teach them.
15. Which of the following do you suppose this novel has been criticized for?
- A. its use of improbable coincidence to resolve plot complications
 - B. its lengthy and complicated plot
 - C. its inaccurate use of historical personages and events
 - D. its failure to recognize the social issues of the time period
 - E. its failure to present Jane in a realistic fashion
16. St. John is a flawed person in Jane's eyes because
- A. he has not yet found God's peace.
 - B. he is without passion.
 - C. he is stern, tireless and expects everyone else to be too.
 - D. A, B and C.
17. What does the following quotation support?
- "Most of the morning was spent in the open air. I led him out of the wet and wild wood into some cheerful fields: I described to him how brilliantly green they were; how the flowers and hedges looked refreshed; how sparkingly blue was the sky."
- A. The descriptions of nature in this book are beautiful when Jane is happy.
 - B. Jane is good medicine for Rochester, helping him to heal.
 - C. Jane is staying with Rochester because he is helpless and needs her to guide him around.
 - D. Jane tries to see the good in everything even though she is depressed over Mr. Rochester's injuries.
 - E. Both A and B.
18. The element in this novel that marks it as a Romantic or Gothic novel is
- A. the suggestion of ghosts or spirits.
 - B. the self-sufficient and independent heroine.
 - C. the absence of any real concern for social issues.
 - D. A, B, and C.
19. Rochester pretends to be interested in Blanche because
- A. he is concerned about Jane's reputation since they live under the same roof.
 - B. he wants to make Jane jealous to awaken her passions.
 - C. he hopes that in time he will come to love her.
 - D. Mrs. Fairfax does not approve of the difference in their ages.
20. God helps Jane decide
- A. to return to Thornfield and look for Rochester.
 - B. to leave Lowood.
 - C. not to become Mr. Rochester's mistress.
 - D. A, B, and C.

Essays *(Answer any two.)*

1. Discuss how Charlotte Brontë uses light as a symbol in this novel. What is its connection to religion? How does it guide her down the correct path?
2. Support or refute the following statement by referring to characters and commenting on incidents in the story: Charlotte Brontë believes in the goodness of God, but does not approve of organized religion.
3. This novel is seen as a coming of age novel because Jane
 - is seeking love and understanding.
 - is seeking to deal with injustice and evil while reconciling its presence in the world to a just God.
 - is seeking a man to love who will love her.

Jane Eyre

Test Answer Key

1. A	6. E	11. C	16.D
2. C	7. B	12. A	17.E
3. B	8. A	13. C	18.A
4. D	9. D	14. A	19.B
5. A	10.B	15. A	20.D

Jane Eyre

Study Guide Teacher's Copy

All references come from the Prestwick House Literary Touchstone Classics edition of *Jane Eyre*, copyright 2006.

CHAPTER 1

Vocabulary

antipathy – having a strong dislike

bilious – bad tempered

bleared – blurred

borne – taken along

cavilers – to criticize, object

diffidence – shyness, insecurity

fervently – earnestly

gallows – a structure made for hanging people

impudence – boldness, rudeness, nerve

lamentable – mooring, wailing

lineaments – facial features

melancholy – depressed, sad

moreen – a heavy woolen cloth

predominated – controlled

pungent – a strong taste or smell

sprightly – lively, nimble

subjoined – to add to the ends

sweetmeats – candy; candied fruit

thence – from there

torpid – inactive, sluggish

tottered – stumbled, faltered

tyrant – a cruel authoritarian figure

vignettes – small designs on pages of a book

visage – an appearance, face

1. Why does Jane enjoy looking at the pictures in the book *History of British Birds*?

Jane thinks the pictures each tell an interesting story. Looking at them is like listening to Bessie's tales.

2. Support the following statement: John Reed is mean and spoiled.

John is fat from overeating. His mother spoils him, but he “had not much affection for his mother and sisters.” (Pg. 14) He torments Jane by sticking out his tongue and then striking her.

3. Why does John feel justified in picking on Jane? How does he get away with tormenting her?

John thinks he can pick on Jane because Jane, an orphan, is dependent on his family for a home. The servants do not want to cause trouble by defending Jane against John’s mean attacks. His mother, Mrs. Reed, does not believe he is ever wrong.

4. What two things does Jane do to defend herself? After the fight how does she hear herself described?

First, she tells him he is like a murderer. Then, when he grabs her hair, she fights back by clawing him with her hands. Jane hears someone say, “Did ever anybody see such a picture of passion.” (Pg. 15)

5. Define physiognomy.

The practice of trying to judge character and mental qualities by observation of bodily, facial features; outward features, characteristics.

CHAPTER 2

Vocabulary

abhor – despise, disgust
acrid – biting, bitter, harsh
artifice – to scheme, trick
captious – critical; fault-finding
disposed – likely to
divers – various
duplicity – deception
heterogeneous – coming from inside
ignominy – humiliation; disgrace
imp – a small evil spirit, devil
incredulous – disbelieving
influx – flowing in
insolent – insulting
instigated – urged into
ire – anger, wrath
opprobrium – disgrace, shame
peremptorily – with finality
precocious – developed early
preternatural – abnormal, unusual
propensities – talents, abilities
retrospective – thinking of past times
sanguine – cheerful, hopeful
trifle – a small amount
tumult – disorder, turmoil, commotion
turbid – cloudy, murky
uncongenial – not melted or thawed
vassalage – allegiance; dependence
virulent – lethal poisonous; hateful

1. Who is Bessie? What does she say about the importance of money in Victorian times?

Bessie is the children's nurse. She says Jane must call John Reed "master" because Jane is not his equal. He and his sisters will have money when they are grown up and Jane will not have any. Money is what separates the classes in Victorian times.

2. How is Jane hurt? What is the extent of her injury?

John throws a book at her and cuts Jane's head. She is left bleeding, and she has a bad headache.

3. Describe the red room. Why is it seldom entered?

The red room is square and large. It has a large bed, red curtains, two large windows, red carpet, and pink walls. It is seldom entered because it once belonged to Mr. Reed. He died in the room, and his coffin lay in state in this room.

4. Briefly describe the personalities of Eliza, Georgiana, and John.

Eliza is headstrong and selfish but respected. Georgiana is pretty with a spoiled temper. John is cruel and kills animals for fun.

5. Why does Mrs. Reed permit Jane to live in Gateshead Hall?

Jane is Mr. Reed's niece. On his deathbed, he made Mrs. Reed promise to raise Jane as one of her own children.

6. What makes Jane think Mr. Reed's spirit might rise before her in the chamber?

She thinks he must be restless because his last wishes are not being carried out by Mrs. Reed. Jane worries that if she cries too hard in the chamber, his spirit might come to comfort her grief.

7. What does Jane see that scares her? What does she do?

She sees a streak of light and thinks it is a vision. She goes to the door and screams to Bessie to let her out of the room.

8. Does Jane see a ghost, which is not unusual in a Gothic novel, or is it only her own active imagination?

Answers will vary.

9. What does Jane do when Mrs. Reed refuses to release her from the red room?

She falls down, unconscious.

CHAPTER 3

Vocabulary

apothecary – a pharmacist

bunglingly – inefficiently

cadence – rhythm

caste – social class

civility – politeness, refines

convolvuli – a type of funnel-shaped flower

curacy – the office of a minister (curate)

debasing – lowering

degradation – a demotion, mortification

diminutive – small

emboldened – encouraged

emulation – an ambitious rivalry

enounced – declared

fervent – passionate

interposed – introduced

malevolent – wishing evil, spiteful

propensities – abilities

reverberation – an effect, repercussion

typhus – an infectious disease

1. Who is Mr. Lloyd? Why is a physician not called?

Mr. Lloyd is an apothecary. He is called when a servant is sick. Jane is considered less than a servant and does not deserve a physician.

2. The novel is written in first-person narration. How does the narration change in the following passage?

“No severe or prolonged bodily illness followed this incident of the red-room; it only gave my nerves a shock, of which I feel the reverberation to this day. Yes, Mrs. Reed, to you I owe some fearful pangs of mental suffering.” (Pg. 24)

The author breaks away from the narrative to make a direct comment to Mrs. Reed. This kind of break helps the reader by adding interest and sincerity to the narrative.

3. State a theme for this novel, using the following quotation:

“Vain favor! coming, like most other favors long deferred and often wished for, too late!” (Pg. 25)

Humans put off helping each other until it is too late.

4. Find an example of an allusion on page 25. Why does Jane think the elves are all gone out of England?

Jane refers to the book Gulliver's Travels, and she mentions both Lilliput and Brobdingnag. She thinks the elves are gone from England because England is too crowded.

5. List the reasons Bessie thinks Jane is crying. Why do you think Mr. Lloyd asks Bessie to leave him alone with Jane.

First, she thinks it is because she cannot go in the carriage with the other children. Then, she says it is because she has had a fall. He does not believe Bessie's explanations for Jane's unhappiness and wants to talk to her alone to learn the truth.

6. Why does Jane not want to go live with her Eyre relations?

Mrs. Reed says they are poor. Jane, because all she knows of poverty is what she has heard from the Reed's, thinks poverty is the same as degradation.

7. What does Jane learn about her parents from Mrs. Abbott?

Her father was a poor clergyman. Her mother was disowned by her family when she married him. They both died a year later of typhus. The fact that her mother was never forgiven for marrying a poor man reinforces her negative feeling about poverty.

8. When Mr. Lloyd mentions Jane going to school, what is Jane's image of school?

She pictures school as a place where young ladies will be taught to paint and speak French.

CHAPTER 4

Vocabulary

audacious – shameless
capricious – changeable, fickle
congealed – thickened
contrived – created, invented
execrations – things cursed or detested
exult – to rejoice
fain – willing, eager
fiendish – cruel, wicked
habituated – customary, routine
irksome – annoying, harassing
judicious – prudent, sensible
mandate – an instruction
parterre – an arrangement of flower beds
piety – religiousness
poltroon – a coward
recompense – a reward, compensation
ruth – compassion
tenantry – inhibitors, occupants
transitory – brief, fleeting
usurious – lending money at high interest rates
vehement – passionate
venturesome – adventurous

1. What does Jane say to Mrs. Reed that causes her to box Jane's ears?

She says that Mr. Reed and her parents are in heaven watching the way she treats Jane.

2. State a theme for this story based on Jane's loneliness described on pages 32-33.

People must have something or someone to love.

3. Why does Jane like Bessie?

She tells interesting stories, she can be kind and gentle, and she is smart and pretty.

4. Briefly describe Mr. Brocklehurst. Why is he at Gateshead?

He is tall and prim with large features, gray eyes, and bushy eyebrows. He is at Gateshead because Mrs. Reed wants him to admit Jane to Lowood School.

5. Define deceit. Why does Jane think Mrs. Reed is “sowing aversion and unkindness” toward her in Mr. Brocklehurst’s mind? (Pg. 37)

Deceit - the act of presenting what is false as true; lying, a dishonest action or trick; fraud, lie. In describing Jane as having a “tendency to deceit” to Mr. Brocklehurst, Mrs. Reed is prejudicing him against her. (Pg. 37)

6. How does Mrs. Reed want Jane trained at Lowood?

She wants her to learn useful tasks, to be humble, and to spend her vacations at Lowood.

7. What do you think is the cruelest part of Jane’s life at Gateshead?

She is treated as if she has no feelings, and no one shows her any love or kindness.

8. Why does Jane feel a sense of freedom after telling off Mrs. Reed?

Mrs. Reed is frightened by the intensity of Jane’s speech. Jane feels a sense of freedom because now she does not need to pretend to like Mrs. Reed. She is free to reveal her true feelings.

9. Afterwards, what doubts about herself and her own nature does Jane have?

Jane wants to be loved, but she feels she cannot change from being plain and awkward; she thinks she may be “too passionate” and not do a good job covering up her emotions.

CHAPTER 5

Vocabulary

abominable – hateful, loathsome
benevolent – kind, charitable
benignant – showing a good feeling
buxom – plump, healthy
cessation – ending
conjecture – a conclusion, theory
conning – studying; examining
countenance – a facial expression
deal – wood (usually pine or fir)
draught – a swallow, drink
frieze – a thick wool cloth
gait – a manner of walking
hardihood – boldness
ignominious – disgrace
inanity – overcame, stopped
inclement – severe, cruel
indefatigable – tireless, constant
manifestation – evidence, sign
morose – surly, gloomy
mullioned – vertical
pelisses – a long robe
pervading – filling
preternatural – unnatural, abnormal
quelled – overcame, stopped
redolent – strong scented
regaled – entertained
relinquished – gave up, abandoned
ruddy – having a reddish color
throng – a mass, horde
traversed – crossed, passed through
trifling – trivial
veneration – worshiping

1. What is unusual about Jane's trip to Lowood?

She is traveling alone on a fifty-mile journey.

2. Briefly describe Miss Miller.

She is in her early twenties. She has a ruddy complexion and walks as if she is in a hurry. She is an under-teacher at the school.

3. Define the word “Collect” as it is used in the following quotation: “Business now began: the day’s Collect was repeated, then certain texts of Scripture were said...” (Pg. 47)

Collect refers to a short prayer. The students probably recite this prayer at the beginning of each school day.

4. Briefly describe Miss Temple. Why does she order a lunch for the students?

She is tall, fair, and shapely with brown eyes and dark brown hair. She is the superintendent of Lowood. Miss Temple is the most educated of the teachers and is also kind. Because the breakfast is burned so badly that the girls cannot eat it, Miss Temple tries to make a special lunch.

5. What does Jane notice about the garden? Why is Lowood called an institution?

The garden is in decay because it is winter. Lowood is an institution because the students are partly supported by charity. Their tuition is not enough to pay for their keep.

6. What subjects do Miss Smith, Miss Scatcherd, and Madame Pierrot teach?

Miss Smith teaches sewing, Miss Scatcherd teaches history and grammar, and Madame Pierrot teaches French.

7. What is strange about the way the girl Jane meets in the garden handles her punishment during history class?

The girl is not ashamed to be punished, and she endures her punishment quietly.

8. What seems to be the author’s attitude about charity in this chapter?

Brontë definitely does not share Mr. Brocklehurst’s view, whom she depicts as a despicable figure, but it is not easy to pin down an author’s opinion.

CHAPTER 6

Vocabulary

abhor – loathe, disgust

animadversions – criticisms

assiduity – carefulness, diligence

chastiser – a punisher; one who disciplines

cumbrous – heavy, burdensome

disconsolate – unhappy, restless

ewers – water pitchers

expostulations – protestations

forbearance – restraint

impalpable – imaginary

meed – a reward

prerogatives – privileges

reverie – a daydream

seraph – highest rank of angels

skein – a small bunch of yarn

slatternly – not neat, untidy

truculent – harsh, cruel

1. Why is Helen Burns punished when she knows the answers to Miss Scatcherd's questions about Charles I? How is she punished? Why do you suppose the teacher picks on Helen?

She is punished because her nails are dirty. Miss Scatcherd hits her on the neck with a bunch of twigs. Answers will vary.

2. What explanation does Helen give for enduring her punishment from Miss Scatcherd without complaining.

She mentions the biblical statement to "return good for evil." (Pg. 58)

3. In what modern sense is Helen a perfect victim?

She blames herself for the punishment. She says she is messy, careless, and forgetful, does not learn her lessons, and sometimes complains.

4. State a theme for this story based on the following passage:

“A great deal: you are good to those who are good to you. It is all I ever desire to be. If people were always kind and obedient to those who are cruel and unjust, the wicked people would have it all their own way: they would never feel afraid, and so they would never alter, but would grow worse and worse.”
(Pg. 59)

One must oppose and speak out against cruel and unfair behavior.

5. What is your reaction to Helen’s response? She says, “Would you not be happier if you tried to forget her severity, together with the passionate emotions it excited? Life appears to me too short to be spent in nursing animosity, or registering wrongs.” (Pg. 60)

While, emotionally, most people side with Jane, there is something to be said for Helen’s comment. Perhaps the author believes the solution lies somewhere between the two extremes.

6. Define “seraph” and “cumbrous.” What evidence is there that the author believes in a happy afterlife?

Seraph - one of the heavenly beings surrounding the throne of God; an angel

Cumbrous – cumbersome; awkward

Helen tells Jane she believes in an Eternity that is a rest and not a terror. She thinks that when a person dies, sins will “fall from us with this cumbrous frame of flesh, and only the spark of the spirit will remain... pure as when it left the Creator...” (Pg. 60) Most readers will probably think Helen is speaking for the author in this passage.

CHAPTER 7

Vocabulary

bounteous – generous, plentiful
chidden – blamed, scolded
chilblains – a condition that affects the skin, similar to frostbite
deferentially – respectfully
edification – improvement
effluence – an outpour
en masse – all together
evinced – to show
ermine – a type of weasel (fur)
excrescence – unwanted growth
exigency – urgency
fortitude – bravery, strength
hebdomadal – weekly
interloper – an intruder
knell – a solemn bell toll (usually for a funeral)
lineaments – facial features
moiety – half
obtrusive – noticeable
obviating – preventing
palsy – muscle paralysis
pathos – feeling sympathy, pity
penurios – stingy
perfidious – treacherous
pious – sacred, holy
plumage – feathers
privation – deprivation
remonstrate – to object, protest
repast – a meal
Rubicon – the point of no return
solace – comfort
stalwart – strong, sturdy
sturtout – [*surtout*] an overcoat
tresses – locks of hair
triviality – unimportance
tuckers – a piece of fabric worn by women around the neck and shoulders

1. How does the narration change in the following passage? Why do you think the author changes the way the story is told?

“Sometimes their feet failed them, and they sank together in a heap; they were then propped up with the monitors’ high stools.
I have not yet alluded to the visits of Mr. Brocklehurst; and indeed that gentleman was from home during the greater part of the first month after my arrival...” (Pg. 64)

The author changes from Jane’s retelling of events to her speaking directly to the reader. This change helps her switch subjects while letting the reader know Jane eventually does survive her troubles at Lowood. It also provides for variety in the narrative.

2. What is the weather like in January, February, and March? Why are Sundays “dreary days”? (Pg. 63)

The weather is cold, and the snow is deep. Sunday is dreary because the students and teachers must walk two miles to church and back in the cold without proper clothing.

3. What does Mr. Brocklehurst find fault with when he returns to the school? Why is Miss Temple amused?

Mr. Brocklehurst does not like the condition of the wool stockings, the fact two girls get two clean tuckers, the extra lunch Miss Temple orders, or the curly hair on one of the girls. Miss Temple smiles because it is silly of Mr. Brocklehurst to criticize a girl because her hair is naturally curly.

4. After his return, how does Mr. Brocklehurst humiliate Jane? Why does he do this?

He makes her stand on a stool in front of the class and its visitors. He tells the other students to avoid Jane and to exclude her from their activities. He has remembered Mrs. Reed’s comment about Jane being deceitful.

5. What does Helen do to help Jane?

She makes up an excuse to walk by the stool where Jane is standing and smiles encouragement at Jane.

6. State a theme for this story based on the following passage expressing Jane's opinion of Helen.

"What a smile! I remember it now, and I know that it was the effluence of fine intellect, of true courage: it lit up her marked lineaments, her thin face, her sunken gray eye, like a reflection from the aspect of an angel. Yet at that moment Helen Burns wore on her arm 'the untidy badge'; scarcely an hour ago I had heard her condemned by Miss Scatcherd....Such is the imperfect nature of man! such spots are there on the disc of the clearest planet; and eyes like Miss Scatcherd's can only see those minute defects, and are blind to the full brightness of the orb." (Pgs. 69-70)

People must try to see the good in each other, rather than seeing only minor faults.

7. Find an example of a metaphor in the quotation in Question 6.

"such spots are there on the disk of the clearest planet; and eyes like Miss Scatcherd's can only see those minute defects, and are blind to the full brightness of the orb." (Pg. 70)

The metaphor compares Jane and the planet, her defects and spots, and her qualities and brightness.

CHAPTER 8

Vocabulary

approbation – approval

ardently – eagerly, passionately

construe – to translate; explain

corroborate – to support

eloquence – skilful speech, powerful communication skills

fervid – passionate

imputation – a charge of wrongdoing

mien – manner

pasteboard – stiff cardboard

pensive – thoughtful, contemplative

phylactery – an object worn or kept because it is believed to have magical powers

prostrate – lying face down

“Slatern” – a derogatory term for an untidy or dirty woman

smote – struck

sovereign – supreme

supplication – a request

tenacious – able to retain

veneration – love

1. Why does Helen think many of the girls at the school pity Jane?

Since the girls do not like Mr. Brocklehurst, they will not dislike Jane because of anything he says.

2. In the following quotation, what friends will Jane have even if the whole world hates her?

“If all the world hated you, and believed you wicked, while your own conscience approved you, and absolved you from guilt, you would not be without friends.” (Pg. 72)

Helen is speaking of an individual, of that person’s relationship with himself or herself and with God. Jane should understand that if she knows within herself that she is good, then God will know it, too.

3. Why does Jane's description of her childhood at Gateshead sound credible to Miss Temple?

Jane tries to tell it without passion. She is careful to tell her story carefully and simply. By Jane's doing this, the story does not sound made up, and Miss Temple believes her.

4. What is Miss Temple's plan to clear Jane?

She is going to write to Mr. Lloyd. If his story agrees with Jane's, then Miss Temple will have Jane publicly cleared of Mr. Brocklehurst's accusations.

5. Why do you think Miss Temple breathes a "sad sigh" when she says good night to Helen? (Pg. 76)

Helen is sick, and Miss Temple knows she will die soon. Helen is a very special girl, and Miss Temple is sad that such a wonderful person will probably live only a short time longer.

6. Find a metaphor on page 77 defining why Jane prefers Lowood to Gateshead.

"Well has Solomon said, – 'Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith.'"

CHAPTER 9

Vocabulary

ameliorated – improved

asunder – apart

beck – a creek

contagion – an infection

dell – a wooded valley

eddies – small whirlpools

effluvia – bad smelling

evinced – showed clearly

genial – cheerful

gulf – a deep cut in the ground

holm – a small island in a river

implicitly – absolutely

indisposed – reluctant, unwilling

malady – a disease, sickness

mast – forest nuts

pastil – [*pastille*] a type of medication

pervaded – penetrated

pestilence – a sickness that spreads quickly

repose – calmness, tranquility; rest

throes – spasm; difficult struggle

tresses – [archaic] braids

typhus – a highly contagious disease

verdure – lush vegetation, greenness

1. Find an example of local color in Chapter 9. What relationship is there between the condition of the plants and Jane's happiness?

Example: "...this pleasure consisted in prospect of noble summits girdling a great hill-hollow, rich in verdure and shadow; in a bright beck, full of dark stones and sparkling eddies."

(Pg. 79) The weather is stormy or cold when Jane is unhappy and unloved. As she comes to love Lowood and feel accepted, spring arrives with all of nature's beauty.

2. How does Brontë tie nature in with the sickness which infests the hospital?

Charlotte Brontë describes the "cradle of fog and fog-bred pestilence," which brings typhus to the school. (Pg. 80) She is clearly blaming the natural surroundings for the disease.

3. Who is Mary Ann Wilson? Why does Jane not play with Helen?

Many Ann Wilson is a witty girl who plays with Jane in the woods. Jane is separated from Helen because Helen is sick and has been isolated in an upstairs room.

4. Why does Helen say her death is “nothing to grieve about”? (Pg. 84)

She is not in pain, her mind is at rest, she does not have any family who will miss her, and by dying young she will escape being always at fault because she does not have any talents. In addition, Helen will be with God after she dies.

5. Find a quotation in this chapter that appears to show that Charlotte Brontë believed in a loving God.

“I am sure there is a future state; I believe God is good; I can resign my immortal part to him without any misgiving.” (Pg. 84)

6. What is Jane’s view about God at this point?

She asks, “Where is God? What is God?”(Pg. 84) She clearly does not share Helen’s view.

CHAPTER 10

Vocabulary

barrister – a lawyer
brackish – salty, tainted
burgh – a town, city
conveyance – transportation
debarrassed – relieved
dissipated – lost
effusion – an outpouring of liquid
environs – environments, places
exultingly – triumphantly
ferret – to hunt, find
fetid – bad-smelling
gentry – people in high social standing
imbibed – ingested
indignation – anger
latterly – lately
mediatrix – a female mediator
ostensible – pretended
per annum – annually, yearly
post-chaise – a covered, horse-drawn carriage
rapturously – very joyously
scourge – an outbreak of sickness
scrape – a fight
servitude – bondage
sidling – sliding
soliloquized – spoken aloud to oneself
soporific – sleepy
sublunary – under the moon, earthly
surmount – climb over, overcome
virulence – harmful, deadly
zeal – passion, eagerness

1. What changes for the better happen at Lowood as a result of the typhus epidemic?

Several wealthy individuals build a new school, improve the diet of the students, help them get better clothing, and form a committee to disperse the funds. They also reduce the powers of Mr. Brocklehurst.

2. Support the following statement with a quotation: Jane would not have left Lowood if Miss Temple had not married.

"I had undergone a transforming process; that my mind had put off all it had borrowed of Miss Temple—or rather that she had taken with her the serene atmosphere I had been breathing in her vicinity—and that now I was left in my natural element.... now I remembered the real world was wide." (Pg. 88)

3. What does Jane do to get a new place of employment?

She advertises in a newspaper, the Herald, looking for a position with a private family to tutor their children.

4. Who does Jane need to consult before she is free to accept her new position?

Mrs. Reed must agree that she can leave the school, and the school committee must agree to give her a good recommendation.

5. How are the Reed children doing? Why do you think Bessie names her daughter Jane?

Georgiana is pretty. A lord fell in love with her in London last winter. She is always fighting with her sister. John spends too much money and has been thrown out of college. Bessie names her daughter after Jane because she likes Jane the best of all the Gateshead children and misses her.

6. Support the following statement: Jane's best subject in school is art.

Jane's painting is hanging over the mantle. It is a gift to the superintendent. It must be good, or the superintendent would not have hung it in a public place.

7. What relative of Jane's visited Gateshead?

Jane's uncle, Mr. Eyre, came to Gateshead looking for her seven years ago. He was going to Madeira, Spain. He will appear later in the book.

CHAPTER 11

Vocabulary

affable – gentle

alighted – exited a vehicle; dismounted

amiable – pleasant, warm

antiquity – ancient times

apparition – a spirit

azure – blue

battlements – an architectural element usually built around the tops of castles for defense purposes

boudoir – a woman's private sitting or dressing room

cachinnation – loud laughter

canzonette – a type of song

ceiled – covered with a ceiling

cherubs – angels

chintz – a bright-colored fabric

clamorous – loud

condescension – the act of treating a person as if he or she is inferior; patronization

craggy – an uneven or rocky surface

cuirass – a piece of armor that protects the chest and back

demurely – modestly, shyly

docile – teachable

dun – a dull, brownish-gray

ebon – black, dark

effaced – erased

effigies – images

etymology – the history of a word

garret – an attic

glean – to gather, collect

hamlet – a small village

hoary – light-colored with age

implore – to ask, plead

incumbent – specific to

injudicious – a lack of good judgment, unfair judgment

inured – to become accustomed to something that is undesirable

mirthless – without joy

pallid – pale

perfidy – disloyalty, infidelity

perusal – an examination

propitious – promising

proprietor – an owner

rookery – the place where rooks (birds) nest

salient – apparent

sere – dry

spar – a nonmetallic, transparent material

swathed – wrapped up

unimpeachable – free of guilt

venerable – ancient

warbled – sang

ward – a minor placed under the care of a guardian

1. Why does Jane think Mrs. Fairfax will be comfortable to live with? What is her role at Thornfield?

She is a small, elderly woman, who appears not too grand. She greets Jane kindly. Although Jane at first thinks she is the lady of the house, she learns that Fairfax is the housekeeper.

2. Why can Mrs. Fairfax not converse equally with Leah, John, and his wife?

They are servants at Thornfield; and if she talks to them as equals, she will lose her authority over them.

3. What is Jane's room like? Why does Mrs. Fairfax select a small room for the governess?

Her room is bright and sunny with wallpaper and carpets. Mrs. Fairfax selects the room because the larger, more elaborate rooms are dreary and solitary.

4. Describe the exterior of the mansion? How did it get its name?

It is three stories high with a gray front, surrounded by old thorn trees and big oaks. Thornfield is named after the large thorn trees around the mansion.

5. Who is Miss Adèle, and what is her relationship to Mr. Rochester? What does the school-room look like?

She is Mr. Rochester's ward. We do not yet know of any other relationship. She is from the continent and speaks French. Her mother is dead. They use the library as the schoolroom. Most of the books are locked up, but it has everything she will need to teach Adèle.

6. Why does Mrs. Fairfax keep the dining room clean even when Mr. Rochester is not in the house? How can your answer to this question be an example of foreshadowing?

Mr. Rochester does not visit Thornfield often; but when he does come, he comes without any notice to the household staff. Therefore, Mrs. Fairfax must keep the rooms clean and fresh. This is an example of foreshadowing because the reader can now expect the unannounced arrival of Mr. Rochester.

7. How does Mrs. Fairfax explain the lack of a ghost at Thornfield? What unexpected noise does Jane hear while exploring the third story?

The Rochesters were violent in their time and now rest quietly in their graves. Jane hears a strange laugh coming from a sealed-off part of the house.

8. Who is Grace Poole?

She is a seamstress and assistant housekeeper, who works in the third-story rooms. She is between thirty and forty years old, with red hair and a plain face.

CHAPTER 12

Vocabulary

accorded – granted

antipathetic – detestable

ardor – passion, enthusiasm

belfry – a bell tower

belied – disproved, proved to be false

boles – tree trunks

covet – to desire

dales – valleys

deuce – [slang] devil

din – noise

ferment – to become excited or agitated, produce

gallantry – bravery, courage

hoary – white in color

homage – honor, respect

incarnate – bodily

injudicious – unwise, lack of judgment

ireful – full of anger

mantle – a cloak, covering

merino – a type of wool

officious – offering advice, helpful

pliability – flexibility, suppleness

pollard – a tree purposely cut back to produce thick growth

prattle – to talk of unimportant or mundane subjects

prostrate – lying flat

raiment – clothes, garments

reverence – honor, respect

ruddy – reddish; rosy

russet – brown in color

scrutiny – a close examination

sequestered – isolated

sough – a soft murmuring sound

stagnation – staleness

stile – steps used to cross over a fence or wall

tenanted – occupied

thwarted – frustrated; defeated

vale – a valley

vapid – dull

vocation – a desire, inclination

zenith – the highest point in the sky

1. Although Jane is happy at Thornfield, what is lacking in her life?

She wants to meet new people and see new places. Sometimes she climbs to the third story, looks out over the countryside, and dreams of new places.

2. State a generalization from this novel based on the last full paragraph on page 112. What does the author say about women's rights in Victorian society?

People need variety in their lives to exercise their minds fully and be happy. Charlotte Brontë implies that women need the opportunity to use their minds to create and build just as much as men do. She says it is thoughtless to condemn women for wanting to do more with their lives than cook, sew, and play the piano.

3. Why does Jane walk to Hay? Why is she apprehensive when she hears a horse approaching?

Adèle has a cold, so there is no school. Jane volunteers to mail a letter for Mrs. Fairfax in Hay. When Jane hears the approaching horse, she thinks of one of Bessie's tales about a Gytrash, which is a spirit that haunts lonely roads.

4. Briefly describe Pilot and the fallen rider. What about his appearance makes Jane bold enough to offer assistance to the rider?

He is of average height with stern features. He is approximately thirty-five years old. Jane has had no experience with men but thinks that if he had been handsome, she would not have offered her help. She thinks a handsome man would shun her.

5. How does Jane discover the fallen rider is Mr. Rochester?

She sees the black and white dog at Thornfield; when she calls Pilot, he comes to her. Then, the maid tells her the master is home but needs a surgeon because he has had an accident in Hay Lane.

6. What is your opinion of Mr. Rochester and his behavior?

Answers will vary. Example: He may have concealed who he is out of flirtatiousness, mystery, or mischief. It also could be Brontë's use of coincidental occurrences.

CHAPTER 13

Vocabulary

requisition – demand

discerned – detected

rill – a small brook

shrewdly – knowingly, wisely

prenomens – first names

cessation – a conclusion, ending

mosaic – a collection of pictures or designs that overlap to form one piece of art

jetty – black in color

decisive – authoritative; firm

denoting – indicating

choler – irritability, annoyance

divested – stripped, rid

physiognomy – facial features that show qualities of mind of character

accost – to attack

disembarrassed – relieved

caprice – the act of changing one's mind quickly

quiescence – stillness, quietness

eccentricity – peculiarity, quirkiness

piquant – interesting

amiable – friendly

trite – dully, in a tired way

condoled – expressed sorrow

perseverance – persistence

rejoinder – a reply

assiduous – diligent

celerity – quick movements

propitious – appropriate, favorable

cadeaux – [French] gifts

irate – angry, enraged

'cadeau' – [French] gifts

clamorously – noisily

meed – a reward

consoles – tables

chiffonnières – tall chests of drawers

tenacious – tough; obstinate, headstrong

eulogiums – praises

religieuses – nuns

blasphemous – sacrilegious

inditing – writing
assented – agreed
eclipse – clouds, overcast
cormorant – a large type of sea bird
palette – an artist's board (usually with a thumbhole) used for holding different colors
lineaments – facial features
suffusion – overspreading
travail – a hardship
pinnacle – a peak
muster – a gathering
serried – together
sable – black or dark in color
lurid – colorful
diademed – crowned
quells – suppresses
brook – to tolerate
fortnight – approximately two weeks
evasive – vague
averred – declared

1. Why does Jane like Thornfield better after Mr. Rochester arrives?

There are more visitors, and the house is more alive.

2. How does Mr. Rochester behave when Jane and Mrs. Fairfax join him for tea? Why does his attitude put Jane at ease?

He does not even look up at their entrance. Jane likes being treated with coldness rather than overly polite behavior. She does not mind being ignored and would not know how to respond to a warm reception.

3. What compliment does Mr. Rochester give Jane?

He compliments her by telling her he can see an improvement in Adèle.

4. Support the following statement: Mr. Rochester is teasing Jane and enjoying their conversation.

Mr. Rochester teases Jane by accusing her of waiting for men in green on Hay Lane. She tells him the men in green all left England a hundred years ago. He is enjoying the conversation because he continues to talk mostly to Jane, leaving Mrs. Fairfax out of the conversation and confused.

5. Why does Jane paint? What does Mr. Rochester think of her work?

Jane paints because it is the most enjoyable thing she has to do. It occupies her free time and gives her a way of expressing her ideas. Mr. Rochester likes her work, and he takes the time to point out to her the parts of the painting she has done well.

6. What family problems did Mr. Edward Rochester have before becoming master of Thornfield?

His father and older brother schemed to keep him from inheriting any of the estate. Mrs. Fairfax does not know the details of their plan, only that it put Mr. Edward into a “painful position.” (Pg. 129) After their deaths, Edward inherited Thornfield but does not like to stay at the house for long.

7. How does Mr. Rochester’s mood change?

He abruptly goes from happiness to gloominess, in the manner of a Byronic figure.

CHAPTER 14

Vocabulary

adventitious – accidental
affability – friendliness
affectation – artificial behavior used to impress
alternation – a change, rotation
arrogate – to assume
ascertained – determined
atone – to make up for
auditress – a female listener, hearer
austere – harsh, severe
bane – ruin, harm, hurt
benevolent – kind
bent – instinct
blunder – a mistake
bonny – handsome, pretty, fine
breadth – distance, with
brusque – abrupt, curt
cankering – decaying, rotting
charnel – a place to be buried
chasséed – quick, gliding steps, a move in ballet
chink – a crack
complacent – eager to please
conspicuous – obvious
damask – thoroughly patterned fabric
degenerated – declined
deigned – descended to a level lower than one's dignity; stooped
deity – a god, divinity
deliberated – considered, thought
disemboweling – tearing something apart (usually referring to removing innards from)
dissipations – foolish pleasures
dross – wasted material, rubbish
ebb – to decline; fall back
enigmatical – riddled, puzzling
entrails – intestines and organs
expiating – amending, fixing
fallible – able to make a mistake
festal – a festival, holiday
flint – a mineral used to spark a fire
galled – annoyed, disturbed
generalities – the majority
gregarious – outgoing, sociable

hackneyed – commonplace; used often
 hector – to annoy, tease
 impediment – an obstacle
 importunes – annoys
 impromptu – an unrehearsed exclamation, improvisation
 inclement – nasty, stormy
 insolence – rudness
 insolent – rude
 interlocutrice – a person to talk with (usually a woman)
 intrinsic – innate, natural
 irrevocably – irreversibly
 limpid – clear
 malevolent – evil
 mercenary – one who works for pay
 moor – open grassy land
 neophyte – an amateur, novice, apprentice
 ore – a mineral that bears metallic properties: aluminum, iron, tin, copper, etc.
 palliate – make to seem less severe
 paltry – trivial
 pervious – approachable
 philanthropist – a person who loves mankind and devotes time and money to help others
 piqued – annoyed
 placidity – calmness, tranquility
 prominences – distinctions
 rejoinder – an answer
 rencontrer – [*rencounter*] an unplanned meeting
 repartee – a funny reply
 repletion – fullness
 ribaldry – indecent, mocking
 sage – a wise person
 salubrious – healthy
 self-indulgent – to consume with one's desires, etc.
 sententious – energetic
 subordinates – people paid to be under another's authority or control
 subsequent – following
 unobtrusive – unnoticeable
 unsanctioned – unusual, unconventional
 venture – to gamble, speculate, guess
 verily – confidently
 vernal – spring
 wot – [archaic] singular present tense of wit; to learn

1. What does Jane answer when Rochester asks her if she thinks he is handsome? How does he react?

She answers honestly, "No, sir." He admires her open and proud manner.

2. In what ways does Mr. Rochester think he is superior to Jane? Why does she not agree?

He is twenty years older than she is and has more worldly experience. Jane thinks he is superior only if he has put his years and experience to good use.

3. Why does Jane agree to receive his orders without being upset by the tone of his command?

He forgets she is his paid subordinate, and this pleases Jane. She agrees to his eccentric desire to talk because he is the kind of man who can ignore her inferior position.

4. How does Mr. Rochester excuse his sins?

He says they are not part of his nature but a product of circumstances.

5. Find an example of a metaphor for Jane near the end of the chapter.

The metaphor is between Jane and a bird: "a curious sort of bird through the close-set bars of a cage: a vivid, restless, resolute captive is there; were it once free, it would soar cloud-high." (Pg. 140)

6. What does Adèle say that makes Rochester wince?

She says that she is thanking him as her mother might have done.

7. What does Mr. Rochester say about Adèle that shocks Jane?

She is the daughter of his mistress. He says that he is raising Adèle as a good deed to help cancel his many sins. This revelation adds another note of mystery.

CHAPTER 15

Vocabulary

abridge – to shorten, cut short

anathemas – cursed

aperture – an opening, hole, slot

assuage – to calm, satisfy

battledore – a badminton racket

casement – a window that opens like a door

cavalier – a gentleman

comfits -- desserts made with fruits, nuts, and sugar

congenial – agreeable

countenance – an appearance, face

deluged – soaked

demoniac – devilish

dentelles – lace

destitute – poor

digression – a detour

diverged – departed

doleful – sad

dupe – a fool, sucker

ensued – followed

equipages – carriages

etiolated – pale, colorless

ewer – a pitcher

exigencies – situations which demand attention

expedient – a quick, believable excuse to get out of a current situation

façade – a false appearance, front

filette – a little girl

fulminating – violently exploding

gravely – seriously

habergeon – a shield

habergeon – a small coat

hauteur – arrogance

imperious – authoritative, commanding

inamorata – a sweetheart, someone you love (usually a female)

intimated – suggested

ire – anger

lugubrious – miserable, depressing

malignant – hateful, evil

morose – sorrowful

noxious – injurious, harmful

paramount – a main concern

paroxysm – a sudden attack

pastille – a tablet with aromatic qualities

peril – a risk
rebuking – reprimanding, scolding
relish – enthusiasm, zeal
repose – to trust in something (someone)
sanctity – holiness
sardonic – cold, mocking
shuttlecock – the “birdie” used in badminton
spoon – overly sentimental
undulating – rolling, wavy
unmolested – unbothered, undisturbed
unshod – without shoes
vicomte – a gentleman who works for a nobleman
welkin – the sky

1. How does the following passage, in first person like the rest of the novel, differ from the narration in the other chapters?

“It was moonlight and gas-light besides, and very still and serene. The balcony was furnished with a chair or two; I sat down, took out a cigar.” (Pg. 144)

The incident with Adèle’s mother is told by Mr. Rochester.

2. Why does Mr. Rochester feel comfortable confiding in Jane? What does he reveal about Helen’s mother?

He thinks Jane is considerate and cautious and he thinks that her mind is unique. He feels that he cannot hurt her by telling her his story and she may help him by listening. He reveals that Helen’s mother, Celine, was his mistress.

3. In what way can Celine be called Jane’s foil?

Celine pretends that she thinks Mr. Rochester is handsome, whereas Jane tells him outright that he is not. She is a mistress, beautiful and untrustworthy. Jane is just the opposite.

4. Why does Mr. Rochester suggest Jane may want another position after hearing his story? What is her response?

Rochester tells Jane that Adèle is the illegitimate child of a French opera singer. He suggests that she might not want to be the governess to such a child. Jane says Adèle is not responsible for her parents’ mistakes and she prefers teaching an orphan who needs her rather than a spoiled child of a wealthy family.

5. What evidence is there that Jane is falling in love with Mr. Rochester?

She enjoys spending time with him and no longer dreams about new people and places. He seems to like her company, too. Although he is not handsome, Jane likes to look at his face more than any other.

6. What do you make of Rochester's attitude about Thornfield?

There is clearly something about the place that he does not like.

7. Why does Jane have trouble sleeping? What frightening noise does she hear?

Jane cannot sleep because she is thinking about how lonely Thornfield will be if Mr. Rochester decides to leave again. She hears a "demoniac laugh" outside her door. (Pg. 149)

8. How does Jane save Mr. Rochester's life? Why do you suppose he does not want her to mention it any more?

She sees smoke coming from his room. The bed is on fire, and Mr. Rochester is overcome with the smoke. When she cannot awaken him, she puts out the fire with water from the basins in his room. Answers will vary.

9. Why do you think he leaves Jane in the wet bedroom and goes to the third story?

He may know who set the fire and has gone to find the person responsible.

10. Support the following statement: When Mr. Rochester thanks Jane for saving his life, he also communicates his love to her.

He tells her that she is the only person to whom he would feel gratitude without also feeling a burden. He is explaining how much he values her character and that he is happy to be in her debt. While he talks to her, he holds her hand and is reluctant to let her go back to her room.

CHAPTER 16

Vocabulary

aerial – sheer
bleared – cloudy, unclear
brazen – shameless; bold
confabulation – a conversation
conflagration – a large fire
conjecture – a theory
contrived – forced
enigmatical – like a riddle; without a solution
extrication – the act of becoming untangled, freed
folly – ignorance, stupidity
harangue – to harshly lecture
impenetrability – incomprehensibility
indelibly – permanently
indigent – poor
indignation – anger
inscrutable – mysterious
matronly – elderly
miry – swampy, muddy
phlegmatic – indifferent, cool
plebeian – a commoner
propriety – appropriateness, correctness, respectability
providential – fortunate
provocation – an annoyance, irritation
prudence – discretion, caution
sago – a food used to make pudding, a starch
staid – serious
supposition – an opinion, theory
surfeited – overindulged
taciturn – silent
unvarnished – simple, plain, bare
vexing – discussing at length; puzzling

1. Why does Jane want to put Mrs. Poole to a test? How does she try to test her?

Jane thinks Grace, the servant, is responsible for the fire, and Jane cannot understand how she can calmly sit and sew in Mr. Rochester's room. Jane decides to test Mrs. Poole to see if she will reveal something about the fire. She tests the servant by asking about the fire and relating the story of hearing a laugh.

2. Why do you think Mrs. Poole tries to persuade Jane to lock her bedroom door at night?

Mrs. Poole knows who set the fire. Perhaps she thinks the person will return and Jane should lock her door for safety.

3. What upsets Jane about Mr. Rochester's journey? Why do you think he leaves so suddenly?

*Jane wants to question him about Grace Poole's involvement with the fire.
Rochester may have left early the next morning because he knows Jane will ask him questions he does not want to answer.*

4. Describe Blanche Ingram. Why is Jane especially interested in Mrs. Fairfax's description of Blanche?

Blanche is beautiful, tall, and dark haired; she also sings quite well. Because Jane is in love with Mr. Rochester, though, she is interested in any description of Blanche.

5. What punishment does Jane give herself for secretly loving Mr. Rochester?

She is going to draw a picture of herself with all of her faults. Then she will paint Miss Ingram's portrait from Mrs. Fairfax's description, as beautiful as she can make it. Whenever she thinks about Mr. Rochester romantically, she will take out these two portraits and compare them.

6. Find an example of foreshadowing of future troubling situations.

She says, "Thanks to it, I was able to meet subsequent occurrences with a decent calm; which, had they found me unprepared, I should probably have been unequal to maintain, even externally." (Pg. 160)

CHAPTER 17

Vocabulary

Abigails – a lady's personal maid

akin – connected

amplitude – greatness

anathematized – denounced, detested

anon – presently

apathetic – indifferent, unresponsive

appendage – land, property, or money

array – a display

assimilates – understands, grasps, matches

audible – able to be heard

auditors – listeners

balustrade – railing supports

behest – a request

bolsters – long, firm cylinder-shaped pillows

botany – the study of plants

caper – to frolic, hop

caste – a social group

cavalcade – a procession of carriages

cavaliers – gentlemen (soldiers or knights)

chastisement – a punishment

chimeras – wild or crazy ideas

clement – pleasant, merciful

confabulate – chat, talk

contumacy – resistance, disobedience

crucibles – melting pots

dictum – a comment, opinion

dogmatical – overbearing, opinionated

Dowager – an elderly woman belonging to the upper class

elicited – given

ensconced – settled

enumeration – a count, tally, list

exonerated – excused

extant – not destroyed, saved

extirpate – to remove totally

fender – the screen placed in front of a fireplace that keeps coals and embers from escaping

festooned – decorated

fettered – chained

foil – one that accentuates another's specific characteristics

forage – food

furbish – to polish, restore
gallant – majestic
heralds – messengers
incubi – nightmares; burdens
induced – persuaded
ineffable – unspeakable
insipid – dull, colorless
irids – referring to the iris
lachrymose – in tears
languid – not forceful, unenergetic
larder – a pantry, cellar
liaisons – middle parties
magistrate – a judge
martyrdom – extreme suffering
mutiny – a rebellion
onus – a burden, responsibility
pith – strength, energy
poplars – types of trees
portents – warnings, omens
prating – chattering
protracted – prolonged
puppet – [British] a term used when addressing small, impressionable children
resplendent – brilliantly
riveted – fascinated
sanctum – a sanctuary, holy place
satirical – sarcastic
saturnine – unhappy, gloomy
sentiments – feelings
slavish – subservient
solace – comfort
solicitous – anxious
sonorous – deep, rich
sovereign – independent
steely – hard
sundry – assorted
trepidation – fears
truss – to secure with string (usually referring to meat)
unfurrowed – unmarked, clear
vanquishing – defeating
vernacularly – referring to dialect; idiomatically spoken
victualage – food
whey – milky colored, pale

1. What new information does Jane learn when she overhears a conversation between Leah and another maid?

She discovers that Mrs. Poole is very well paid and has saved enough money to open a business of her own.

2. What do Adèle and Jane do while Mr. Rochester entertains his guests that first night? How does Jane feel about being invited to the party?

They watch the servants from the balcony and then sit on the steps to listen to the music. She is anxious because she knows she cannot dress as others do.

3. Why do Adèle and Jane go into the drawing room early? How are they treated by the ladies when they enter from the dining room?

They go early so they do not need to make an embarrassing entrance. They are already there when the ladies arrive. Adèle greets the ladies and is immediately spoiled by them. Jane is left alone to observe the party.

4. What negative characteristics does Jane observe about Miss Blanche Ingram?

Her laugh is satirical, she laughs too much, she is self-centered, and she is not good-natured.

5. What are the two main topics of Miss Ingram's conversation? How do they hurt Jane?

First, she talks about governesses and how much she dislikes them. Next, she discusses the importance of beauty for women and how she will look for a husband who lets her be the beautiful one in the marriage.

6. Speculate on what Mr. Rochester is about to say, but does not, in the following passage:

“ ‘Now go, and send Sophie for Adèle. Good-night, my —’ He stopped, bit his lip, and abruptly left me.” (Pg. 177)

He is going to say, “Good-night, my love,” or some other endearment.

CHAPTER 18

Vocabulary

acquitted – conducted
acrimony – a bitter temper
allure – to attract, entice
antipathy – hostility, hatred, animosity
attainments – achievements, accomplishments
beguile – to entertain, amuse
beldame – an old woman
brocaded – heavy fabric with ornate and thick embroidery
casket – a small box for valuables
condemnatory – negative
consort – associate
contumelious – insulting, abusive
countenance – to support
deference – courteousness, obedience
deferred – postponed, delayed
engender – to cause, produce
epithet – an expression
equitable – unprejudiced, fair, objective
girandoles – candleholders
halcyon – calm, peaceful
hem – an intentional cough used to get someone's attention
highwayman – a person who robs from travelers
imperious – authoritative, dictatorial
importunity – urgency, insistence
incredulity – doubt, not trusting
infatuatedly – foolishly passionate
languidly – listlessly, spiritlessly
lenient – gentle, merciful
meretricious – insincere; tastelessly flashy or showy
multitudinous – many, large in numbers
palmistry – the act of reading palms
palsied – shaking, trembling
pantomime – the act of communicating with only gestures and expressions
paradox – a contradictory statement
parleying – negotiating
placid – pale
pungent – spicy (usually referring to taste or smell)
rebuff – giving the “cold-shoulder,” snub
sagacity – keen judgment, wisdom
sallow – sickly
sardonic – sarcastic
self-complacency – self-satisfaction

sibyl – a female prophet or fortuneteller

sordid – depressing

supercilious – arrogant, superior

tableau – a clear description

taciturnity – silent, quiet

tinkler – a meddler, wanderer

titter – a giggle

unremittingly – persistently, constantly

vagabond – a wanderer, a person with no permanent home

van – the first in a group

vivaciously – spiritedly

1. What three characters does Mr. Rochester play in charades? Which character do you think Jane likes the least?

Mr. Rochester plays a groom, Eliezer, and a highwayman. Jane probably does not like seeing him pretend to be Miss Ingram's groom.

2. How does Jane explain her lack of jealousy toward Miss Ingram?

She thinks Miss Ingram is not worthy of her jealousy. She is not good, is not original, and has no opinions of her own.

3. What is Jane's opinion of Mr. Rochester's apparent decision to marry for position?

She understands that people of Mr. Rochester's class are brought up to believe they must make advantageous matches; if she were a man, though, she would marry for love and happiness.

4. Who arrives while Mr. Rochester is away from the party on business? What does he look like?

Mr. Mason arrives from the West Indies to see Mr. Rochester. He is between thirty and forty and good looking.

5. Who is "old Mother Bunches"? (Pg. 187) What demands does she make on the ladies at the party?

Mother Bunches is a gypsy from Hay Common. She insists on telling the fortunes of the young, single ladies alone in a separate room.

6. What happens when the gypsy tells the fortunes of Mary, Amy, Louisa, and Blanche?

Mary, Amy, and Louisa are excited because the gypsy is able to tell them many personal things about their childhood and boudoirs at home. Blanche is disappointed when she returns from getting her palm read.

CHAPTER 19

Vocabulary

automaton – like a robot, mechanically

blackaviced – dark, complicated

brine – salt water

censure – to be publicly shunned

chagrin – embarrassment, disappointment

chasms – opinions, interests

desist – to stop

diablerie – witchcraft, devilry

doffed – taken off, removed

enigmas – puzzling or inexplicable (referring to people or riddles)

feigned – pretended, invented

interlocutor – a person to talk with

lassitude – weak, weary

meted – limited, measured

ministrant – comforting

propitious – favorable

quibble – a pun, a play on words

superlatively – highly, excessively

1. Why does the gypsy say Jane is cold, sick, and silly?

She is cold because she is alone, sick because love stays away from her, and silly because she does nothing to bring love to herself.

2. What do you think the gypsy is trying to get Jane to admit?

She is trying to get Jane to admit that she is romantically interested in Mr. Rochester.

3. What information does the gypsy woman give Blanche Ingram to make her unhappy?

She probably tells her something about the Rochester estate that may make it less eligible as her new home. She tells Blanche that it is not as valuable as she thinks.

4. List the observations the gypsy makes about Jane's character by examining her eyes, mouth, and forehead.

She says Jane's eyes reveal melancholy and loneliness. Her mouth is mobile and flexible, and her forehead reveals she has good judgment and a strong conscience.

5. Why does Jane congratulate herself after her interview with the gypsy?

The gypsy is really Mr. Rochester in disguise. Jane congratulates herself because she has been on guard throughout the interview and careful about what she reveals.

6. How does Mr. Rochester react to the news that Mr. Mason is waiting to see him? What does he ask Jane to do to help him?

He is shaken by the news and must sit down. He asks her to get him a glass of wine and find out what Mr. Mason is doing in the dining room.

7. In what way is the final conversation in the chapter between Jane and Mr. Rochester an example of foreshadowing?

He is asking her if she will stay with him even if all of society turns against him. It is foreshadowing because it makes the reader suspect he is in danger of being ousted from society because of his connection with Mr. Mason.

CHAPTER 20

Vocabulary

alacrity - liveliness, eagerness

amenable – responsible

buxom – healthy; lively

cannily – carefully

carrion – a dead animal, rotting flesh

charlatan – a fraud, phony

cordial – a stimulant; liquor

crimson – the color red

culpable – guilty

eyrie – a nest (usually built by a bird of prey)

gilding – a thin coating of gold

grappled – wrestled

immutable – unalterable

impetuous – hasty, impulsive

inarticulate – unable to be determined; unclear

inertness – having the inability to move

inextricable – unable to be solved

mien – actions; appearance

parable – a story with a moral

penchant – having a strong liking

peril – a risk

phial – a small bottle, vial

propounded – proposed

recommence – to begin again

repository – a place where items are kept for safe keeping

sequestered – secluded

shod – past tense of *shoe*

strapper – a robust, strong person

sullied – dirty

trice – an instant

twain – two

vigils – periods of observation

viz. – [Latin] videlicet; that is

wane – to fade away

wax – to become intense; to become large in size or strength

wicket – a gate

1. Why does Jane remain dressed after Mr. Rochester explains that the screams are from a servant's nightmare?

Jane hears someone ask Rochester for help. She thinks she is the only one who hears the plea because of the location of her room. She stays dressed to be ready for emergencies.

2. What does Jane do to help Mr. Mason? What special instructions does Mr. Rochester give Jane and Mr. Mason? What could be the reason for such instructions?

She stays with him while Mr. Rochester gets the doctor. She sponges off the blood from his wounds and gives him water. Mr. Rochester insists they do not talk to each other while he is gone. He obviously does not want them discussing what has just happened.

3. Why does someone bite Mr. Mason? Who or what do you think bites him?

He says that “she” wants to suck his blood to “drain his heart”. Answers may vary.

4. What four errands does Jane perform for Mr. Rochester?

First, she gets a clean shirt and tie, Mr. Mason’s cloak, and a bottle of medicine; finally, she opens the side passage.

5. What is behind the tapestry in the room where Jane nurses Mr. Mason?

There is a secret door behind a tapestry in the room. The door is open, and Jane hears snarling from the secret room.

6. How can Mr. Mason hurt Mr. Rochester?

He can unknowingly say something careless, which will forever deprive Mr. Rochester of happiness.

7. Why do you think the author has Mr. Rochester take Jane into the garden to talk instead of the mansion?

Charlotte Brontë uses natural settings and events in this novel to mirror the events in Jane’s life. If she is happy, the weather is nice. If troubles begin, the weather becomes nasty. Jane is in love with Mr. Rochester and enjoys being with him. Their time together in the beautiful garden is very happy for Jane.

8. What answer does Jane give to the following question?

“Is the wandering and sinful, but now rest-seeking and repentant man justified in daring the world’s opinion, in order to attach to him for ever this gently, gracious, genial stranger; thereby securing his own peace of mind and regeneration of life?” (Pg. 212)

She says that he should not look to another human creature for reformation but should look to God.

9. Support the following statement: Mr. Rochester is not serious about wanting to marry Miss Ingram.

He is not in love with Miss Ingram; he is using her to make Jane jealous and bring her feelings for him to the surface. This is clear by his masquerade as a gypsy and by his trust in Jane’s discretion concerning the attack on Mr. Mason.

CHAPTER 21

Vocabulary

acrid – bitter

affliction – a burden

amity – goodwill, affection

amity – showing goodwill, affection

apoplectic – having the appearance of verging on stroke or heart attack

ascetic – severe

assiduously – busily, diligently

aught – all

augmented – magnified, enlarged

crape – a piece of fabric

cumber – a burden; clutter

dandled – bounced

deglutition – swallowing

despotic – authoritative, tyrannical

dissipations – pleasures, amusements

emphatically – forcefully, assertively

entreated – begged, pleaded

equivocal – unclear, obscure

eradicated – removed, uprooted, exterminated

forbearance – patience, tolerance

formalist – a person who pays strict attention to worship

hoard – an inventory, stock

indissoluble – impossible

inexorable – rigid, inflexible

iteration – repetition

knaves – dishonest scoundrels

languish – to deteriorate, fade

lethargy – stupor, laziness

naiads – a type of mythological nymph or fairy that usually lived in springs or fountains

niggard – a cheapskate, penny pincher

outlawry – an illegal act

pecuniary – money related

peremptory – final, absolute

precursor – the beginning

presentiments – premonitions

puritanical – like a puritan; one who lives a strict religious life

purloined – stolen

remittent – less, not as much

reprobation – blame, disapproval

resounded – echoed

ruth – compassion

scantiness – meagerness

sharpers – crooks, cheaters
sovereign – a British gold coin
sublime – majestic
superciliousness – the act of being arrogant, haughtiness
quells – suppresses, quiets
“quiz” – a joke
tempestuously – ferociously
tenement – a lease, rental
thrice – three times
vignettes – paintings, usually very descriptive
visage – a face
water-flags – types of irises with yellow flowers

1. How does Jane define presentiments, sympathies, and signs?

Presentiments are the same as premonitions. She believes in them and has had them herself. Sympathies is her word for family connections and the natural closeness among even distant relatives. Signs are things like dreams that come true. She also believes in these and thinks they result from the connections between man and nature.

2. What does Jane dream?

She dreams about a child crying, then laughing, nestling against her, then running away from her.

3. Who is Robert? What news does he bring about the Reed family?

Robert is the coachman at Gateshead, who is married to Bessie. He tells Jane that John is dead, and Mrs. Reed is dying. Mrs. Reed has asked to see Jane again before she dies.

4. What matter of business does Jane want to discuss with Mr. Rochester before leaving for Gateshead?

She wants him to send Adèle to school since he is to be married to Miss Ingram.

5. How have Eliza and Georgiana changed?

Eliza dresses in plain clothes and wears a crucifix. Georgiana is plump and pretty.

6. Why does Jane think Mrs. Reed must always think she is a bad person?

If she decides Jane is good, then she must admit she was wrong in her harsh treatment of Jane as a child.

7. Why does Mrs. Reed wish Jane had died at Lowood during the typhus epidemic?

She disliked her because her husband doted on his sister, Jane's mother. When Jane's mother died, he cared more for Jane than his own children.

8. State a theme for this novel, using the following quotation describing the reason Georgiana and Eliza are despicable human beings:

“True, generous feeling is made small account of by some; but here were two natures rendered, the one intolerably acrid, the other despicably savorless for the want of it. Feeling without judgment is a washy draught indeed; but judgment untempered by feeling is too bitter and husky a morsel for human deglutition.” (Pg. 229)

People need both love and discipline to grow into healthy, mature adults.

9. What two ways has Mrs. Reed wronged Jane?

First, she has not kept her promise to Mr. Reed to bring Jane up as one of her own children. Next, she withholds a letter from Jane's uncle, John Eyre, in Madeira. He wants to adopt and name her his heir. Mrs. Reed tells him Jane died of typhus fever at Lowood.

10. What do we learn of the Reed sisters?

They hate each other and their mother. They are completely unprepared to deal with the world.

11. Why does Jane forgive Mrs. Reed?

She sees Mrs. Reed as an old dying woman, who no longer has control over Jane's life, so there is no point in not forgiving her.

CHAPTER 22

Vocabulary

acumen – cleverness, intelligence

advantageous – beneficial

amicable – friendly

ardent – passionate

balm – quiet, calm

bourne – a destination

cognizant – aware, conscious

colloquize – to converse, to talk

compliant – obedient

cynosure – guidance, direction

dogmas – a set of guidelines, doctrines

dubious – doubtful

gloaming – twilight

interment – a funeral ceremony

lamentations – mourning, grievances

novitiate – the trial period of a person attempting to join a religious order

osler – [*holster*] the person in charge of tending to the horses

philter – a love potion

surmised – guessed

transitory – brief, fleeting

truant – a person who skips work or school

vicinage – an area, vicinity

vocation – an occupation

1. How is the following statement ambiguous? “I have been with my aunt, sir, who is dead.” (Pg. 236)

Jane means she was with her aunt until she died, but Mr. Rochester pretends she means she was with her aunt after her death.

2. What does Mr. Rochester want to show Jane?

He wants to show her the carriage he has purchased for the new Mrs. Rochester.

3. What is Jane’s idea of home?

She is home if she is with Mr. Rochester.

4. Why does Jane think Mr. Rochester’s marriage to Blanche may have been canceled?

He is making no wedding plans and never rides his horse to the Ingram home for a visit.

CHAPTER 23

Vocabulary

acuteness – sharpness

atone – [archaic] to agree

constancy – loyalty

conventionalities – specific customs and expected social behavior

expiate – to fix

exultation – triumph, extreme joy

incivility – rudeness, impoliteness

parterres – arrangements; specifically arranged garden paths

peal – a sudden burst of noise

prostrate – to overpower or crush with intense emotion

prudence – thriftiness, frugality; discretion

resolves – decisions

sanction – consent, permission

subjoined – said at the end, added

1. How does Mr. Rochester get Jane to admit her true feelings for him?

He tells her that he is going to marry Miss Ingram and that Jane must take a new position in Ireland far away from him. He keeps talking to her about being separated until she begins crying. She finally tells him she loves him and it is wrong for him to marry Miss Ingram.

2. Why does Jane reveal her love for Rochester?

She thinks it is safe to tell Mr. Rochester about her true feelings because she will soon be leaving for Ireland.

3. What is Jane's reaction to Rochester's proposal?

At first, she thinks he is talking about an affair; then when he talks of marriage, she thinks he is mocking her.

4. After Jane accepts his proposal, why does Rochester say:

"God pardon me!...and man meddle not with me: I have her and will hold her." (Pg. 246)

For some reason, he will be committing a sin against God when he marries Jane. He asks for God's forgiveness and prays the rest of the world will not condemn him for his actions.

5. Considering the author's use of nature to mirror the events in Jane's life, what is the significance of the lightning splitting the chestnut tree at the bottom of the orchard?

The chestnut tree is broken by an act of God, the lightning. Jane's life at Thornfield may also be broken, for the lightning is an ill omen.

CHAPTER 24

Vocabulary

accession – an increase, addition
alabaster – light in color, ivory, pale
alight – to get down
asperity – harshness
averred – declared
badinage – to tease, banter
bairn – a child
bashaw – an honorific title of a Turkish military officer
bathos – an insincere expression of sentimentality
blither – nonsense
capricious – unpredictable, impulsive
circlet – a small round piece of jewelry
coercion – force, strength
colloquy – a conversation
concession – an allowance
coquetry – flirtation
cudgel – a club
deferential – dutiful, respectful
deprecation – the act of expressing a strong opinion
despot – a tyrant
dint – a force
dudgeon – a feeling of resentment
effervesce – to boil up
enmity – hatred
expediency – giving in to self-serving means
fagged – exhausted
fastidious – careful, finicky
flinty – stern
fractionous – hard to manage
fruition – fulfillment, attainment
gossamer – a type of light, sheer fabric
harlequin – a type of clown
hied – rushed, raced
imbecility – great stupidity
insolvency – bankruptcy
legatee – someone who inherits a legacy
manna – food created by divine means
monitress – a female monitor
nettled – irritated
pagan – a person who does not regard any religion as their own
peremptory – authoritative
pertinaciously – stubbornly
pinion – a bird's wing
piqued – aroused, provoked
pished – a sound of impatience
pliancy – flexibility
quailed – cowered
remand – to send back
remonstrance – challenge
repast – a meal

rescind – to void
salamander – a spirit that lives in fire
seraglio – a sultan's palace or harem (a place reserved for only women)
sojourn – a visit, vacation
sultan – a Muslim ruler
suttee – a widow who is burned alive
swaths – large areas of land
sylph – a slender, graceful girl
talisman – a charm believed to have magical powers
tyne – to lose
unction – earnestness, seriousness
usurped – to seize with power
vouchsafed – guaranteed, assured

1. Why is Mrs. Fairfax uncomfortable with Jane at breakfast?

She sees Mr. Rochester kiss Jane the night before, but she does not know he has proposed marriage. She is worried Jane is going to be his mistress.

2. Why does Jane not want the Rochester heirlooms?

She is not beautiful and does not want him to treat her as if she were pretty. She wants him to love her even though she is plain.

3. What does she want from him instead of dresses and jewels? What is his answer?

She wants to know why he made her believe he wanted to marry Miss Ingram. He wanted to make her jealous and to make her fall madly in love with him.

4. Why is Mrs. Fairfax worried about Jane's marriage to Mr. Rochester?

She is poor, of a lower class, and twenty years younger than Mr. Rochester. She is worried that there is something not right about his proposal and wants Jane to keep her guard up.

5. What evidence is there that Jane listens to Mrs. Fairfax's warning?

She insists Adèle go with them to Millcote. She will not dine with Mr. Rochester or stop being Adèle's governess until they are married.

6. Why does Jane want to send a letter to Mr. John Eyre?

She thinks it would be easier to be married to a wealthy man if she has some money of her own. She plans to let him know she is alive so he can make her his heir.

7. What is your opinion of Jane's refusal to become dependent on Rochester?

Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 25

Vocabulary

appertained – concerned
aristocratic – referring to the upper class, nobles
ascertain – to discover
audacity – boldness, forwardness
augment – to increase
cloven – a cut, severed, split
cornice – a decorative molding or frame used to hide curtain rods
coronet – a crown
disquietude – uneasiness, anxiety
embowered – hidden by branches with leaves
enfeebled – weak
environed – surrounded
extort – to obtain
fissure – crevice
gale – a fierce wind
idyls – short poems
impetuous – impulsive
incensed – enraged
indissolubly – permanently
insuperable – impossible
lurid – gruesome
obscurity – darkness
peeress – a female peer
pendent – hanging
plebeian – common
portmanteau – a travel bag, it opens up like a book; a briefcase
precincts – borders
puerile – foolish, childish
rent – ripped, torn
requisite – required
riven – split
scathed – injured by fire
unsundered – connected, together
visitant – a visitor, guest
wraith-like – ghost-like

1. Why is Jane anxious before her wedding?

She is anxious because of the preparation, because of the anticipation of a change, and because of a nightmare.

2. Briefly describe her first dream. How does Mr. Rochester respond after hearing about this dream?

She is going down a lonely road, it is raining, and she is carrying a little child. Somehow, she knows Mr. Rochester is further down the road, but she is unable to call to him or reach him. It seems as if he is moving further and further away from her grasp. He tells her to forget bad dreams and concentrate on happiness.

3. Briefly describe her second dream.

She dreams that Thornfield Hall is a ruin. She is walking around with the small child in her arms. She hears a horse and knows Mr. Rochester is leaving for many years. She goes to a wall to take a last look at him, and as he leaves, the wall crumbles. Jane drops the child.

4. What does Jane see when she awakens from the second dream?

She sees a large woman with dark hair and a terrible face take her wedding veil out of the closet and put it on. The visitor takes off the veil and rips it in two, and then stands over Jane's bed with a candle. When she puts out the candle, Jane loses consciousness from fright.

5. Why does Jane insist the incident with the lady and the veil is not a dream?

Jane finds the veil torn in two on her bedroom floor.

6. How does Mr. Rochester explain the woman in Jane's room? Does Jane believe his explanation?

He says the woman is Grace Poole. She is the kind of woman to rip a veil, and he will explain why she is permitted to live there after they have been married for one year and a day. Jane believes him but is not satisfied with the incomplete answer.

7. Where does Jane sleep the night before her wedding day?

She gets into bed with Adèle but does not go to sleep.

8. Do you find it difficult to believe that Jane agrees to wait a year and a day for an explanation?

Answers will vary.

CHAPTER 26

Vocabulary

adduced – presented, cited

admonition – a warning, caution

balked – missed

bigamy – having more than one wife

chancel – the space surrounding the altar in a church

conjugal – marital, wedded

controvert – to deny, contradict

corpulent – extremely overweight

espousing – marrying

gambols – frolicking, romping

hob – a shelf or mantle beside or above a fireplace

imbruted – brutal

impediment – an obstruction, obstacle

lorn – deserted; lonely

marshal – to usher, guide

pinioned – winged

quarried – excavated

ragout – vegetable stew

rallied – assembled

reproof – to blame

riveted – fastened

surplice – the long white robe worn by priest

tarry – to delay, drag, procrastinate

tawny – having a light brown color

vestry – the area in a church where the clergy kept their robes and other sacred items

virile – manly, masculine

1. Who is Mr. Woods? What does Jane see in the graveyard of the church?

Mr. Woods is the clergyman who is going to perform the wedding ceremony. Jane sees two men reading grave stones. They slip into the church to watch the ceremony.

2. How is Jane's marriage ceremony interrupted?

Mr. Briggs, a lawyer from London, says that Mr. Rochester is already married. He married Bertha Mason fifteen years ago in Jamaica.

3. What does Mr. Rochester do when he realizes he cannot go through with his marriage to Jane?

He takes them all back to Thornfield Hall and to the door behind the wall hangings on the third story. There he lets them meet Bertha and see her insanity for themselves.

4. How does Bertha behave? What does Mr. Rochester do to control her?

She attacks Mr. Rochester and tries to bite his cheek. With Mrs. Poole's help, he ties her to a chair.

5. What does Jane's uncle have to do with stopping her marriage?

Mr. Mason and Mr. Eyre are friends. When Mr. Eyre receives Jane's letter, telling him of her engagement to Rochester, he persuades Mr. Mason to come to England to stop the marriage. Jane's uncle is not well enough to make the trip.

6. Support the following statement with a quotation from page 285:

The child in Jane's dream is a symbol for her love for Rochester.

"I looked at my love: that feeling which was my master's -- which he had created; it shivered in my heart, like a suffering child in a cold cradle; sickness and anguish had seized it..."

CHAPTER 27

Vocabulary

slough – discouragement
upbraided – scolded
vehemence – eagerness, enthusiasm
reproach – disapproval
ewe – a female lamb
rued – regretted, felt sorrow for
appropriated – assigned, designated
profligate – extravagant
revile – to scold
expostulate – to reason with
curtail – to shorten
scruple – a doubt, reservation
paroxysms – fits, convulsions
vexation – irritation
impetus – an incentive
nominally – literally, referring to bearing a name
sophistical – invalid
infernal – accursed
avaricious – greedy
besotted – blinded
prurience – a desire
allured – attracted
vile – offensive
trite – common
perverse – obstinate
eschewed – escaped
pigmy – unusual
propensities – tendencies
intemperate – having no self control
indigence – poverty
noxious – deadly
callous – unfeeling
natal – native
advent – arrival
repudiated – denied
faugh – an expression of shock
odious – displeasing, despicable
infirm – weak
harlot – a female prostitute
refulgent – brilliant
unalloyed – alone, not mixed, potent
sullied – tainted

clime – climate
apprise – to inform
lucid – clear, rational
vigilance – alertness
interminable – continual
roved – wandered, roamed
antipodes – the opposite
incongruous – incompatible
dissipation – wasteful consumption
liaison – communication
rake – an immoral person
desecrated – violated
pollard – a type of tree
presentiment – a feeling that something is about to happen
linnet – a type of bird, like a finch
surly – moody
bilious – irritable pain from indigestion
shrewd – clever
diffident – shy
conspicuous – obvious
plied – controlled
solecism – a mistake in etiquette
epicure – gourmet, connoisseur
despondent – desperate
furtively – secretly
fervent – fiery, flaming
magnanimity – generosity
sully – to soil
perversity – stubbornness
inviolable – uninjured, unbroken
stringent – a constriction
indomitable – invincible
syncope – a loss of consciousness
sable – the color black
azure – a shade of blue
fount – a fountain
scaffold – a platform where criminals stand while they await execution
disseverment – separation
goaded – moved
drear – dreary
copse – a brush, thicket

1. Find an example of personification in the chapter.

“...and conscience, turned tyrant, held passion by the throat, told her tauntingly she had yet but dipped her dainty foot in the slough...” (Pg. 287)

2. Why does Jane forgive Rochester in her heart?

In his eyes, she sees true remorse and true love for her.

3. What reason does Rochester give for keeping his sick wife at Thornfield instead of hiding her in a remote Manor?

The remote Manor is unhealthy, and as much as he wants to be free of her, he cannot indirectly kill her by exposing her to a lethal environment.

4. How does Rochester plan to be with Jane even though they cannot marry?

He wants her to travel to a secure place where they can be together. Adèle will be sent to school.

5. Why did Mr. Rochester marry Bertha?

His father arranged the marriage; the father concealed Bertha's madness so that he could leave his entire estate to Rochester's older brother.

6. What did Mr. Rochester do after he brought Bertha to Thornfield and hired Mrs. Poole to watch her? Why do you suppose he does not divorce Bertha?

He has traveled the world looking for a woman who will love him enough to marry him, even after he tells her about Bertha. The law does not allow a person to divorce an insane wife.

7. How does Mr. Rochester feel about living with a mistress? Why does this opinion worry Jane?

He thinks it is degrading to live with an inferior. Jane worries that Mr. Rochester will soon feel degraded and tire of her if she accepts his offer to live with him in a secure Manor house.

8. Why does Rochester not tell Jane about his wife before the marriage ceremony?

He knows Jane is stubborn and will not agree to the marriage.

9. What advice does Jane give Rochester after she refuses to stay with him?

She tells him to trust in God and himself, believe in heaven, live sinlessly, and die tranquilly.

10. State a theme for this novel using the following passage:

“Mr. Rochester, I no more assign this fate to you than I grasp at it for myself. We were born to strive and endure – you as well as I: do so. You will forget me before I forget you.” (Pg. 303)

People must endure life's hardships while striving to follow God's teaching.

11. What does Jane take with her when she leaves Thornfield?

She takes some linen, a locket, a ring, and twenty shillings.

12. How much does Jane pay the driver for her ride? Why is it too much?

She gives him twenty shillings. It is too much because now she is broke and alone.

CHAPTER 28

Vocabulary

acceded – consented

allay – to relieve

avidity – a craving

bombazine – a type of fabric

drover – a herdsman

fagging – working hard, drudging

foundry – a factory where metal is melted down and molded

fustian – a type of coarse fabric

hamlet – a small town

importune – to beg

inducement – an invitation

lea – a meadow

lexicon – a dictionary

lozenged – shaped like a diamond

mendicant – a beggar

omnipotence – all-powerful, all-knowing

omnipresence – the ability to be everywhere at once

palisades – a type of fence

parsonage – an official home provided by the church for the parson to live

plover – a bird

propitious – favorable

prostration – exhaustion, a collapse

scrupulously – meticulously

sodden – soaked, saturated

spire – the top of a steeple

throe – a severe pain

tresses – ringlets of hair

vagrant – a wanderer

verge – a border

yew – a poisonous evergreen bush

1. How can the reader infer from the descriptions of nature that Jane has made the correct decision to leave Thornfield?

She is comforted by the warm heath and beautiful countryside. She feels the presence of God when she is in nature. Whenever Jane is in trouble, the weather is terrible. Since it is beautiful, the reader can be assured that she is on the right path.

2. Why does Jane try to find the clergyman? Why is he unavailable?
She hopes he will be able to help her find work. He is away because of a death in his family.
3. How does Jane get food the first night in the village?
She gets a piece of bread from a farmer and some old porridge from a young girl.
4. What does Jane try to trade for food? Is she successful?
She offers the lady in the bakery her handkerchief and her gloves. The lady, though, says she has no use for those items.
5. How does Jane keep going until she reaches the house in the woods? Some readers see this light as similar to the star of Bethlehem. What is your opinion?
She sees a light in the forest. It guides her to the house. Some see a similarity to the star of Bethlehem because both lights guide weary travelers to safety. Jane also thinks the light is her light of hope.
6. Briefly describe the inhabitants of the house in the woods.
Hannah is an old woman servant. She is clean and rough looking. Diana and Mary are young scholarly women; both are pretty and thin.
7. Why does Hannah refuse to let Jane speak to Diana and Mary? What does the woman give her instead?
She is worried Jane is part of a gang of thieves, but gives her a penny.
8. Why do you think Jane tells Mr. St. John her last name is Elliott? What does Jane want him to do for her?
She uses a false name so that Mr. Rochester will not be able to locate her. She asks Mr. St. John to do with her as he wishes because she does not have the strength to continue the discussion.

CHAPTER 29

Vocabulary

acumen – sharpness

aversion – hatred

bemired – muddy

benefactors – providers

brevity – conciseness

clad – clothed

delineation – a description

direful – terrible, dreadful

emaciated – extremely thin

imperturbably – calmly and serene in manner

incumbent – a duty

indicative – indicating

latterly – later

pallid – pale colored

relent – to weaken, yield

satiety – full

solus – alone

threaped – scolded

torpid – insensible, unresponsive

torpor – stupor, listlessness

undemonstrative – unmarked, unemotional

1. State the point of this passage:

“Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education: they grow there firm as weeds among stones.” (Pg. 325)

Humans can overcome their prejudices with education.

2. What does Jane think of Hannah?

She is upset with Hannah because Hannah thinks that poverty is a crime. She accuses Jane of being a beggar because she has no money.

3. Who is Mr. Oliver?

He is a rich man who lives in a large house. His father was a journeyman needle- maker.

4. What does Jane think about St. John's physical appearance?

He is twenty-eight, tall, and handsome, but with a hardness around his mouth.

5. How much of Jane's past does she reveal to St. John and his sisters? What does she say to explain why she left her last job?

She tells them she is an orphan and the daughter of a clergyman, who was brought up as a dependent. She says she was educated at Lowood and previously worked as a private governess, but she left her last job because of a catastrophe beyond her control.

6. What mistake does she make? How does she explain herself?

She is startled by the name Miss Elliott, thus giving away the fact that the name is false. She tells them that it is not her real name but, for fear of discovery, will not reveal her true identity.

7. Why does St. John agree to help her find work?

She is willing to do any job he finds for her.

CHAPTER 30

Vocabulary

alloy – something that is added to decrease the value
bracken – a large, fern-like plant
broached – brought up
ciphering – calculating (referring to arithmetic)
consecration – commitment
contravened – contradicted; denied
coruscating – twinkling, glistening
disdainful – hateful
dovetailed – agreed
dregs – the lowest level
elysium – a paradise, a place of happiness
grange – a farm or residence for a farmer
guineas – a type of currency
hewers – people employed to cut down (brush, trees, etc.)
ignoble – lowly, degrading
inexpedient – not very practicable
insatiate – dissatisfied
morass – a soggy area
pensive – thoughtful
recrimination – accusations
reverenced – adored, worshipped
sequestered – secluded
supervened – followed
tenor – having a tendency
zealous – enthusiastic

1. How is St. John's character different from his sisters?

They are content and happy. They enjoy nature and entertaining each other by learning new things. St. John is not content, does not enjoy nature, and is reserved and brooding.

2. What does Jane think of his sermon?

The sermon makes Jane sad because it reveals to her that St. John has not discovered the peace of God. She also sees a hint of a more fiery side to his nature.

3. How much does St. John have left after all of his father's debts are paid?

He has the old Rivers name, the house, and a small amount of land.

4. Why does Jane accept the position of mistress of the Morton school? Why does St. John not think she will stay in the position for long?

She accepts the position because she will be independent without being a servant. St. John thinks she is too passionate and interested in people to stay alone at the school for very long.

5. Who is the St. John's uncle? Why are they disappointed when he dies?

He gives their father bad financial advice, which results in the father's ruination. The brothers fight and have never reconciled. Their uncle later becomes rich; since he never marries, they hope to one day inherit something. Apparently, there is another heir because they are left nothing in his will.

CHAPTER 31

Vocabulary

austerity – sternness

commodious – spacious

delf – pottery

despondent – hopeless

hiatus – a break

inanition – exhaustion

inducements – incentives, impulses

intractable – stubborn

ken – the view

orator – a person who gives speeches

reft – deprived

repine – to fret, complain

scions – descendants

sensualist – a sensual person who gives in to desires and tends to overindulge

stinted – limited

vacillating – wavering

1. Support the following statement with a quotation from this chapter: Charlotte Brontë thinks lower-class children have the same potential as those of the upper classes.

Answers may vary. Example: “I must not forget that these coarsely-clad little peasants are of flesh and blood as good as the scions of gentlest genealogy; and that the germs of native excellence, refinement, intelligence, kind feeling, are as likely to exist in their hearts as in those of the best born.” (Pg. 341)

2. What advice does Mr. St. John give to Jane to help her avoid the temptation of returning to Mr. Rochester?

He suggests she take several months to adjust to her new situation. She needs to throw herself into her work to keep her mind off her past troubles.

3. Who is the source of St. John’s “season of darkness and struggling”? (Pg. 344) How has he overcome temptation?

He is in love with Miss Oliver but overcomes his desire to be with her when he hears a call from God to become a missionary. He has devoted all of his energies toward reaching that goal.

4. Support the following statement: Despite Miss Oliver’s beauty, and St. John’s attraction to her, she is not a suitable mate for him.

She is accustomed to parties and a pampered life. He wants to be a missionary in a distant country. It is doubtful she will be able to adjust to the inevitable hardships of that kind of life.

CHAPTER 32

Vocabulary

asp – a venomous snake

aspirant – one who has great ambition

carmine – red in color

catechizing – teaching religion systematically

dexterously – skillfully

eminence – superior positions

emulous – jealous

enervate – to weaken

inundation – flood waters

nectarous – relating to nectar

petulance – irritability

rover – a wanderer

stoic – calm, indifferent

stoicism – the belief that people should not show specific emotions (joy, grief, etc.)

transient – fleeting, passing quickly

turret – a tower

1. How does Jane repay the kindness of the students' families?

She is conscious of their feelings and, by paying attention to them, makes the parents feel important.

2. What does Miss Oliver think of Jane? How does she arrange a meeting between Jane and Mr. Oliver?

She thinks Jane is like St. John because they are both “good, clever, composed, and firm.” (Pg. 357) She thinks Jane is not as good looking as St. John but does look neat. Miss Oliver discovers Jane’s drawing talent. When she tells her father of Jane’s talent, he invites her to Vale Hall.

3. How does St. John react when he looks at Jane’s drawing of Miss Oliver? Why does Jane think he has this reaction?

He “sprang erect” with a start. (Pg. 353) She thinks he is in love with Miss Oliver and startled by the beauty of her portrait.

4. Why does Jane boldly suggest to St. John that he should be with Miss Oliver? What is his answer?

She knows Mr. Oliver will accept him as a husband for Miss Oliver. He says that he does love her but that she is unsuitable for a missionary's wife. He thinks he would regret the marriage in twelve months.

5. Why does St. John tremble around Miss Oliver? How does he describe himself?

He trembles because he is disgusted with his own weakness. He is upset with himself for desiring her. He describes himself as a cold, hard, ambitious man.

6. What does St. John admire about Jane? What does he do to a piece of Jane's drawing paper? Why does he do this?

She is diligent, orderly, and energetic. He tears off the corner of the paper and slips it in his glove.

CHAPTER 33

Vocabulary

affluence – wealth, abundance

afresh – again

analogous – similar

arbitration – the process of presenting a dispute to an outside party to come to an agreement

consternation – paralyzing fear

curate – a pastor's assistant

donjon – a castle's main tower

insinuation – a suggestion

opiate – a drug derived from opium, that quiets and calms

salutary – helpful, profitable

vermilion – red in color

yoke – a crossbar used to link oxen together

1. What is Jane's first reaction when she realizes St. John knows about her connection to Thornfield?

She asks several times for news about Mr. Rochester.

2. How does Jane feel about inheriting twenty thousand pounds?

She is stunned but likes the independence money will provide. She is also a little upset because, while the inheritance means she gains wealth, it also means someone has died.

3. What information about the inheritance does St. John try to keep from Jane?

He does not tell her that he is her cousin. His mother's maiden name was Eyre. Her brother was Jane's father. The uncle who leaves her the money is the same uncle who cut St. John, Mary, and Diana out of his will.

4. What does Jane want to do with her wealth? Do you think St. John agrees with her decision?

Jane wants to divide the twenty thousand pounds between herself, St. John, Mary, and Diana. St. John can see the logic of her proposal, although he tries to help her see what she is giving up, to satisfy his own conscience, before he will ultimately agree to her plan.

5. Why does Jane think she will never marry even though the money will increase her prospects?

She will not marry without love. Wealth will help her find a husband interested in her money, but not one who will love her for herself.

6. How is the question over Jane's decision to divide the inheritance finally settled?

All four agree to let Mr. Oliver and a lawyer judge the case. After they both agree with Jane's opinion, the inheritance is divided four ways.

7. Which events in this chapter may deal with improbable coincidences?

The members of the Rivers family are Jane's cousins; Jane's rich uncle is also their rich uncle, and everyone knows the lawyer Briggs.

CHAPTER 34

Vocabulary

acquisition – an accomplishment, acquirement

antagonistic – opposing; opposite

ascendancy – domination

battalion – a large number

berth – a place on a ship

besotted – intellectually ignorant

brood – to contemplate

bulwark – a support, safeguard

coadjutor – an assistant

cordiality – sincere kindness

crest-fallen – depressed

currants – seedless berries

daunt – to discourage

ebullition – an outpouring

ecclesiastical – religious

effigy – an image, representation

firmament – the sky

garrulous – talkative, chatty

helpmeet – a helper

hewn – cut

hierophant – a religious official

ineradicable – impossible to get rid of

lucre – money, wealth

oblation – an offering

piquancy – having complete freedom

poignantly – sharply, impressively

rush – a plant with small flowers

sinews – tendons

solicitude – concern

stead – place

thrall – servitude

tractability – obedience

tropes – words and phrases

unblighted – not ambitious

wrest – to twist, turn

1. What is St. John's objection to Jane devoting herself to Moor House and his sisters?

He thinks she will be wasting her God-given talents. He hopes she will soon become restless and want to do more with her life.

2. Why does Jane think St. John will make a terrible husband?

He never rests in his ambition to serve God, and he does not approve of anyone else resting either. He is not comfortable just enjoying his home and family.

3. How does St. John demonstrate to Jane that for him “fortitude pleased him; the reverse was a special annoyance”? (Pg. 378)

He encourages Jane to visit the Morton school even in bad weather. He is pleased with her endurance. She never complains of being tired when she returns because complaining would irritate him.

4. Why does St. John ask Jane to learn Hindostanee? What other motivation may he have?

He wants her to learn so, as he advances in the language, he will not forget what he learned in the beginning. By teaching Jane, he will also be practicing his earlier studies.

Answers will vary. Example: He wants Jane to be a missionary, too.

5. Why does St. John kiss Jane? What does she think of his kiss?

Diana encourages him to kiss Jane goodnight in the same way he kisses his sisters. Jane thinks his kiss is without passion, an experimental kiss.

6. What is wrong with St. John’s proposal to Jane?

He is not in love with her. He wants to marry her only so she can be a missionary with him. He is asking her because he thinks it is what God wants him to do.

7. List the qualities St. John sees in Jane that he thinks make her qualified to become a missionary’s wife.

He thinks she is capable of adapting to difficult working conditions, she is free of vice, she is capable of sacrifice, she is “...docile, diligent, disinterested, faithful, constant, courageous; very gentle, and very heroic...” (Pg. 383)

8. How does Jane view her future if she agrees to marry St. John?

She thinks she is not physically strong enough to survive in India. If she goes, she will die young. In addition, she will spend her life trying, and failing, to please St. John.

CHAPTER 35

Vocabulary

boon – a favor

conciliate – to win over, appease

conjured – influenced

impropriety – an improper act

perdition – damnation, hell

procure – to obtain

propitiate – to ease, soften

scintillated – sparkled, twinkled

superfluity – not needed, excessive

tangible – substantial, evident

whetted – stimulated

zealots – fanatics

1. Why, at first, is Diana delighted to hear St. John has proposed marriage to Jane? What changes her mind?

She hopes he will remain in England if he marries Jane. She agrees with Jane's refusal of his proposal when she learns that he does not love Jane and only wants her to help him with his missionary work.

2. While under St. John's spell, what does Jane hear? What does she answer?

She hears someone call her name three times. She replies that she is coming.

Use the following passage to answer the next two questions.

"I broke from St. John; who had followed, and would have detained me. It was *my* time to assume ascendancy. My powers were in play, and in force. I told him to forbear question or remark; I desired him to leave me: I must, and would be alone. He obeyed at once. Where there is energy to command well enough, obedience never fails. I mounted to my chamber; locked myself in; fell on my knees; and prayed in my way.... I seemed to penetrate very near a Mighty Spirit, and my soul rushed out in gratitude at His feet. I rose from the thanksgiving, took a resolve, and lay down, unscared, enlightened – eager but for the daylight." (Pg. 397)

3. Why do you think Jane is eager for the daylight?

Answers will vary. Example: Her prayers have been answered. She agrees to go with St. John as his wife only if she can be sure it is God's will. She is eager for the daylight because she knows God does not want her to go to India but wants her to do something else.

4. Speculate on why Jane's "soul rushed out in gratitude at His feet." (Pg. 397)

Answers will vary. Example: She is grateful that God does not want her to go to India. He is directing her to the source of the voice calling her name, Mr. Rochester.

CHAPTER 36

Vocabulary

annuity – a salary, yearly allowance

auspices – protection

epistles – letters

gilt – gold in color

mortar – a cement-like mixture

1. How does Mrs. Rochester die?

She jumps from the roof after setting Thornfield on fire. Mr. Rochester tries to rescue her, but she jumps to get away from him.

2. Where is Mr. Rochester? What is the extent of his injuries?

He is at Ferndean, a manor house on a farm about thirty miles away. He is blind, and one hand has been amputated.

CHAPTER 37

Vocabulary

avowal – a confession, acknowledgement
brownie – a small, helpful, and hardworking fairy
chastisements – punishments
cicatrized – scarred
corporeal – physical
cravat – a scarf
dispensation – a distribution
fillip – of little importance
insalubrious – unhealthy
lachrymose – tearful
lamerter – one who expresses sorrow or regret
priggish – realistic
proWess – ability, strength
purveyor – a provider (usually referring to food)
redd – cleaned
remuneration – a fee, payment
scrag – a collar
subjugation – a conquest
sylvan – rustic
wended – gone

1. What is the weather like when Jane first arrives at Ferndean?

It is "...an evening marked by the characteristics of sad sky, cold gale, and continued small, penetrating rain." (Pg. 407)

2. How much vision does Rochester retain?

He can see the glow of a candle and a faint light from the fire-place.

3. Support the following statement with a quotation from this chapter: Jane is not staying with Mr. Rochester out of pity or obligation.

Answers will vary. Example: "There was no harassing restraint, no repressing of glee and vivacity with him; for with him I was at perfect ease, because I knew I suited him: all I said or did seemed to either to console or revive him....it brought to life and light my whole nature: in his presence I thoroughly lived." (Pg. 413)

4. Support the following statement: The weather improves because Jane is happy helping Rochester.

Answers will vary. Example: "Most of the morning was spent in the open air. I led him out of the wet and wild wood into some cheerful fields." (Pg. 415)

5. How does Jane convince Rochester that she loves him more now than before his accident?

She loves him more because he needs her more. She can be useful to him as well as love him. Before the accident he only wanted to give her things and protect her; now, she is financially independent. All she needs from him is his love.

6. Why does Rochester think it is God's will that he is blind? Why is he grateful?

He had defied God by trying to marry two women. Then, he had cursed God for taking Jane away from him and leaving him alone with his lunatic wife. Now, however, he repents his past behavior and wants to reconcile with God. He is grateful to God that he has been prevented from marrying Jane in the past and hurting her forever.

7. Why does Jane not tell Rochester that she heard him call her name when she was trying to decide if God wanted her to be a missionary?

She thinks the coincidence too inexplicable to be discussed.

CHAPTER 38

Vocabulary

eminent – distinguished, prominent

forelock — the hair over the forehead

oculist – an eye doctor

1. What do you think of the ending?

While answers will vary, it should be noted that the author ties up all the loose ends.

2. Why is Jane's heart filled with joy even though she knows St. John is dying?

He will be going to God, which is his greatest wish.

3. Some readers see this theme in this last chapter: "If one leads a pure life, he or she will find happiness on earth and eternal happiness with the Lord." Refer to the text to support or refute this assertion.

Answers will vary.

Jane Eyre

Study Guide Student Copy

All references come from the Prestwick House Literary Touchstone Classics edition of *Jane Eyre*, copyright 2006.

CHAPTER 1

Vocabulary

antipathy – having a strong dislike

bilious – bad tempered

bleared – blurred

borne – taken along

cavilers – to criticize, object

diffidence – shyness, insecurity

fervently – earnestly

gallows – a structure made for hanging people

impudence – boldness, rudeness, nerve

lamentable – mooring, wailing

lineaments – facial features

melancholy – depressed, sad

moreen – a heavy woolen cloth

predominated – controlled

pungent – a strong taste or smell

sprightly – lively, nimble

subjoined – to add to the ends

sweetmeats – candy; candied fruit

thence – from there

torpid – inactive, sluggish

tottered – stumbled, faltered

tyrant – a cruel authoritarian figure

vignettes – small designs on pages of a book

visage – an appearance, face

1. Why does Jane enjoy looking at the pictures in the book *History of British Birds*?

2. Support the following statement: John Reed is mean and spoiled.
3. Why does John feel justified in picking on Jane? How does he get away with tormenting her?
4. What two things does Jane do to defend herself? After the fight how does she hear herself described?
5. Define physiognomy.

CHAPTER 2

Vocabulary

abhor – despise, disgust
acrid – biting, bitter, harsh
artifice – to scheme, trick
captious – critical; fault-finding
disposed – likely to
divers – various
duplicity – deception
heterogeneous – coming from inside
ignominy – humiliation; disgrace
imp – a small evil spirit, devil
incredulous – disbelieving
influx – flowing in
insolent – insulting
instigated – urged into
ire – anger, wrath
opprobrium – disgrace, shame
peremptorily – with finality
precocious – developed early
preternatural – abnormal, unusual
propensities – talents, abilities
retrospective – thinking of past times
sanguine – cheerful, hopeful
trifle – a small amount
tumult – disorder, turmoil, commotion
turbid – cloudy, murky
uncongenial – not melted or thawed
vassalage – allegiance; dependence
virulent – lethal poisonous; hateful

1. Who is Bessie? What does she say about the importance of money in Victorian times?
2. How is Jane hurt? What is the extent of her injury?

3. Describe the red room. Why is it seldom entered?
4. Briefly describe the personalities of Eliza, Georgiana, and John.
5. Why does Mrs. Reed permit Jane to live in Gateshead Hall?
6. What makes Jane think Mr. Reed's spirit might rise before her in the chamber?
7. What does Jane see that scares her? What does she do?
8. Does Jane see a ghost, which is not unusual in a Gothic novel, or is it only her own active imagination?
9. What does Jane do when Mrs. Reed refuses to release her from the red room?

CHAPTER 3

Vocabulary

apothecary – a pharmacist

bunglingly – inefficiently

cadence – rhythm

caste – social class

civility – politeness, refines

convolvuli – a type of funnel-shaped flower

curacy – the office of a minister (curate)

debasing – lowering

degradation – a demotion, mortification

diminutive – small

emboldened – encouraged

emulation – an ambitious rivalry

enounced – declared

fervent – passionate

interposed – introduced

malevolent – wishing evil, spiteful

propensities – abilities

reverberation – an effect, repercussion

typhus – an infectious disease

1. Who is Mr. Lloyd? Why is a physician not called?
2. The novel is written in first-person narration. How does the narration change in the following passage?

“No severe or prolonged bodily illness followed this incident of the red-room; it only gave my nerves a shock, of which I feel the reverberation to this day. Yes, Mrs. Reed, to you I owe some fearful pangs of mental suffering.” (Pg. 24)

3. State a theme for this novel, using the following quotation:

“Vain favor! coming, like most other favors long deferred and often wished for, too late!” (Pg. 25)
4. Find an example of an allusion on page 25. Why does Jane think the elves are all gone out of England?
5. List the reasons Bessie thinks Jane is crying. Why do you think Mr. Lloyd asks Bessie to leave him alone with Jane.
6. Why does Jane not want to go live with her Eyre relations?
7. What does Jane learn about her parents from Mrs. Abbott?
8. When Mr. Lloyd mentions Jane going to school, what is Jane’s image of school?

CHAPTER 4

Vocabulary

audacious – shameless
capricious – changeable, fickle
congealed – thickened
contrived – created, invented
execrations – things cursed or detested
exult – to rejoice
fain – willing, eager
fiendish – cruel, wicked
habituated – customary, routine
irksome – annoying, harassing
judicious – prudent, sensible
mandate – an instruction
parterre – an arrangement of flower beds
piety – religiousness
poltroon – a coward
recompense – a reward, compensation
ruth – compassion
tenantry – inhibitors, occupants
transitory – brief, fleeting
usurious – lending money at high interest rates
vehement – passionate
venturesome – adventurous

1. What does Jane say to Mrs. Reed that causes her to box Jane's ears?
2. State a theme for this story based on Jane's loneliness described on pages 32-33.
3. Why does Jane like Bessie?

4. Briefly describe Mr. Brocklehurst. Why is he at Gateshead?
5. Define deceit. Why does Jane think Mrs. Reed is “sowing aversion and unkindness” toward her in Mr. Brocklehurst’s mind? (Pg. 37)
6. How does Mrs. Reed want Jane trained at Lowood?
7. What do you think is the cruelest part of Jane’s life at Gateshead?
8. Why does Jane feel a sense of freedom after telling off Mrs. Reed?
9. Afterwards, what doubts about herself and her own nature does Jane have?

CHAPTER 5

Vocabulary

abominable – hateful, loathsome
benevolent – kind, charitable
benignant – showing a good feeling
buxom – plump, healthy
cessation – ending
conjecture – a conclusion, theory
conning – studying; examining
countenance – a facial expression
deal – wood (usually pine or fir)
draught – a swallow, drink
frieze – a thick wool cloth
gait – a manner of walking
hardihood – boldness
ignominious – disgrace
inanity – overcame, stopped
inclement – severe, cruel
indefatigable – tireless, constant
manifestation – evidence, sign
morose – surly, gloomy
mullioned – vertical
pelisses – a long robe
pervading – filling
preternatural – unnatural, abnormal
quelled – overcame, stopped
redolent – strong scented
regaled – entertained
relinquished – gave up, abandoned
ruddy – having a reddish color
throng – a mass, horde
traversed – crossed, passed through
trifling – trivial
veneration – worshiping

1. What is unusual about Jane's trip to Lowood?

2. Briefly describe Miss Miller.
3. Define the word “Collect” as it is used in the following quotation: “Business now began: the day’s Collect was repeated, then certain texts of Scripture were said...” (Pg. 47)
4. Briefly describe Miss Temple. Why does she order a lunch for the students?
5. What does Jane notice about the garden? Why is Lowood called an institution?
6. What subjects do Miss Smith, Miss Scatcherd, and Madame Pierrot teach?
7. What is strange about the way the girl Jane meets in the garden handles her punishment during history class?
8. What seems to be the author’s attitude about charity in this chapter?

CHAPTER 6

Vocabulary

abhor – loathe, disgust

animadversions – criticisms

assiduity – carefulness, diligence

chastiser – a punisher; one who disciplines

cumbrous – heavy, burdensome

disconsolate – unhappy, restless

ewers – water pitchers

expostulations – protestations

forbearance – restraint

impalpable – imaginary

meed – a reward

prerogatives – privileges

reverie – a daydream

seraph – highest rank of angels

skein – a small bunch of yarn

slatternly – not neat, untidy

truculent – harsh, cruel

1. Why is Helen Burns punished when she knows the answers to Miss Scatcherd's questions about Charles I? How is she punished? Why do you suppose the teacher picks on Helen?
2. What explanation does Helen give for enduring her punishment from Miss Scatcherd without complaining.

3. In what modern sense is Helen a perfect victim?

4. State a theme for this story based on the following passage:

“A great deal: you are good to those who are good to you. It is all I ever desire to be. If people were always kind and obedient to those who are cruel and unjust, the wicked people would have it all their own way: they would never feel afraid, and so they would never alter, but would grow worse and worse.”
(Pg. 59)

5. What is your reaction to Helen’s response? She says, “Would you not be happier if you tried to forget her severity, together with the passionate emotions it excited? Life appears to me too short to be spent in nursing animosity, or registering wrongs.” (Pg. 60)

6. Define “seraph” and “cumbrous.” What evidence is there that the author believes in a happy afterlife?

CHAPTER 7

Vocabulary

bounteous – generous, plentiful

chidden – blamed, scolded

chilblains – a condition that affects the skin, similar to frostbite

deferentially – respectfully

edification – improvement

effluence – an outpour

en masse – all together

evinced – to show

ermine – a type of weasel (fur)

excrescence – unwanted growth

exigency – urgency

fortitude – bravery, strength

hebdomadal – weekly

interloper – an intruder

knell – a solemn bell toll (usually for a funeral)

lineaments – facial features

moiety – half

obtrusive – noticeable

obviating – preventing

palsy – muscle paralysis

pathos – feeling sympathy, pity

penurios – stingy

perfidious – treacherous

pious – sacred, holy

plumage – feathers

privation – deprivation

remonstrate – to object, protest

repast – a meal

Rubicon – the point of no return

solace – comfort

stalwart – strong, sturdy

sturtout – [*surtout*] an overcoat

tresses – locks of hair

triviality – unimportance

tuckers – a piece of fabric worn by women around the neck and shoulders

1. How does the narration change in the following passage? Why do you think the author changes the way the story is told?

“Sometimes their feet failed them, and they sank together in a heap; they were then propped up with the monitors’ high stools.
I have not yet alluded to the visits of Mr. Brocklehurst; and indeed that gentleman was from home during the greater part of the first month after my arrival...” (Pg. 64)

2. What is the weather like in January, February, and March? Why are Sundays “dreary days”? (Pg. 63)
3. What does Mr. Brocklehurst find fault with when he returns to the school? Why is Miss Temple amused?
4. After his return, how does Mr. Brocklehurst humiliate Jane? Why does he do this?

5. What does Helen do to help Jane?
6. State a theme for this story based on the following passage expressing Jane's opinion of Helen.

“What a smile! I remember it now, and I know that it was the effluence of fine intellect, of true courage: it lit up her marked lineaments, her thin face, her sunken gray eye, like a reflection from the aspect of an angel. Yet at that moment Helen Burns wore on her arm ‘the untidy badge’; scarcely an hour ago I had heard her condemned by Miss Scatcherd....Such is the imperfect nature of man! such spots are there on the disc of the clearest planet; and eyes like Miss Scatcherd’s can only see those minute defects, and are blind to the full brightness of the orb.” (Pgs. 69-70)

7. Find an example of a metaphor in the quotation in Question 6.

CHAPTER 8

Vocabulary

approbation – approval

ardently – eagerly, passionately

construe – to translate; explain

corroborate – to support

eloquence – skilful speech, powerful communication skills

fervid – passionate

imputation – a charge of wrongdoing

mien – manner

pasteboard – stiff cardboard

pensive – thoughtful, contemplative

phylactery – an object worn or kept because it is believed to have magical powers

prostrate – lying face down

“Slattern” – a derogatory term for an untidy or dirty woman

smote – struck

sovereign – supreme

supplication – a request

tenacious – able to retain

veneration – love

1. Why does Helen think many of the girls at the school pity Jane?

2. In the following quotation, what friends will Jane have even if the whole world hates her?

“If all the world hated you, and believed you wicked, while your own conscience approved you, and absolved you from guilt, you would not be without friends.” (Pg. 72)

3. Why does Jane's description of her childhood at Gateshead sound credible to Miss Temple?
4. What is Miss Temple's plan to clear Jane?
5. Why do you think Miss Temple breathes a "sad sigh" when she says good night to Helen? (Pg. 76)
6. Find a metaphor on page 77 defining why Jane prefers Lowood to Gateshead.

CHAPTER 9

Vocabulary

ameliorated – improved

asunder – apart

beck – a creek

contagion – an infection

dell – a wooded valley

eddies – small whirlpools

effluvia – bad smelling

evinced – showed clearly

genial – cheerful

gulf – a deep cut in the ground

holm – a small island in a river

implicitly – absolutely

indisposed – reluctant, unwilling

malady – a disease, sickness

mast – forest nuts

pastil – [*pastille*] a type of medication

pervaded – penetrated

pestilence – a sickness that spreads quickly

repose – calmness, tranquility; rest

throes – spasm; difficult struggle

tresses – [archaic] braids

typhus – a highly contagious disease

verdure – lush vegetation, greenness

1. Find an example of local color in Chapter 9. What relationship is there between the condition of the plants and Jane's happiness?
2. How does Brontë tie nature in with the sickness which infests the hospital?

3. Who is Mary Ann Wilson? Why does Jane not play with Helen?
4. Why does Helen say her death is “nothing to grieve about”? (Pg. 84)
5. Find a quotation in this chapter that appears to show that Charlotte Brontë believed in a loving God.
6. What is Jane’s view about God at this point?

CHAPTER 10

Vocabulary

barrister – a lawyer
brackish – salty, tainted
burgh – a town, city
conveyance – transportation
debarrassed – relieved
dissipated – lost
effusion – an outpouring of liquid
environs – environments, places
exultingly – triumphantly
ferret – to hunt, find
fetid – bad-smelling
gentry – people in high social standing
imbibed – ingested
indignation – anger
latterly – lately
mediatrix – a female mediator
ostensible – pretended
per annum – annually, yearly
post-chaise – a covered, horse-drawn carriage
rapturously – very joyously
scourge – an outbreak of sickness
scrape – a fight
servitude – bondage
sidling – sliding
soliloquized – spoken aloud to oneself
soporific – sleepy
sublunary – under the moon, earthly
surmount – climb over, overcome
virulence – harmful, deadly
zeal – passion, eagerness

1. What changes for the better happen at Lowood as a result of the typhus epidemic?

2. Support the following statement with a quotation: Jane would not have left Lowood if Miss Temple had not married.
3. What does Jane do to get a new place of employment?
4. Who does Jane need to consult before she is free to accept her new position?
5. How are the Reed children doing? Why do you think Bessie names her daughter Jane?
6. Support the following statement: Jane's best subject in school is art.
7. What relative of Jane's visited Gateshead?

CHAPTER 11

Vocabulary

affable – gentle

alighted – exited a vehicle; dismounted

amiable – pleasant, warm

antiquity – ancient times

apparition – a spirit

azure – blue

battlements – an architectural element usually built around the tops of castles for defense purposes

boudoir – a woman's private sitting or dressing room

cachinnation – loud laughter

canzonette – a type of song

ceiled – covered with a ceiling

cherubs – angels

chintz – a bright-colored fabric

clamorous – loud

condescension – the act of treating a person as if he or she is inferior; patronization

craggy – an uneven or rocky surface

cuirass – a piece of armor that protects the chest and back

demurely – modestly, shyly

docile – teachable

dun – a dull, brownish-gray

ebon – black, dark

effaced – erased

effigies – images

etymology – the history of a word

garret – an attic

glean – to gather, collect

hamlet – a small village

hoary – light-colored with age

implore – to ask, plead

incumbent – specific to

injudicious – a lack of good judgment, unfair judgment

inured – to become accustomed to something that is undesirable

mirthless – without joy

pallid – pale

perfidy – disloyalty, infidelity

perusal – an examination

propitious – promising

proprietor – an owner

rookery – the place where rooks (birds) nest

salient – apparent

sere – dry

spar – a nonmetallic, transparent material

swathed – wrapped up

unimpeachable – free of guilt

venerable – ancient

warbled – sang

ward – a minor placed under the care of a guardian

1. Why does Jane think Mrs. Fairfax will be comfortable to live with? What is her role at Thornfield?
2. Why can Mrs. Fairfax not converse equally with Leah, John, and his wife?
3. What is Jane's room like? Why does Mrs. Fairfax select a small room for the governess?
4. Describe the exterior of the mansion? How did it get its name?
5. Who is Miss Adèle, and what is her relationship to Mr. Rochester? What does the school-room look like?
6. Why does Mrs. Fairfax keep the dining room clean even when Mr. Rochester is not in the house? How can your answer to this question be an example of foreshadowing?
7. How does Mrs. Fairfax explain the lack of a ghost at Thornfield? What unexpected noise does Jane hear while exploring the third story?
8. Who is Grace Poole?

CHAPTER 12

Vocabulary

accorded – granted

antipathetic – detestable

ardor – passion, enthusiasm

belfry – a bell tower

belied – disproved, proved to be false

boles – tree trunks

covet – to desire

dales – valleys

deuce – [slang] devil

din – noise

ferment – to become excited or agitated, produce

gallantry – bravery, courage

hoary – white in color

homage – honor, respect

incarnate – bodily

injudicious – unwise, lack of judgment

ireful – full of anger

mantle – a cloak, covering

merino – a type of wool

officious – offering advice, helpful

pliability – flexibility, suppleness

pollard – a tree purposely cut back to produce thick growth

prattle – to talk of unimportant or mundane subjects

prostrate – lying flat

raiment – clothes, garments

reverence – honor, respect

ruddy – reddish; rosy

russet – brown in color

scrutiny – a close examination

sequestered – isolated

sough – a soft murmuring sound

stagnation – staleness

stile – steps used to cross over a fence or wall

tenanted – occupied

thwarted – frustrated; defeated

vale – a valley

vapid – dull

vocation – a desire, inclination

zenith – the highest point in the sky

1. Although Jane is happy at Thornfield, what is lacking in her life?
2. State a generalization from this novel based on the last full paragraph on page 112. What does the author say about women's rights in Victorian society?
3. Why does Jane walk to Hay? Why is she apprehensive when she hears a horse approaching?
4. Briefly describe Pilot and the fallen rider. What about his appearance makes Jane bold enough to offer assistance to the rider?
5. How does Jane discover the fallen rider is Mr. Rochester?
6. What is your opinion of Mr. Rochester and his behavior?

CHAPTER 13

Vocabulary

requisition – demand

discerned – detected

rill – a small brook

shrewdly – knowingly, wisely

prenomens – first names

cessation – a conclusion, ending

mosaic – a collection of pictures or designs that overlap to form one piece of art

jetty – black in color

decisive – authoritative; firm

denoting – indicating

choler – irritability, annoyance

divested – stripped, rid

physiognomy – facial features that show qualities of mind of character

accost – to attack

disembarrassed – relieved

caprice – the act of changing one's mind quickly

quiescence – stillness, quietness

eccentricity – peculiarity, quirkiness

piquant – interesting

amiable – friendly

trite – dully, in a tired way

condoled – expressed sorrow

perseverance – persistence

rejoinder – a reply

assiduous – diligent

celerity – quick movements

propitious – appropriate, favorable

cadeaux – [French] gifts

irate – angry, enraged

'cadeau' – [French] gifts

clamorously – noisily

meed – a reward

consoles – tables

chiffonnières – tall chests of drawers

tenacious – tough; obstinate, headstrong

eulogiums – praises

religieuses – nuns

blasphemous – sacrilegious

inditing – writing

assented – agreed

eclipse – clouds, overcast

cormorant – a large type of sea bird

palette – an artist's board (usually with a thumbhole) used for holding different colors

lineaments – facial features

suffusion – overspreading

travail – a hardship

pinnacle – a peak

muster – a gathering

serried – together
sable – black or dark in color
lurid – colorful
diademed – crowned
quells – suppresses
brook – to tolerate
fortnight – approximately two weeks
evasive – vague
averred – declared

1. Why does Jane like Thornfield better after Mr. Rochester arrives?
2. How does Mr. Rochester behave when Jane and Mrs. Fairfax join him for tea? Why does his attitude put Jane at ease?
3. What compliment does Mr. Rochester give Jane?
4. Support the following statement: Mr. Rochester is teasing Jane and enjoying their conversation.
5. Why does Jane paint? What does Mr. Rochester think of her work?
6. What family problems did Mr. Edward Rochester have before becoming master of Thornfield?
7. How does Mr. Rochester's mood change?

CHAPTER 14

Vocabulary

adventitious – accidental
affability – friendliness
affectation – artificial behavior used to impress
alternation – a change, rotation
arrogate – to assume
ascertained – determined
atone – to make up for
auditress – a female listener, hearer
austere – harsh, severe
bane – ruin, harm, hurt
benevolent – kind
bent – instinct
blunder – a mistake
bonny – handsome, pretty, fine
breadth – distance, with
brusque – abrupt, curt
cankering – decaying, rotting
charnel – a place to be buried
chasséed – quick, gliding steps, a move in ballet
chink – a crack
complacent – eager to please
conspicuous – obvious
damask – thoroughly patterned fabric
degenerated – declined
deigned – descended to a level lower than one's dignity; stooped
deity – a god, divinity
deliberated – considered, thought
disemboweling – tearing something apart (usually referring to removing innards from)
dissipations – foolish pleasures
dross – wasted material, rubbish
ebb – to decline; fall back
enigmatical – riddled, puzzling
entrails – intestines and organs
expiating – amending, fixing
fallible – able to make a mistake
festal – a festival, holiday
flint – a mineral used to spark a fire
galled – annoyed, disturbed
generalities – the majority
gregarious – outgoing, sociable
hackneyed – commonplace; used often
hector – to annoy, tease

impediment – an obstacle
importunes – annoys
impromptu – an unrehearsed exclamation, improvisation
inclement – nasty, stormy
insolence – rudness
insolent – rude
interlocutrice – a person to talk with (usually a woman)
intrinsic – innate, natural
irrevocably – irreversibly
limpid – clear
malevolent – evil
mercenary – one who works for pay
moor — open grassy land
neophyte – an amateur, novice, apprentice
ore – a mineral that bears metallic properties: aluminum, iron, tin, copper, etc.
palliate – make to seem less severe
paltry – trivial
pervious – approachable
philanthropist – a person who loves mankind and devotes time and money to help others
piqued – annoyed
placidity – calmness, tranquility
prominences – distinctions
rejoinder – an answer
rencontre – [*rencounter*] an unplanned meeting
repartee – a funny reply
repletion – fullness
ribaldry – indecent, mocking
sage – a wise person
salubrious – healthy
self-indulgent – to consume with one's desires, etc.
sententious – energetic
subordinates – people paid to be under another's authority or control
subsequent – following
unobtrusive – unnoticeable
unsanctioned – unusual, unconventional
venture – to gamble, speculate, guess
verily – confidently
vernal — spring
wot – [archaic] singular present tense of *wit*; to learn

1. What does Jane answer when Rochester asks her if she thinks he is handsome? How does he react?
2. In what ways does Mr. Rochester think he is superior to Jane? Why does she not agree?
3. Why does Jane agree to receive his orders without being upset by the tone of his command?
4. How does Mr. Rochester excuse his sins?
5. Find an example of a metaphor for Jane near the end of the chapter.
6. What does Adèle say that makes Rochester wince?
7. What does Mr. Rochester say about Adèle that shocks Jane?

CHAPTER 15

Vocabulary

abridge – to shorten, cut short

anathemas – cursed

aperture – an opening, hole, slot

assuage – to calm, satisfy

battledore – a badminton racket

casement – a window that opens like a door

cavalier – a gentleman

comfits -- desserts made with fruits, nuts, and sugar

congenial – agreeable

countenance – an appearance, face

deluged – soaked

demoniac – devilish

dentelles – lace

destitute – poor

digression – a detour

diverged – departed

doleful – sad

dupe – a fool, sucker

ensued – followed

equipages – carriages

etiolated – pale, colorless

ewer – a pitcher

exigencies – situations which demand attention

expedient – a quick, believable excuse to get out of a current situation

façade – a false appearance, front

filette – a little girl

fulminating – violently exploding

gravely – seriously

habergeon – a shield

habergeon – a small coat

hauteur – arrogance

imperious – authoritative, commanding

inamorata – a sweetheart, someone you love (usually a female)

intimated – suggested

ire – anger

lugubrious – miserable, depressing

malignant – hateful, evil

morose – sorrowful

noxious – injurious, harmful

paramount – a main concern

paroxysm – a sudden attack

pastille – a tablet with aromatic qualities

peril – a risk
rebuking – reprimanding, scolding
relish – enthusiasm, zeal
repose – to trust in something (someone)
sanctity – holiness
sardonic – cold, mocking
shuttlecock – the “birdie” used in badminton
spoony – overly sentimental
undulating – rolling, wavy
unmolested – unbothered, undisturbed
unshod – without shoes
vicomte – a gentleman who works for a nobleman
welkin – the sky

1. How does the following passage, in first person like the rest of the novel, differ from the narration in the other chapters?

“It was moonlight and gas-light besides, and very still and serene. The balcony was furnished with a chair or two; I sat down, took out a cigar.” (Pg. 144)

2. Why does Mr. Rochester feel comfortable confiding in Jane? What does he reveal about Helen’s mother?
3. In what way can Celine be called Jane’s foil?
4. Why does Mr. Rochester suggest Jane may want another position after hearing his story? What is her response?

5. What evidence is there that Jane is falling in love with Mr. Rochester?
6. What do you make of Rochester's attitude about Thornfield?
7. Why does Jane have trouble sleeping? What frightening noise does she hear?
8. How does Jane save Mr. Rochester's life? Why do you suppose he does not want her to mention it any more?
9. Why do you think he leaves Jane in the wet bedroom and goes to the third story?
10. Support the following statement: When Mr. Rochester thanks Jane for saving his life, he also communicates his love to her.

CHAPTER 16

Vocabulary

aerial – sheer
bleared – cloudy, unclear
brazen – shameless; bold
confabulation – a conversation
conflagration – a large fire
conjecture – a theory
contrived – forced
enigmatical – like a riddle; without a solution
extrication – the act of becoming untangled, freed
folly – ignorance, stupidity
harangue – to harshly lecture
impenetrability – incomprehensibility
indelibly – permanently
indigent – poor
indignation – anger
inscrutable – mysterious
matronly – elderly
miry – swampy, muddy
phlegmatic – indifferent, cool
plebeian – a commoner
propriety – appropriateness, correctness, respectability
providential – fortunate
provocation – an annoyance, irritation
prudence – discretion, caution
sago – a food used to make pudding, a starch
staid – serious
supposition – an opinion, theory
surfeited – overindulged
taciturn – silent
unvarnished – simple, plain, bare
vexing – discussing at length; puzzling

1. Why does Jane want to put Mrs. Poole to a test? How does she try to test her?

2. Why do you think Mrs. Poole tries to persuade Jane to lock her bedroom door at night?
3. What upsets Jane about Mr. Rochester's journey? Why do you think he leaves so suddenly?
4. Describe Blanche Ingram. Why is Jane especially interested in Mrs. Fairfax's description of Blanche?
5. What punishment does Jane give herself for secretly loving Mr. Rochester?
6. Find an example of foreshadowing of future troubling situations.

CHAPTER 17

Vocabulary

Abigails – a lady's personal maid

akin – connected

amplitude – greatness

anathematized – denounced, detested

anon – presently

apathetic – indifferent, unresponsive

appendage – land, property, or money

array – a display

assimilates – understands, grasps, matches

audible – able to be heard

auditors – listeners

balustrade – railing supports

behest – a request

bolsters – long, firm cylinder-shaped pillows

botany – the study of plants

caper – to frolic, hop

caste – a social group

cavalcade – a procession of carriages

cavaliers – gentlemen (soldiers or knights)

chastisement – a punishment

chimeras – wild or crazy ideas

clement – pleasant, merciful

confabulate – chat, talk

contumacy – resistance, disobedience

crucibles – melting pots

dictum – a comment, opinion

dogmatical – overbearing, opinionated

Dowager – an elderly woman belonging to the upper class

elicited – given

ensconced – settled

enumeration – a count, tally, list

exonerated – excused

extant – not destroyed, saved

extirpate – to remove totally

fender – the screen placed in front of a fireplace that keeps coals and embers from escaping

festooned – decorated

fettered – chained

foil – one that accentuates another's specific characteristics

forage – food

furbish – to polish, restore

gallant – majestic

heralds – messengers

incubi – nightmares; burdens
induced – persuaded
ineffable – unspeakable
insipid – dull, colorless
irids – referring to the iris
lachrymose – in tears
languid – not forceful, unenergetic
larder – a pantry, cellar
liaisons – middle parties
magistrate – a judge
martyrdom – extreme suffering
mutiny – a rebellion
onus – a burden, responsibility
pith – strength, energy
poplars – types of trees
portents – warnings, omens
prating – chattering
protracted – prolonged
puppet – [British] a term used when addressing small, impressionable children
resplendent – brilliantly
riveted – fascinated
sanctum – a sanctuary, holy place
satirical – sarcastic
saturnine – unhappy, gloomy
sentiments – feelings
slavish – subservient
solace – comfort
solicitous – anxious
sonorous – deep, rich
sovereign – independent
steely – hard
sundry – assorted
trepidation – fears
truss – to secure with string (usually referring to meat)
unfurrowed – unmarked, clear
vanquishing – defeating
vernacularly – referring to dialect; idiomatically spoken
victualage – food
whey – milky colored, pale

1. What new information does Jane learn when she overhears a conversation between Leah and another maid?
2. What do Adèle and Jane do while Mr. Rochester entertains his guests that first night? How does Jane feel about being invited to the party?
3. Why do Adèle and Jane go into the drawing room early? How are they treated by the ladies when they enter from the dining room?
4. What negative characteristics does Jane observe about Miss Blanche Ingram?
5. What are the two main topics of Miss Ingram's conversation? How do they hurt Jane?
6. Speculate on what Mr. Rochester is about to say, but does not, in the following passage:

“ ‘Now go, and send Sophie for Adèle. Good-night, my —’ He stopped, bit his lip, and abruptly left me.” (Pg. 177)

CHAPTER 18

Vocabulary

acquitted – conducted
acrimony – a bitter temper
allure – to attract, entice
antipathy – hostility, hatred, animosity
attainments – achievements, accomplishments
beguile – to entertain, amuse
beldame – an old woman
brocaded – heavy fabric with ornate and thick embroidery
casket – a small box for valuables
condemnatory – negative
consort – associate
contumelious – insulting, abusive
countenance – to support
deference – courteousness, obedience
deferred – postponed, delayed
engender – to cause, produce
epithet – an expression
equitable – unprejudiced, fair, objective
girandoles – candleholders
halcyon – calm, peaceful
hem – an intentional cough used to get someone's attention
highwayman – a person who robs from travelers
imperious – authoritative, dictatorial
importunity – urgency, insistence
incredulity – doubt, not trusting
infatuatedly – foolishly passionate
languidly – listlessly, spiritlessly
lenient – gentle, merciful
meretricious – insincere; tastelessly flashy or showy
multitudinous – many, large in numbers
palmistry – the act of reading palms
palsied – shaking, trembling
pantomime – the act of communicating with only gestures and expressions
paradox – a contradictory statement
parleying – negotiating
placid – pale
pungent – spicy (usually referring to taste or smell)
rebuff – giving the “cold-shoulder,” snub
sagacity – keen judgment, wisdom
sallow – sickly
sardonic – sarcastic
self-complacency – self-satisfaction

sibyl – a female prophet or fortuneteller

sordid – depressing

supercilious – arrogant, superior

tableau – a clear description

taciturnity – silent, quiet

tinkler – a meddler, wanderer

titter – a giggle

unremittingly – persistently, constantly

vagabond – a wanderer, a person with no permanent home

van – the first in a group

vivaciously – spiritedly

1. What three characters does Mr. Rochester play in charades? Which character do you think Jane likes the least?
2. How does Jane explain her lack of jealousy toward Miss Ingram?
3. What is Jane's opinion of Mr. Rochester's apparent decision to marry for position?
4. Who arrives while Mr. Rochester is away from the party on business? What does he look like?
5. Who is "old Mother Bunches"? (Pg. 187) What demands does she make on the ladies at the party?
6. What happens when the gypsy tells the fortunes of Mary, Amy, Louisa, and Blanche?

CHAPTER 19

Vocabulary

automaton – like a robot, mechanically

blackaviced – dark, complicated

brine – salt water

censure – to be publicly shunned

chagrin – embarrassment, disappointment

chasms – opinions, interests

desist – to stop

diablerie – witchcraft, devilry

doffed – taken off, removed

enigmas – puzzling or inexplicable (referring to people or riddles)

feigned – pretended, invented

interlocutor – a person to talk with

lassitude – weak, weary

meted – limited, measured

ministrant – comforting

propitious – favorable

quibble – a pun, a play on words

superlatively – highly, excessively

1. Why does the gypsy say Jane is cold, sick, and silly?
2. What do you think the gypsy is trying to get Jane to admit?

3. What information does the gypsy woman give Blanche Ingram to make her unhappy?
4. List the observations the gypsy makes about Jane's character by examining her eyes, mouth, and forehead.
5. Why does Jane congratulate herself after her interview with the gypsy?
6. How does Mr. Rochester react to the news that Mr. Mason is waiting to see him? What does he ask Jane to do to help him?
7. In what way is the final conversation in the chapter between Jane and Mr. Rochester an example of foreshadowing?

CHAPTER 20

Vocabulary

alacrity - liveliness, eagerness

amenable – responsible

buxom – healthy; lively

cannily – carefully

carrion – a dead animal, rotting flesh

charlatan – a fraud, phony

cordial – a stimulant; liquor

crimson – the color red

culpable – guilty

eyrie – a nest (usually built by a bird of prey)

gilding – a thin coating of gold

grappled – wrestled

immutable – unalterable

impetuous – hasty, impulsive

inarticulate – unable to be determined; unclear

inertness – having the inability to move

inextricable – unable to be solved

mien – actions; appearance

parable – a story with a moral

penchant – having a strong liking

peril – a risk

phial – a small bottle, vial

propounded – proposed

recommence – to begin again

repository – a place where items are kept for safe keeping

sequestered – secluded

shod – past tense of *shoe*

strapper – a robust, strong person

sullied – dirty

trice – an instant

twain – two

vigils – periods of observation

viz. – [Latin] *videlicet*; that is

wane – to fade away

wax – to become intense; to become large in size or strength

wicket – a gate

1. Why does Jane remain dressed after Mr. Rochester explains that the screams are from a servant's nightmare?

2. What does Jane do to help Mr. Mason? What special instructions does Mr. Rochester give Jane and Mr. Mason? What could be the reason for such instructions?
3. Why does someone bite Mr. Mason? Who or what do you think bites him?
4. What four errands does Jane perform for Mr. Rochester?
5. What is behind the tapestry in the room where Jane nurses Mr. Mason?
6. How can Mr. Mason hurt Mr. Rochester?
7. Why do you think the author has Mr. Rochester take Jane into the garden to talk instead of the mansion?
8. What answer does Jane give to the following question?

“Is the wandering and sinful, but now rest-seeking and repentant man justified in daring the world’s opinion, in order to attach to him for ever this gently, gracious, genial stranger; thereby securing his own peace of mind and regeneration of life?” (Pg. 212)
9. Support the following statement: Mr. Rochester is not serious about wanting to marry Miss Ingram.

CHAPTER 21

Vocabulary

acrid – bitter

affliction – a burden

amity – goodwill, affection

amity – showing goodwill, affection

apoplectic – having the appearance of verging on stroke or heart attack

ascetic – severe

assiduously – busily, diligently

aught – all

augmented – magnified, enlarged

crape – a piece of fabric

cumber – a burden; clutter

dandled – bounced

deglutition – swallowing

despotic – authoritative, tyrannical

dissipations – pleasures, amusements

emphatically – forcefully, assertively

entreated – begged, pleaded

equivocal – unclear, obscure

eradicated – removed, uprooted, exterminated

forbearance – patience, tolerance

formalist – a person who pays strict attention to worship

hoard – an inventory, stock

indissoluble – impossible

inexorable – rigid, inflexible

iteration – repetition

knaves – dishonest scoundrels

languish – to deteriorate, fade

lethargy – stupor, laziness

naiads – a type of mythological nymph or fairy that usually lived in springs or fountains

niggard – a cheapskate, penny pincher

outlawry – an illegal act

pecuniary – money related

peremptory – final, absolute

precursor – the beginning

presentiments – premonitions

puritanical – like a puritan; one who lives a strict religious life

purloined – stolen

remittent – less, not as much

reprobation – blame, disapproval

resounded – echoed

ruth – compassion

scantiness – meagerness

sharpers – crooks, cheaters
sovereign – a British gold coin
sublime – majestic
superciliousness – the act of being arrogant, haughtiness
quells – suppresses, quiets
“quiz” – a joke
tempestuously – ferociously
tenement – a lease, rental
thrice – three times
vignettes – paintings, usually very descriptive
visage – a face
water-flags – types of irises with yellow flowers

1. How does Jane define presentiments, sympathies, and signs?
2. What does Jane dream?
3. Who is Robert? What news does he bring about the Reed family?
4. What matter of business does Jane want to discuss with Mr. Rochester before leaving for Gateshead?
5. How have Eliza and Georgiana changed?

6. Why does Jane think Mrs. Reed must always think she is a bad person?
7. Why does Mrs. Reed wish Jane had died at Lowood during the typhus epidemic?
8. State a theme for this novel, using the following quotation describing the reason Georgiana and Eliza are despicable human beings:

“True, generous feeling is made small account of by some: but here were two natures rendered, the one intolerably acrid, the other despicably savorless for the want of it. Feeling without judgment is a washy draught indeed; but judgment untempered by feeling is too bitter and husky a morsel for human deglutition.” (Pg. 229)

9. What two ways has Mrs. Reed wronged Jane?
10. What do we learn of the Reed sisters?
11. Why does Jane forgive Mrs. Reed?

CHAPTER 22

Vocabulary

acumen – cleverness, intelligence

advantageous – beneficial

amicable – friendly

ardent – passionate

balm – quiet, calm

bourne – a destination

cognizant – aware, conscious

colloquize – to converse, to talk

compliant – obedient

cynosure – guidance, direction

dogmas – a set of guidelines, doctrines

dubious – doubtful

gloaming – twilight

interment – a funeral ceremony

lamentations – mourning, grievances

novitiate – the trial period of a person attempting to join a religious order

osler – [*holster*] the person in charge of tending to the horses

philter – a love potion

surmised – guessed

transitory – brief, fleeting

truant – a person who skips work or school

vicinage – an area, vicinity

vocation – an occupation

1. How is the following statement ambiguous? “I have been with my aunt, sir, who is dead.” (Pg. 236)
2. What does Mr. Rochester want to show Jane?
3. What is Jane’s idea of home?
4. Why does Jane think Mr. Rochester’s marriage to Blanche may have been canceled?

CHAPTER 23

Vocabulary

acuteness – sharpness

atone – [archaic] to agree

constancy – loyalty

conventionalities – specific customs and expected social behavior

expiate – to fix

exultation – triumph, extreme joy

incivility – rudeness, impoliteness

parterres – arrangements; specifically arranged garden paths

peal – a sudden burst of noise

prostrate – to overpower or crush with intense emotion

prudence – thriftiness, frugality; discretion

resolves – decisions

sanction – consent, permission

subjoined – said at the end, added

1. How does Mr. Rochester get Jane to admit her true feelings for him?
2. Why does Jane reveal her love for Rochester?
3. What is Jane's reaction to Rochester's proposal?
4. After Jane accepts his proposal, why does Rochester say:

 "God pardon me!...and man meddle not with me: I have her and will hold her." (Pg. 246)
5. Considering the author's use of nature to mirror the events in Jane's life, what is the significance of the lightning splitting the chestnut tree at the bottom of the orchard?

CHAPTER 24

Vocabulary

accession – an increase, addition
alabaster – light in color, ivory, pale
alight – to get down
asperity – harshness
averred – declared
badinage – to tease, banter
bairn – a child
bashaw – an honorific title of a Turkish military officer
bathos – an insincere expression of sentimentality
blither – nonsense
capricious – unpredictable, impulsive
circlet – a small round piece of jewelry
coercion – force, strength
colloquy – a conversation
concession – an allowance
coquetry – flirtation
cudgel – a club
deferential – dutiful, respectful
deprecation – the act of expressing a strong opinion
despot – a tyrant
dint – a force
dudgeon – a feeling of resentment
effervesce – to boil up
enmity – hatred
expediency – giving in to self-serving means
fagged – exhausted
fastidious – careful, finicky
flinty – stern
fraction – hard to manage
fruition – fulfillment, attainment
gossamer – a type of light, sheer fabric
harlequin – a type of clown
hied – rushed, raced
imbecility – great stupidity
insolvency – bankruptcy
legatee – someone who inherits a legacy
manna – food created by divine means
monitress – a female monitor
nettled – irritated
pagan – a person who does not regard any religion as their own
peremptory – authoritative
pertinaciously – stubbornly

pinion – a bird's wing
 piqued – aroused, provoked
 pished – a sound of impatience
 pliancy – flexibility
 quailed – cowered
 remand – to send back
 remonstrance – challenge
 repast – a meal
 rescind – to void
 salamander – a spirit that lives in fire
 seraglio – a sultan's palace or harem (a place reserved for only women)
 sojourn – a visit, vacation
 sultan – a Muslim ruler
 suttee – a widow who is burned alive
 swaths – large areas of land
 sylph – a slender, graceful girl
 talisman – a charm believed to have magical powers
 tyne – to lose
 unction – earnestness, seriousness
 usurped – to seize with power
 vouchsafed – guaranteed, assured

1. Why is Mrs. Fairfax uncomfortable with Jane at breakfast?
2. Why does Jane not want the Rochester heirlooms?
3. What does she want from him instead of dresses and jewels? What is his answer?

4. Why is Mrs. Fairfax worried about Jane's marriage to Mr. Rochester?

5. What evidence is there that Jane listens to Mrs. Fairfax's warning?

6. Why does Jane want to send a letter to Mr. John Eyre?

7. What is your opinion of Jane's refusal to become dependent on Rochester?

CHAPTER 25

Vocabulary

appertained – concerned
aristocratic – referring to the upper class, nobles
ascertain – to discover
audacity – boldness, forwardness
augment – to increase
cloven – a cut, severed, split
cornice – a decorative molding or frame used to hide curtain rods
coronet – a crown
disquietude – uneasiness, anxiety
embowered – hidden by branches with leaves
enfeebled – weak
enviored – surrounded
extort – to obtain
fissure – crevice
gale – a fierce wind
idyls – short poems
impetuous – impulsive
incensed – enraged
indissolubly – permanently
insuperable – impossible
lurid – gruesome
obscurity – darkness
peeress – a female peer
pendent – hanging
plebeian – common
portmanteau – a travel bag, it opens up like a book; a briefcase
precincts – borders
puerile – foolish, childish
rent – ripped, torn
requisite – required
riven – split
scathed – injured by fire
unsundered – connected, together
visitant – a visitor, guest
wraith-like – ghost-like

1. Why is Jane anxious before her wedding?

2. Briefly describe her first dream. How does Mr. Rochester respond after hearing about this dream?
3. Briefly describe her second dream.
4. What does Jane see when she awakens from the second dream?
5. Why does Jane insist the incident with the lady and the veil is not a dream?
6. How does Mr. Rochester explain the woman in Jane's room? Does Jane believe his explanation?
7. Where does Jane sleep the night before her wedding day?
8. Do you find it difficult to believe that Jane agrees to wait a year and a day for an explanation?

CHAPTER 26

Vocabulary

adduced – presented, cited

admonition – a warning, caution

balked – missed

bigamy – having more than one wife

chancel – the space surrounding the altar in a church

conjugal – marital, wedded

controvert – to deny, contradict

corpulent – extremely overweight

espousing – marrying

gambols – frolicking, romping

hob – a shelf or mantle beside or above a fireplace

imbruted – brutal

impediment – an obstruction, obstacle

lorn – deserted; lonely

marshal – to usher, guide

pinioned – winged

quarried – excavated

ragout – vegetable stew

rallied – assembled

reproof – to blame

riveted – fastened

surplice – the long white robe worn by priest

tarry – to delay, drag, procrastinate

tawny – having a light brown color

vestry – the area in a church where the clergy kept their robes and other sacred items

virile – manly, masculine

1. Who is Mr. Woods? What does Jane see in the graveyard of the church?

2. How is Jane's marriage ceremony interrupted?

3. What does Mr. Rochester do when he realizes he cannot go through with his marriage to Jane?
4. How does Bertha behave? What does Mr. Rochester do to control her?
5. What does Jane's uncle have to do with stopping her marriage?
6. Support the following statement with a quotation from page 285:

The child in Jane's dream is a symbol for her love for Rochester.

CHAPTER 27

Vocabulary

slough – discouragement
upbraided – scolded
vehemence – eagerness, enthusiasm
reproach – disapproval
ewe – a female lamb
rued – regretted, felt sorrow for
appropriated – assigned, designated
profligate – extravagant
revile – to scold
expostulate – to reason with
curtail – to shorten
scruple – a doubt, reservation
paroxysms – fits, convulsions
vexation – irritation
impetus – an incentive
nominally – literally, referring to bearing a name
sophistical – invalid
infernal – accursed
avaricious – greedy
besotted – blinded
prurience – a desire
allured – attracted
vile – offensive
trite – common
perverse – obstinate
eschewed – escaped
pigmy – unusual
propensities – tendencies
intemperate – having no self control
indigence – poverty
noxious – deadly
callous – unfeeling
natal – native
advent – arrival
repudiated – denied
faugh – an expression of shock
odious – displeasing, despicable
infirm – weak
harlot – a female prostitute
refulgent – brilliant
unalloyed – alone, not mixed, potent
sullied – tainted

clime – climate
apprise – to inform
lucid – clear, rational
vigilance – alertness
interminable – continual
roved – wandered, roamed
antipodes – the opposite
incongruous – incompatible
dissipation – wasteful consumption
liaison – communication
rake – an immoral person
desecrated – violated
pollard – a type of tree
presentiment – a feeling that something is about to happen
linnet – a type of bird, like a finch
surly – moody
bilious – irritable pain from indigestion
shrewd – clever
diffident – shy
conspicuous – obvious
plied – controlled
solecism – a mistake in etiquette
epicure – gourmet, connoisseur
despondent – desperate
furtively – secretly
fervent – fiery, flaming
magnanimity – generosity
sully – to soil
perversity – stubbornness
inviolate – uninjured, unbroken
stringent – a constriction
indomitable – invincible
syncope – a loss of consciousness
sable – the color black
azure – a shade of blue
fount – a fountain
scaffold – a platform where criminals stand while they await execution
disseverment – separation
goaded – moved
drear – dreary
copse – a brush, thicket

1. Find an example of personification in the chapter.
2. Why does Jane forgive Rochester in her heart?
3. What reason does Rochester give for keeping his sick wife at Thornfield instead of hiding her in a remote Manor?
4. How does Rochester plan to be with Jane even though they cannot marry?
5. Why did Mr. Rochester marry Bertha?
6. What did Mr. Rochester do after he brought Bertha to Thornfield and hired Mrs. Poole to watch her? Why do you suppose he does not divorce Bertha?
7. How does Mr. Rochester feel about living with a mistress? Why does this opinion worry Jane?

8. Why does Rochester not tell Jane about his wife before the marriage ceremony?

9. What advice does Jane give Rochester after she refuses to stay with him?

10. State a theme for this novel using the following passage:

“Mr. Rochester, I no more assign this fate to you than I grasp at it for myself. We were born to strive and endure – you as well as I: do so. You will forget me before I forget you.” (Pg. 303)

11. What does Jane take with her when she leaves Thornfield?

12. How much does Jane pay the driver for her ride? Why is it too much?

CHAPTER 28

Vocabulary

acceded – consented

allay – to relieve

avidity – a craving

bombazine – a type of fabric

drover – a herdsman

fagging – working hard, drudging

foundry – a factory where metal is melted down and molded

fustian – a type of coarse fabric

hamlet – a small town

importune – to beg

inducement – an invitation

lea – a meadow

lexicon – a dictionary

lozenged – shaped like a diamond

mendicant – a beggar

omnipotence – all-powerful, all-knowing

omnipresence – the ability to be everywhere at once

palisades – a type of fence

parsonage – an official home provided by the church for the parson to live

plover – a bird

propitious – favorable

prostration – exhaustion, a collapse

scrupulously – meticulously

sodden – soaked, saturated

spire – the top of a steeple

throe – a severe pain

tresses – ringlets of hair

vagrant – a wanderer

verge – a border

yew – a poisonous evergreen bush

1. How can the reader infer from the descriptions of nature that Jane has made the correct decision to leave Thornfield?
2. Why does Jane try to find the clergyman? Why is he unavailable?

3. How does Jane get food the first night in the village?
4. What does Jane try to trade for food? Is she successful?
5. How does Jane keep going until she reaches the house in the woods? Some readers see this light as similar to the star of Bethlehem. What is your opinion?
6. Briefly describe the inhabitants of the house in the woods.
7. Why does Hannah refuse to let Jane speak to Diana and Mary? What does the woman give her instead?
8. Why do you think Jane tells Mr. St. John her last name is Elliott? What does Jane want him to do for her?

CHAPTER 29

Vocabulary

acumen – sharpness

aversion – hatred

bemired – muddy

benefactors – providers

brevity – conciseness

clad – clothed

delineation – a description

direful – terrible, dreadful

emaciated – extremely thin

imperturbably – calmly and serene in manner

incumbent – a duty

indicative – indicating

latterly – later

pallid – pale colored

relent – to weaken, yield

satiety – full

solus – alone

threaped – scolded

torpid – insensible, unresponsive

torpor – stupor, listlessness

undemonstrative – unmarked, unemotional

1. State the point of this passage:

“Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education: they grow there firm as weeds among stones.” (Pg. 325)

2. What does Jane think of Hannah?

3. Who is Mr. Oliver?
4. What does Jane think about St. John's physical appearance?
5. How much of Jane's past does she reveal to St. John and his sisters? What does she say to explain why she left her last job?
6. What mistake does she make? How does she explain herself?
7. Why does St. John agree to help her find work?

CHAPTER 30

Vocabulary

alloy – something that is added to decrease the value
bracken – a large, fern-like plant
broached – brought up
ciphering – calculating (referring to arithmetic)
consecration – commitment
contravened – contradicted; denied
coruscating – twinkling, glistening
disdainful – hateful
dovetailed – agreed
dregs – the lowest level
elysium – a paradise, a place of happiness
grange – a farm or residence for a farmer
guineas – a type of currency
hewers – people employed to cut down (brush, trees, etc.)
ignoble – lowly, degrading
inexpedient – not very practicable
insatiate – dissatisfied
morass – a soggy area
pensive – thoughtful
recrimination – accusations
reverenced – adored, worshipped
sequestered – secluded
supervened – followed
tenor – having a tendency
zealous – enthusiastic

1. How is St. John's character different from his sisters?

2. What does Jane think of his sermon?
3. How much does St. John have left after all of his father's debts are paid?
4. Why does Jane accept the position of mistress of the Morton school? Why does St. John not think she will stay in the position for long?
5. Who is the St. John's uncle? Why are they disappointed when he dies?

CHAPTER 31

Vocabulary

austerity – sternness

commodious – spacious

delf – pottery

despondent – hopeless

hiatus – a break

inanition – exhaustion

inducements – incentives, impulses

intractable – stubborn

ken – the view

orator – a person who gives speeches

reft – deprived

repine – to fret, complain

scions – descendants

sensualist – a sensual person who gives in to desires and tends to overindulge

stinted – limited

vacillating – wavering

1. Support the following statement with a quotation from this chapter: Charlotte Brontë thinks lower-class children have the same potential as those of the upper classes.
2. What advice does Mr. St. John give to Jane to help her avoid the temptation of returning to Mr. Rochester?
3. Who is the source of St. John's "season of darkness and struggling"? (Pg. 344) How has he overcome temptation?
4. Support the following statement: Despite Miss Oliver's beauty, and St. John's attraction to her, she is not a suitable mate for him.

CHAPTER 32

Vocabulary

asp – a venomous snake

aspirant – one who has great ambition

carmine – red in color

catechizing – teaching religion systematically

dexterously – skillfully

eminence – superior positions

emulous – jealous

enervate – to weaken

inundation – flood waters

nectarous – relating to nectar

petulance – irritability

rover – a wanderer

stoic – calm, indifferent

stoicism – the belief that people should not show specific emotions (joy, grief, etc.)

transient – fleeting, passing quickly

turret – a tower

1. How does Jane repay the kindness of the students' families?
2. What does Miss Oliver think of Jane? How does she arrange a meeting between Jane and Mr. Oliver?
3. How does St. John react when he looks at Jane's drawing of Miss Oliver? Why does Jane think he has this reaction?

4. Why does Jane boldly suggest to St. John that he should be with Miss Oliver? What is his answer?

5. Why does St. John tremble around Miss Oliver? How does he describe himself?

6. What does St. John admire about Jane? What does he do to a piece of Jane's drawing paper? Why does he do this?

CHAPTER 33

Vocabulary

affluence – wealth, abundance

afresh – again

analogous – similar

arbitration – the process of presenting a dispute to an outside party to come to an agreement

consternation – paralyzing fear

curate – a pastor's assistant

donjon – a castle's main tower

insinuation – a suggestion

opiate – a drug derived from opium, that quiets and calms

salutary – helpful, profitable

vermilion – red in color

yoke – a crossbar used to link oxen together

1. What is Jane's first reaction when she realizes St. John knows about her connection to Thornfield?
2. How does Jane feel about inheriting twenty thousand pounds?
3. What information about the inheritance does St. John try to keep from Jane?

4. What does Jane want to do with her wealth? Do you think St. John agrees with her decision?
5. Why does Jane think she will never marry even though the money will increase her prospects?
6. How is the question over Jane's decision to divide the inheritance finally settled?
7. Which events in this chapter may deal with improbable coincidences?

CHAPTER 34

Vocabulary

acquisition – an accomplishment, acquirement

antagonistic – opposing; opposite

ascendancy – domination

battalion – a large number

berth – a place on a ship

besotted – intellectually ignorant

brood – to contemplate

bulwark – a support, safeguard

coadjutor – an assistant

cordiality – sincere kindness

crest-fallen – depressed

currants – seedless berries

daunt – to discourage

ebullition – an outpouring

ecclesiastical – religious

effigy – an image, representation

firmament – the sky

garrulous – talkative, chatty

helpmeet – a helper

hewn – cut

hierophant – a religious official

ineradicable – impossible to get rid of

lucre – money, wealth

oblation – an offering

piquancy – having complete freedom

poignantly – sharply, impressively

rush – a plant with small flowers

sinews – tendons

solicitude – concern

stead – place

thrall – servitude

tractability – obedience

tropes – words and phrases

unblighted – not ambitious

wrest – to twist, turn

1. What is St. John's objection to Jane devoting herself to Moor House and his sisters?

2. Why does Jane think St. John will make a terrible husband?
3. How does St. John demonstrate to Jane that for him “fortitude pleased him; the reverse was a special annoyance”? (Pg. 378)
4. Why does St. John ask Jane to learn Hindostanee? What other motivation may he have?
5. Why does St. John kiss Jane? What does she think of his kiss?
6. What is wrong with St. John’s proposal to Jane?
7. List the qualities St. John sees in Jane that he thinks make her qualified to become a missionary’s wife.
8. How does Jane view her future if she agrees to marry St. John?

CHAPTER 35

Vocabulary

boon – a favor

conciliate – to win over, appease

conjured – influenced

impropriety – an improper act

perdition – damnation, hell

procure – to obtain

propitiate – to ease, soften

scintillated – sparkled, twinkled

superfluity – not needed, excessive

tangible – substantial, evident

whetted – stimulated

zealots – fanatics

1. Why, at first, is Diana delighted to hear St. John has proposed marriage to Jane? What changes her mind?
2. While under St. John's spell, what does Jane hear? What does she answer?

Use the following passage to answer the next two questions.

“I broke from St. John; who had followed, and would have detained me. It was *my* time to assume ascendancy. My powers were in play, and in force. I told him to forbear question or remark; I desired him to leave me: I must, and would be alone. He obeyed at once. Where there is energy to command well enough, obedience never fails. I mounted to my chamber; locked myself in; fell on my knees; and prayed in my way... I seemed to penetrate very near a Mighty Spirit, and my soul rushed out in gratitude at His feet. I rose from the thanksgiving, took a resolve, and lay down, unscared, enlightened – eager but for the daylight.” (Pg. 397)

3. Why do you think Jane is eager for the daylight?
4. Speculate on why Jane's “soul rushed out in gratitude at His feet.” (Pg. 397)

CHAPTER 36

Vocabulary

annuity – a salary, yearly allowance

auspices – protection

epistles – letters

gilt – gold in color

mortar – a cement-like mixture

1. How does Mrs. Rochester die?
2. Where is Mr. Rochester? What is the extent of his injuries?

CHAPTER 37

Vocabulary

avowal – a confession, acknowledgement
brownie – a small, helpful, and hardworking fairy
chastisements – punishments
cicatrized – scarred
corporeal – physical
cravat – a scarf
dispensation – a distribution
fillip – of little importance
insalubrious – unhealthy
lachrymose – tearful
lamerter – one who expresses sorrow or regret
priggish – realistic
proWess – ability, strength
purveyor – a provider (usually referring to food)
redd – cleaned
remuneration – a fee, payment
scrag – a collar
subjugation – a conquest
sylvan – rustic
wended – gone

1. What is the weather like when Jane first arrives at Ferndean?
2. How much vision does Rochester retain?

3. Support the following statement with a quotation from this chapter: Jane is not staying with Mr. Rochester out of pity or obligation.
4. Support the following statement: The weather improves because Jane is happy helping Rochester.
5. How does Jane convince Rochester that she loves him more now than before his accident?
6. Why does Rochester think it is God's will that he is blind? Why is he grateful?
7. Why does Jane not tell Rochester that she heard him call her name when she was trying to decide if God wanted her to be a missionary?

CHAPTER 38

Vocabulary

eminent – distinguished, prominent

forelock — the hair over the forehead

oculist – an eye doctor

1. What do you think of the ending?
2. Why is Jane's heart filled with joy even though she knows St. John is dying?
3. Some readers see this theme in this last chapter: "If one leads a pure life, he or she will find happiness on earth and eternal happiness with the Lord." Refer to the text to support or refute this assertion.

The Perfect Balance Between Cost and Quality for Classic Paperbacks

WITH ALL OF THE DIFFERENT EDITIONS of classics available, what makes *Prestwick House Literary Touchstone Classics™* better?

Our editions were designed by former teachers with the needs of teachers and students in mind. Because we've struggled to stretch tight budgets and had to deal with the deficiencies of cheaply made paperbacks, we've produced high-quality trade editions at remarkably low prices. As a result, our editions have it all.

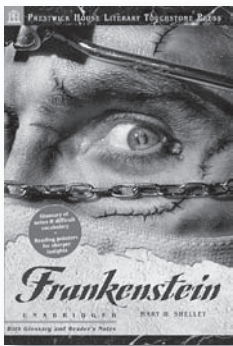
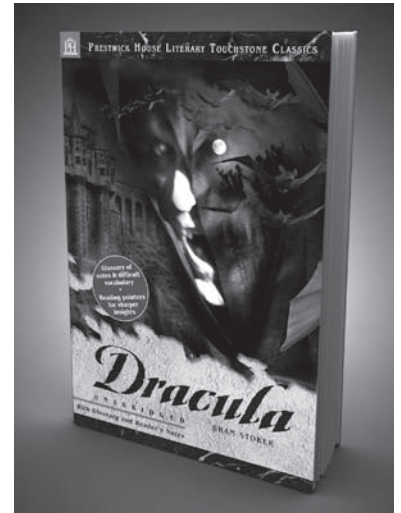
Value Pricing – With our extraordinary Educators' Discount, you get these books at **50% or more off the list price.**

Reading Pointers for Sharper Insights – Concise notes that encourage students to question and consider points of plot, theme, characterization, and style, etc.

Glossary and Vocabulary – An A-to-Z glossary makes sure that your students won't get lost in difficult allusions or archaic vocabulary and concepts.

Sturdy Bindings and High-Quality Paper – High-quality construction ensures these editions hold up to heavy, repeated use.

Strategies for Understanding Shakespeare – Each *Shakespeare Literary Touchstone Classic™* contains line numbers, margin notes, and a guide to understanding Shakespeare's language, as well as key strategies for getting the most from the plays.



Special Introductory Discount for Educators only – At Least 50% Off!

New titles are constantly being added; call or visit our website for current listing.

	Retail Price	Intro.	Discount
200053..... <i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> - Twain TU RJ AT AP	\$4.99		\$2.49
200473..... <i>Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The</i> - Twain TU RJ AT	\$4.99		\$2.49
202116..... <i>Alice's Adventure in Wonderland</i> - Carroll TU RJ	\$3.99		\$1.99
202118..... <i>Antigone</i> - Sophocles TU RJ AT	\$3.99		\$1.99
200141..... <i>Awakening, The</i> - Chopin TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99		\$1.99
202111..... <i>Beowulf</i> - Roberts (ed.) TU	\$3.99		\$1.99
204866..... <i>Best of Poe, The: The Tell-Tale Heart, The Raven, The Cask of Amontillado, and 30 Others</i> - Poe	\$4.99		\$2.49
200150..... <i>Call of the Wild, The</i> - London TU RJ AT	\$3.99		\$1.99
200348..... <i>Canterbury Tales</i> - Chaucer TU	\$3.99		\$1.99
200179..... <i>Christmas Carol, A</i> - Dickens TU RJ AT	\$3.99		\$1.99
201198..... <i>Crime and Punishment</i> - Dostoyevsky TU	\$6.99		\$3.49
200694..... <i>Doll's House, A</i> - Ibsen TU RJ AT	\$3.99		\$1.99
200190..... <i>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> - Stevenson TU RJ AT	\$3.99		\$1.99

202113..... <i>Dracula</i> - Stoker TU RJ	\$5.99	\$2.99
200166..... <i>Ethan Frome</i> - Wharton TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200054..... <i>Frankenstein</i> - Shelley TU RJ AT AP	\$4.99	\$1.99
202112..... <i>Great Expectations</i> - Dickens TU RJ AT AP	\$5.99	\$2.99
202108..... <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> - Swift TU	\$4.99	\$2.49
200091..... <i>Hamlet</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99	\$1.99
200074..... <i>Heart of Darkness</i> - Conrad TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
202117..... <i>Hound of the Baskervilles, The</i> - Doyle TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200147..... <i>Importance of Being Earnest, The</i> - Wilde TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
301414..... <i>Invisible Man, The</i> - Wells TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
202115..... <i>Jane Eyre</i> - Brontë TU RJ	\$6.99	\$3.49
200146..... <i>Julius Caesar</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
201817..... <i>Jungle, The</i> - Sinclair TU RJ AT	\$5.99	\$2.99
200125..... <i>Macbeth</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99	\$1.99
204864..... <i>Medea</i> - Euripides TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200133..... <i>Metamorphosis, The</i> - Kafka TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
200081..... <i>Midsummer Night's Dream, A</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
202123..... <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
301391..... <i>My Antonia</i> - Cather TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
200079..... <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> - Douglass TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
301269..... <i>Odyssey, The</i> - Butler (trans.) TU RJ AT	\$4.99	\$2.49
200564..... <i>Oedipus Rex</i> - Sophocles TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200095..... <i>Othello</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99	\$1.99
202121..... <i>Picture of Dorian Gray, The</i> - Wilde TU RJ	\$4.99	\$2.49
200368..... <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> - Austen TU RJ AT	\$4.99	\$2.49
202114..... <i>Prince, The</i> - Machiavelli TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200791..... <i>Pygmalion</i> - Shaw TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200102..... <i>Red Badge of Courage, The</i> - Crane TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200193..... <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$0.99
200132..... <i>Scarlet Letter, The</i> - Hawthorne TU AT AP	\$4.99	\$2.49
202119..... <i>Siddhartha</i> - Hesse TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
204863..... <i>Silas Marner</i> - Eliot TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200251..... <i>Tale of Two Cities, A</i> - Dickens AT AP	\$5.99	\$2.99
200231..... <i>Taming of the Shrew, The</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
204865..... <i>Time Machine, The</i> - Wells TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
202120..... <i>Treasure Island</i> - Stevenson TU RJ	\$4.99	\$2.49
301420..... <i>War of the Worlds</i> - Wells TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
202122..... <i>Wuthering Heights</i> - Brontë TU AT	\$5.99	\$2.99

TU Teaching Units RJ Response Journals AT Activity Pack AP AP Teaching Units



PRESTWICK HOUSE, INC.

"Everything for the English Classroom!"

P.O. Box 658 • Clayton, DE 19938 • (800) 932-4593 • (888) 718-9333 • www.prestwickhouse.com



Order Form

Prestwick House, Inc.
P.O. Box 658
Clayton, DE 19938

School:	
Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Phone:	Email:

[illegible]

Subtotal	\$
Shipping 12% S&H (\$6.00 minimum)	\$
Total	\$

Expedited Delivery
for expedited delivery ask about the following options:

- Overnight Air
- 2nd day air
- 3 Day Select

Because charges for air delivery are based on weight and distance, heavy packages can be expensive to ship air freight. Typographic and photographic errors are subject to revision. Prestwick House is the sole source of all proprietary materials listed in this catalogue. Please be sure to include a street address. FedEx ground/UPS will not deliver to a P.O. Box.