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Advanced Placement in
English Literature and Composition

Teaching Unit
Individual Learning Packet

Wuthering Heights

by Emily Brontë

Written by Christina Taneyhill

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ISBN-13 978-1-58049-324-6

Reorder No. 301952

Wuthering Heights

Objectives

By the end of this Unit, the student will be able to:

1. analyze the characters of Catherine, Heathcliff, Hindley, Nelly, Edgar, Isabella, Hareton, Cathy, and Linton and their relationships to each other.
2. identify and explain the impact of the frame narrative structure and shifting point-of-view on the story.
3. discuss Brontë's use of dialect and analyze its function in the story.
4. analyze the importance of literary elements such as foreshadowing on the development of the plot.
5. examine and explain the role of social class in the novel and its effect on various characters.
6. identify the motifs of doubles, windows, and weather throughout the novel and explain their significance.
7. explain the ways in which the novel does and does not meet the characteristics of Romantic literature.
8. identify in what ways the novel does and does not fit into the Gothic genre.
9. discuss the role of women in the 19th century as portrayed in the novel, and analyze how the novel comments on these roles.
10. identify the various forms of love throughout the novel and analyze the effects of the various types.
11. analyze the theme of revenge throughout the novel and its impact on each character in the story.
12. discuss the role of the supernatural in the novel and the purposes it serves.

13. evaluate the focus on death in the novel and explain its impact on various characters and the plot.
14. analyze the importance of the physical setting to the novel and explain how it contributes to the plot and various themes.
15. examine characters and character relationships from a variety of literary positions.
16. respond to multiple choice questions similar to those that will appear on the Advanced Placement in English Literature and Composition exam.
17. respond to writing prompts similar to those that will appear on the Advanced Placement in English Literature and Composition exam.
18. offer a close reading of *Wuthering Heights* and support all assertions and interpretations with direct evidence from the text, from authoritative critical knowledge of the genre, or from authoritative criticism of the novel.

Lecture Notes

I. Emily Brontë's Life

Emily Brontë was born on July 30, 1818, in England. She was one of six children, five girls and one boy. When Emily was two, the Brontës moved to Haworth, a village near the Yorkshire moors, a wild and desolate area of England. Emily lived there until she died thirty years later, and her home was the inspiration for the setting of her only novel, *Wuthering Heights*. The Brontës endured a difficult and tragic existence, with the specter of disease and death a constant presence. Emily's mother died from cancer when Emily was three; by the time she was ten, her two oldest sisters had succumbed to tuberculosis. Her father, Reverend Patrick Brontë, was a withdrawn man, and the children were raised by their aunt, Elisabeth Branwell. Although she was an authoritarian figure who brought a religious zeal to the household, Elisabeth did not stifle the children's imaginations. They read many books from the large family library and constructed their own worlds of imaginary people and situations.

In 1846, Emily and her two sisters, Charlotte and Anne, published a collection of their poems. To prevent judgment of their work based on their sex, the sisters' male pseudonyms, Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell, appeared on the collection. The book sold only two copies, but this disappointment did not discourage them, and each sister began writing a novel during 1846.

Emily's novel, *Wuthering Heights*, and Anne's novel, *Agnes Grey*, were both accepted for publication while Charlotte was still writing *Jane Eyre*. However, the publisher delayed printing of the novels until after *Jane Eyre*'s release in 1847. *Jane Eyre* was an instant success and became a best seller. The original reviews of *Wuthering Heights* were mediocre, and critics at the time considered *Jane Eyre* the superior of the three sisters' novels. However, modern critics generally consider *Wuthering Heights* to be the greatest of the Brontë sisters' novels, citing the innovative structure and originality of the subject matter. *Wuthering Heights* is now a literary classic.

Emily died on December 19, 1848, only a year after the publication of *Wuthering Heights*. Her brother, Branwell, died only three months before her; Emily caught a serious cold at his funeral which led to her death from tuberculosis. Anne died shortly after Emily, in May 1849, leaving Charlotte the only survivor of the six Brontë siblings, until her death in 1855.

II. The Social Context of *Wuthering Heights*

Industrial Revolution and Social Class

Emily Brontë wrote *Wuthering Heights* circa 1847, which was a time when capitalism and the Industrial Revolution were the dominant forces in the British economy and society. The nineteenth century in England was a time of rapid, often confusing, and occasionally violent social change. Groups opposed to the growing industrialization of England, such as the Luddites, engaged in violent riots, destroying wool and cotton mills. While wealth had traditionally been measured by land ownership, the eighteenth century had begun a trend toward a cash-based economy, and the Industrial Revolution created a middle class that was in many ways more economically powerful than its landowning superiors.

As a result of the changing economy, the traditional relationships between the classes and the social structure began to change. The power of the yeomen, or the respectable farming class, as well as the traditional power-holding gentry was being challenged by the newly wealthy capitalists. Each of these classes is represented in the novel by various characters. Hareton is a member of the respectable farming class, the Lintons are the gentry, while Heathcliff makes his fortune as a capitalist.

As the economic power of the new capitalists grew, so did their demand for political power. With the increase in political power came the movement for social acceptance. Wealthy industrialists challenged the traditional definition of a gentleman and claimed the right to be called gentlemen by virtue of their new economic and political power. Traditionally, a gentleman was a gentleman by right of birth, but he also needed to possess an upstanding moral character.

The changing notion of a gentleman and the shifting relationship between the classes are found in *Wuthering Heights* when Isabella, a gentry member, marries Heathcliff, a new capitalist, a union that would never have occurred if not for the changing status of the capitalists. Class relationships are also prominent in Catherine's decision to wed Edgar instead of Heathcliff because of Edgar's superior social standing.

Women's Rights in the Nineteenth Century

Emily Brontë wrote *Wuthering Heights* during the beginning of the women's rights movement in England. The movement began in response to growing public sentiment that women were treated unfairly and the law was in need of reform. The primary concerns of the movement were the lack of women's right to vote and the lack of married women's property rights. The latter issue arises in *Wuthering Heights*.

Under nineteenth century British law, married women could not legally own property. The common law doctrine of coverture dictated that upon marriage the man and woman legally became one entity, and that entity was the husband. All property a woman took into her marriage became her husband's, as well as any inheritances she received during the marriage. Single women and widows, however, were legally capable of owning property. The movement to change women's property rights culminated in the passage of the Married Women's Property Act of 1882, which ensured that married women had the same right to own property as unmarried women.

Inheritance laws were also unfavorable to women. Generally, inheritances passed to sons only. If a man had no sons, and he did not specifically provide for a daughter in his will, the closest male relative would often become the heir.

Within *Wuthering Heights*, Heathcliff exploits inheritance laws and the legal status of women to execute his revenge. He first marries Isabella, knowing Edgar has no other legal heirs, and Isabella's inheritance would automatically pass to her husband. Later, Heathcliff recognizes that young Cathy will not be Edgar's heir, unless Edgar specifically provides for her in his will. Linton, as Edgar's closest male relative, is Edgar's heir. However, if Linton were to die before Edgar, and before marrying Cathy, Heathcliff would have no remaining claim to inherit Thrushcross Grange. Therefore, Heathcliff seals his inheritance of the Grange and executes his revenge upon Edgar by forcing Linton and Cathy to marry before Edgar's death. Heathcliff's knowledge of women's property rights and inheritance laws allows him to obtain revenge against Edgar.

III. Romanticism, the Gothic novel, and *Wuthering Heights*

Romanticism

Romanticism refers to an artistic and intellectual movement that began in the late eighteenth century in Europe. Generally, Romanticism was a reaction against the dry rationality of the Enlightenment period, it focused on the sublimity of nature, it and stressed strong emotion as the source of beauty, art, and knowledge.

The Romantic literary movement was heavily influenced by the German writer, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, and a group of German Romantic writers who emerged during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Emily Brontë was likely exposed to and influenced by the German Romantics when she and Charlotte studied literature and the German language in Brussels at a private school.

A group of British Romantic poets emerged in England during 1798 to 1832, which included William Wordsworth, Lord Byron and John Keats. These writers influenced literature throughout the nineteenth century. The Brontës were also familiar with the writings of these British Romantic poets.

Wuthering Heights is often considered a “Romantic” novel because of the many traditional elements of Romanticism that it contains:

- the idea of nature as a powerful spiritual force
- the descriptions of the English countryside
- a constant, elevated emotional level and passion
- a desire to rise above the limitations of ordinary human existence
- a strong interest in death
- a portrayal of opposites, including escape and pursuit, calmness and turbulence, upper and lower classes, and suffering and peace
- isolation, both emotional and geographical
- elements of the supernatural

Critics have also regarded Heathcliff as a classic Byronic hero. The Byronic hero was defined by Lord Byron's epic narrative poem, *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, published in 1812. The Byronic hero is generally a flawed character with the following attributes:

- conflicting emotions or moodiness
- self-criticism
- mysterious origins and a troubled past
- a distaste for social institutions and social norms
- self-destructive tendencies
- a loner, rejected from society

Heathcliff clearly possesses most of these attributes.

The Gothic novel

The Gothic novel evolved in the United Kingdom, beginning with Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto* in 1765. The genre became very popular and usually created feelings of gloom, mystery, suspense, and fear in the reader. Most Gothic novels contain some of the following elements:

- a castle, sometimes ruined or haunted
- other sinister, ruined buildings
- extreme landscapes and weather
- death and madness
- omens
- ancestral curses
- terrifying events
- taboo or sensational topics
- the suggestion of the supernatural
- a villain or villain-hero driven by passion
- a hero whose true identity is unknown until the end of the novel
- a curious or persecuted heroine
- a heroine wooed by both a good and a dangerous suitor
- revenge

Wuthering Heights, as many critics have pointed out, does contain some elements of the Gothic novel listed above. There is a suggestion of the supernatural, the extreme landscape of the moors, and wild storms. Death figures prominently in the story, as well as a villain-hero driven by passion, found in Heathcliff. Catherine is wooed by both a good and a dangerous suitor, and revenge is a driving force in the plot.

IV. Narrative Form and Structure

Wuthering Heights is highly praised for the unique narrative technique Emily Brontë used to execute the novel, often referred to as a “frame narrative.” The narrative structure has been compared to a series of Matryoshka dolls, as the levels of the story similarly nest inside of each other. The two primary narrators are Mr. Lockwood and Nelly Dean, but other narrators arise throughout the novel when Nelly quotes what other characters have told her. In this manner, the action of *Wuthering Heights* is told via eyewitness narration by people directly involved in the events they describe. The narrative form allows Brontë bring the reader closer to the events of the novel, due to the involvement of the narrators in the action.

The frame narrative form of the novel adds complexity for the reader. Lockwood is the outer layer of the narrative, pulling the story together in his diary. The reader must recognize how the story has been passed through various layers and question the reliability of Lockwood and the other narrators in reporting the accounts. For instance, Nelly’s involvement in the action seems to result in her glossing over certain events in order to minimize her guilt. The reader must recognize that her account to Lockwood may not be completely reliable, and, in turn, Lockwood may at times misinterpret or alter Nelly’s statements. The uniqueness and complexity of *Wuthering Heights*’ frame narrative is part of why the novel has become a literary classic.

Questions for Research and Discussion

1. Evaluate the reliability of Lockwood and Nelly as narrators. What is the effect of the frame narrative on the novel?
2. Identify the relative class status of Heathcliff, Catherine, Edgar, and Isabella. To what extent does social class shape the plot and govern the actions of these characters?
3. What drives Heathcliff's desire for revenge? Despite Heathcliff's vengeful acts, does he remain sympathetic to the reader? Why or why not?
4. Some critics contend Brontë intended *Wuthering Heights* to be a cautionary tale about the dangers of loving too excessively. Does the novel communicate that message? Explain why or why not.
5. Identify the significance of windows in *Wuthering Heights*. During what events do windows appear in the plot, and what do they seem to symbolize?
6. What role does the physical landscape play in the novel? In what ways do the moors contribute to the plot and character developments?
7. Identify the supernatural elements of the novel. What is the purpose of the suggestion of the supernatural? How does the presence of the supernatural help to define the genre of the novel?
8. Analyze the function of the second generation of characters, and identify the correlations between characters of the first and second generations. In what way do these characters continue or resolve the conflicts of their parents?
9. Research women's property rights and inheritance laws of nineteenth century Britain.
10. Explain to what extent Heathcliff possesses the characteristics of a classic Byronic Hero.
11. What impact did the Industrial Revolution have on British society? How are those changes represented in the novel?
12. Identify the characteristics of the two households, *Wuthering Heights* and *Thrushcross Grange*. What does each home seem to represent? How do the characteristics of the homes extend to the characters that reside within them?
13. Evaluate Catherine's choice to marry Edgar from one of the following critical perspectives:
 - feminist
 - Marxist
 - Freudian
 - epistemological
 - existential
 - reader response

Multiple Choice Questions

PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS 1- 6

Carefully read the following passage from Chapter III of the novel before choosing the best answers to the questions below:

This time, I remembered I was lying in the oak closet, and I heard distinctly the gusty wind, and the driving of the snow; I heard also the fir bough repeat its teasing sound, and ascribed it to the right cause: but it annoyed me so much, that I resolved to silence it, if possible; and, I thought, I rose and endeavoured to unhasp the casement. The hook was soldered into the staple: a circumstance observed by me when awake, but forgotten. “I must stop it, nevertheless!” I muttered, knocking my knuckles through the glass, and stretching an arm out to seize the importunate branch; instead of which, my fingers closed on the fingers of a little, ice-cold hand! The intense horror of nightmare came over me: I tried to draw back my arm, but the hand clung to it, and a most melancholy voice sobbed, “Let me in—let me in!” “Who are you?” I asked, struggling, meanwhile, to disengage myself. “Catherine Linton,” it replied shiveringly (why did I think of *Linton*? I had read *Earnshaw* twenty times for Linton)—“I’m come home: I’d lost my way on the moor!” As it spoke, I discerned, obscurely, a child’s face looking through the window. Terror made me cruel; and, finding it useless to attempt shaking the creature off, I pulled its wrist on to the broken pane, and rubbed it to and fro till the blood ran down and soaked the bedclothes: still it wailed, “Let me in!” and maintained its tenacious gripe, almost maddening me with fear. “How can I!” I said at length. “Let me go, if you want me to let you in!” The fingers relaxed, I snatched mine through the hole, hurriedly piled the books up in a pyramid against it, and stopped my ears to exclude the lamentable prayer. I seemed to keep them closed above a quarter of an hour; yet, the instant I listened again, there was the doleful cry moaning on! “Begone!” I shouted. “I’ll never let you in, not if you beg for twenty years.” “It is twenty years,” mourned the voice: “twenty years. I’ve been a waif for twenty years.” Thereat began a feeble scratching outside, and the pile of books moved as if thrust forward. I tried to jump up; but could not stir a limb; and so yelled aloud, in a frenzy of fright. To my confusion, I discovered the yell was not ideal: hasty footsteps approached my chamber door; somebody pushed it open, with a vigorous hand, and a light glimmered through the squares at the top of the bed. I sat shuddering yet, and wiping the perspiration from my forehead: the intruder appeared to hesitate, and muttered to himself. At last, he said, in a half-whisper, plainly not expecting an answer, “Is any one here?” I considered it best to confess my presence; for I knew Heathcliff’s accents, and feared he might search further, if I kept quiet. With this intention, I turned and opened the panels. I shall not soon forget the effect my action produced.

Heathcliff stood near the entrance, in his shirt and trousers; with a candle dripping over his fingers, and his face as white as the wall behind him. The first creak of the oak startled him like an electric shock: the light leaped from his hold to a distance of some feet, and his agitation was so extreme that he could hardly pick it up.

“It is only your guest, sir,” I called out, desirous to spare him the humiliation of exposing his cowardice further. “I had the misfortune to scream in my sleep, owing to a frightful nightmare. I’m sorry I disturbed you.”

40 “Oh, God confound you, Mr. Lockwood! I wish you were at the—” commenced my host, setting the candle on a chair because he found it impossible to hold it steady. “And who showed you up into this room?” he continued, crushing his nails into his palms, and grinding his teeth to subdue the maxillary convulsions. “Who was it? I’ve a good mind to turn them out of the house this moment?”

45 “It was your servant Zillah,” I replied, flinging myself on to the floor, and rapidly resuming my garments. “I should not care if you did, Mr. Heathcliff; she richly deserves it. I suppose that she wanted to get another proof that the place was haunted, at my expense. Well, it is—swarming with ghosts and goblins! You have reason in shutting it up, I assure you. No one will thank you for a doze in such a den!”

50 “What do you mean?” asked Heathcliff, “and what are you doing? Lie down and finish out the night, since you ARE here; but for heaven’s sake! don’t repeat that horrid noise: nothing could excuse it, unless you were having your throat cut!”

55 “If the little fiend had got in at the window, she probably would have strangled me!” I returned. “I’m not going to endure the persecutions of your hospitable ancestors again. Was not the Reverend Jabez Branderham akin to you on the mother’s side? And that minx, Catherine Linton, or Earnshaw, or however she was called—she must have been a changeling—wicked little soul! She told me she had been walking the earth these twenty years: a just punishment for her mortal transgressions, I’ve no doubt!”

60 Scarcely were these words uttered when I recollected the association of Heathcliff’s with Catherine’s name in the book, which had completely slipped from my memory, till thus awakened. I blushed at my inconsideration: but, without showing further consciousness of the offence, I hastened to add—“The truth is, sir, I passed the first part of the night in—” Here I stopped afresh—I was about to say “perusing those old volumes,” then it would have revealed my knowledge of their written, as well as their printed, contents; so, correcting myself, I went on—“in spelling over the name scratched on that window-ledge. A monotonous occupation, calculated to set me asleep, like counting or—”

65 “What *can* you mean by talking in this way to *me*!” thundered Heathcliff with savage vehemence. “How—how *dare* you, under my roof?—God! he’s mad to speak so!” And he struck his forehead with rage. (Pgs. 27-29)

1. The repetition of conjunctions in lines 1-5 is an example of
 - A. assonance.
 - B. polysyndeton.
 - C. caesura.
 - D. fabliau.
 - E. aporia.

2. What does the use of parenthesis in lines 11-12 denote?
 - A. a thought the narrator had during the dream
 - B. an assumption the narrator made after the dream was over
 - C. an interpretation suggested by another character
 - D. a reflection the narrator had after the dream was over
 - E. a question asked by Heathcliff

3. What is the primary mood Brontë creates through the imagery of the first paragraph?
 - A. morbid
 - B. pensive
 - C. empathetic
 - D. ironic
 - E. mysterious

4. What type of shift occurs in Heathcliff's attitude after the narrator reveals himself?
 - A. recondite to frightening
 - B. pensive to affable
 - C. timorous to riled
 - D. apprehensive to enervated
 - E. penitent to aloof

5. When Lockwood says, "I'm not going to endure the persecutions of your hospitable ancestors again," he is suggesting that
 - A. Heathcliff's ancestors persecuted the narrator's kin in the past.
 - B. Lockwood finds Heathcliff's kin to be of the lower classes.
 - C. His bad dreams were caused by Heathcliff's inhospitality.
 - D. Heathcliff has not properly described his ancestry.
 - E. The spirits haunting his dreams are Heathcliff's kin.

6. What literary genre is often characterized by supernatural events like that found in this passage?
 - A. The Epistolary novel
 - B. The Gothic novel
 - C. Bildungsroman
 - D. Satire
 - E. Crime Fiction

PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS 7 - 13

Carefully read the following passage from Chapter IX of the novel before choosing the best answers to the questions below:

“If I were in heaven, Nelly, I should be extremely miserable.”

“Because you are not fit to go there,” I answered. “All sinners would be miserable in heaven.”

“But it is not for that. I dreamt once that I was there.”

5 “I tell you I won’t hearken to your dreams, Miss Catherine! I’ll go to bed,” I interrupted again

She laughed, and held me down; for I made a motion to leave my chair.

10 “This is nothing,” cried she: “I was only going to say that heaven did not seem to be my home; and I broke my heart with weeping to come back to earth; and the angels were so angry that they flung me out into the middle of the heath on the top of Wuthering Heights; where I woke sobbing for joy. That will do to explain my secret, as well as the other. I’ve no more business to marry Edgar Linton than I have to be in heaven; and if the wicked man in there had not brought Heathcliff so low, I shouldn’t have thought of it. It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now; so he shall never know how I love him: and that, not because he’s handsome, Nelly, but because he’s more myself than I am. Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same; and Linton’s is as different as a moonbeam from lightning, or frost from fire.”

15 Ere this speech ended I became sensible of Heathcliff’s presence. Having noticed a slight movement, I turned my head, and saw him rise from the bench, and steal out noiselessly. He had listened till he heard Catherine say it would degrade her to marry him, and then he stayed to hear no further. My companion sitting on the ground, was prevented by the back of the settle from remarking his presence or departure; but I started, and bade her hush!

“Why?” she asked, gazing nervously round.

25 “Joseph is here,” I answered, catching opportunely the roll of his cartwheels up the road; “and Heathcliff will come in with him. I’m not sure whether he were not at the door this moment.”

30 “Oh, he couldn’t overhear me at the door!” said she. “Give me Hareton, while you get the supper, and when it is ready ask me to sup with you. I want to cheat my uncomfortable conscience, and be convinced that Heathcliff has no notion of these things. He has not, has he? He does not know what being in love is!”

35 “I see no reason that he should not know, as well as you,” I returned; “and if you are his choice, he’ll be the most unfortunate creature that ever was born! As soon as you become Mrs. Linton, he loses friend, and love, and all! Have you considered how you’ll bear the separation, and how he’ll bear to be quite deserted in the world? Because, Miss Catherine—”

“He quite deserted! we separated!” she exclaimed, with an accent of indignation. “Who is to separate us, pray? They’ll meet the fate of Milo! Not as long as I live, Ellen: for no mortal creature. Every Linton on the face of the earth might melt into nothing

40 before I could consent to forsake Heathcliff. Oh, that's not what I intend—that's not what
I mean! I shouldn't be Mrs. Linton were such a price demanded! He'll be as much to me as
he has been all his lifetime. Edgar must shake off his antipathy, and tolerate him, at least.
He will, when he learns my true feelings towards him. Nelly, I see now you think me a
45 selfish wretch; but did it never strike you that if Heathcliff and I married, we should be
beggars? whereas, if I marry Linton I can aid Heathcliff to rise, and place him out of my
brother's power."

"With your husband's money, Miss Catherine?" I asked. "You'll find him not so
pliable as you calculate upon: and, though I'm hardly a judge, I think that's the worst
motive you've given yet for being the wife of young Linton."

50 "It is not," retorted she; "it is the best! The others were the satisfaction of my whims:
and for Edgar's sake, too, to satisfy him. This is for the sake of one who comprehends
in his person my feelings to Edgar and myself. I cannot express it; but surely you and
everybody have a notion that there is or should be an existence of yours beyond you.
What were the use of my creation, if I were entirely contained here? My
55 great miseries in this world have been Heathcliff's miseries, and I watched and felt each
from the beginning: my great thought in living is himself. If all else perished, and he
remained, I should still continue to be; and if all else remained, and he were annihilated,
the universe would turn to a mighty stranger: I should not seem a part of it. My love for
Linton is like the foliage in the woods: time will change it, I'm well aware, as winter
60 changes the trees. My love for Heathcliff resembles the eternal rocks beneath: a source
of little visible delight, but necessary. Nelly, I am Heathcliff! He's always, always in my
mind: not as a pleasure, any more than I am always a pleasure to myself, but as my own
being. So don't talk of our separation again: it is impracticable; and—"

65 She paused, and hid her face in the folds of my gown; but I jerked it forcibly
away. I was out of patience with her folly!

"If I can make any sense of your nonsense, Miss," I said, "it only goes to convince
me that you are ignorant of the duties you undertake in marrying; or else that you are a
wicked, unprincipled girl. But trouble me with no more secrets: I'll not promise to keep
them." (Pgs. 72-74)

7. Catherine's describes her dream to Nelly in order to explain her
 - A. fear of death
 - B. difficulty in deciding to marry Edgar
 - C. contempt for religion and the after-life
 - D. hatred for her brother
 - E. fear of losing Heathcliff

8. Which of the following is NOT a reason Catherine offers for marrying Edgar?
 - A. Heathcliff's low class status
 - B. marrying Edgar will not alter her relationship with Heathcliff
 - C. her love for Edgar is central to her being
 - D. marrying Edgar will allow her to help Heathcliff
 - E. she and Heathcliff would be beggars if married

9. What can the reader infer is the effect of Heathcliff's exiting when he does?
- A. He remains unaware of Catherine's true feelings for him.
 - B. He mistakenly thinks Catherine will marry him.
 - C. He believes Nelly has turned against him.
 - D. He thinks Nelly will change Catherine's mind about Edgar.
 - E. He believes Catherine is deeply in love with Edgar.
10. The comment, "They'll meet the fate of Milo!" in Line 38 is an example of a(n)
- A. catachresis.
 - B. allusion.
 - C. allegory.
 - D. neologism.
 - E. metaphor.
11. What traditional element of Romanticism is present in this passage?
- A. the idea of nature as a powerful spiritual force
 - B. a desire to rise above the limitations of ordinary human existence
 - C. a strong interest in death
 - D. isolation, both emotional and geographical
 - E. elements of the supernatural
12. What type of shift occurs in Nelly's tone in the final paragraph?
- A. conspiratorial to apathetic
 - B. forbearing to irascible
 - C. tolerant to pusillanimous
 - D. impatient to benign
 - E. irritable to condoling
13. Catherine believes a separation from Heathcliff is
- A. obligatory
 - B. ineluctable
 - C. profligate
 - D. exigent
 - E. incogitable

PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS 14 - 19

Carefully read the following passage from Chapter XI of the novel before choosing the best answers to the questions below:

“How is this?” said Linton, addressing her; “what notion of propriety must you have to remain here, after the language which has been held to you by that blackguard? I suppose because it is his ordinary talk you think nothing of it: you are habituated to his baseness, and, perhaps, imagine I can get used to it too!”

5 “Have you been listening at the door, Edgar?” asked the mistress, in a tone particularly calculated to provoke her husband, implying both carelessness and contempt of his irritation. Heathcliff, who had raised his eyes at the former speech, gave a sneering laugh at the latter; on purpose, it seemed, to draw Mr. Linton’s attention to him. He succeeded; but Edgar did not mean to entertain him with any high flights of passion.

10 “I’ve been so far forbearing with you, sir,” he said quietly; “not that I was ignorant of your miserable, degraded character, but I felt you were only partly responsible for that; and Catherine wishing to keep up your acquaintance, I acquiesced—foolishly. Your presence is a moral poison that would contaminate the most virtuous: for that cause, and to prevent worse consequences, I shall deny you hereafter admission into
15 this house, and give notice now that I require your instant departure. Three minutes’ delay will render it involuntary and ignominious.”

Heathcliff measured the height and breadth of the speaker with an eye full of derision.

20 “Cathy, this lamb of yours threatens like a bull!” he said. “It is in danger of splitting its skull against my knuckles. By God! Mr. Linton, I’m mortally sorry that you are not worth knocking down!”

My master glanced towards the passage, and signed me to fetch the men: he had no intention of hazarding a personal encounter. I obeyed the hint; but Mrs. Linton, suspecting something, followed; and when I attempted to call them, she pulled me back, slammed the door to, and locked it.

25 “Fair means!” she said, in answer to her husband’s look of angry surprise. “If you have not courage to attack him, make an apology, or allow yourself to be beaten. It will correct you of feigning more valour than you possess. No, I’ll swallow the key before you shall get it! I’m delightfully rewarded for my kindness to each! After constant
30 indulgence of one’s weak nature, and the other’s bad one, I earn for thanks two samples of blind ingratitude, stupid to absurdity! Edgar, I was defending you and yours; and I wish Heathcliff may flog you sick, for daring to think an evil thought of me!” It did not need the medium of a flogging to produce that effect on the master. He tried to wrest the key from Catherine’s grasp, and for safety, she flung it into the hottest
35 part of the fire; whereupon Mr. Edgar was taken with a nervous trembling, and his countenance grew deadly pale. For his life he could not avert that excess of emotion: mingled anguish and humiliation overcame him completely. He leant on the back of a chair, and covered his face.

40 “Oh, heavens! In old days this would win you knighthood!” exclaimed Mrs. Linton. “We are vanquished! we are vanquished! Heathcliff would as soon lift a finger

at you as the king would march his army against a colony of mice. Cheer up! you sha'n't be hurt! Your type is not a lamb, it's a sucking leveret."

45 "I wish you joy of the milk-blooded coward, Cathy!" said her friend. "I compliment you on your taste. And that is the slavering, shivering thing you preferred to me! I would not strike him with my fist, but I'd kick him with my foot, and experience considerable satisfaction. Is he weeping, or is he going to faint for fear?"

50 The fellow approached and gave the chair on which Linton rested a push. He'd better have kept his distance: my master quickly sprang erect, and struck him full on the throat a blow that would have leveled a slighter man. It took his breath for a minute; and while he choked, Mr. Linton walked out by the back door into the yard, and from thence to the front entrance.

55 "There! you've done with coming here," cried Catherine. "Get away, now; he'll return with a brace of pistols and half-a-dozen assistants. If he did overhear us, of course he'd never forgive you. You've played me an ill turn, Heathcliff! But go—make haste!

I'd rather see Edgar at bay than you."

"Do you suppose I'm going with that blow burning in my gullet?" he thundered. "By hell, no! I'll crush his ribs in like a rotten hazel-nut before I cross the threshold! If I don't floor him now, I shall murder him some time; so, as you value his existence, let me get at him!"

60 "He is not coming," I interposed, framing a bit of a lie. "There's the coachman and the two gardeners; you'll surely not wait to be thrust into the road by them! Each has a bludgeon; and master will, very likely, be watching from the parlour-windows to see that they fulfil his orders."

65 The gardeners and coachman *were* there: but Linton was with them. They had already entered the court. Heathcliff, on the second thoughts, resolved to avoid a struggle against three underlings: he seized the poker, smashed the lock from the inner door, and made his escape as they tramped in. (Pgs. 99-101)

14. Edgar banishes Heathcliff from Thrushcross Grange for which of the following reasons?
- A. Heathcliff's immoral courting of Isabella
 - B. Heathcliff's bad moral character is offending Catherine
 - C. Heathcliff's poor morals have negatively influenced Edgar
 - D. Heathcliff's bad moral character will negatively affect the household
 - E. Heathcliff's immoral upbringing
15. What qualities does Catherine urge her husband to display?
- A. intrepidity and pugnacity
 - B. forbearance and belligerence
 - C. amenability and gallantry
 - D. fortitude and clemency
 - E. acquiescence and longanimity

16. Heathcliff compares Edgar to a lamb, and Catherine then compares Edgar to a type of
- A. weasel
 - B. rat
 - C. rabbit
 - D. squirrel
 - E. bird
17. In lines 20-21, Heathcliff discloses his
- A. regret that Catherine prevents him from hurting Edgar.
 - B. unwillingness to physically assault Edgar.
 - C. impatience in waiting for Edgar to strike him first.
 - D. unhappiness with Edgar's banishment of Heathcliff.
 - E. distaste for Edgar's method of removing Heathcliff.
18. Nelly lies about Edgar's approach in order to
- A. protect Heathcliff from injury.
 - B. force Heathcliff to apologize.
 - C. calm Catherine down.
 - D. protect Edgar from an attack by Heathcliff.
 - E. assist Edgar in assaulting Heathcliff.
19. What persuades Heathcliff to leave?
- A. his fear of Edgar's irrationality
 - B. his inability to fight three armed men
 - C. his desire to maintain a relationship with Catherine
 - D. his inability to stop himself from killing Edgar
 - E. his loyalty to Isabella

PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS 20 - 24

Carefully read the following passage from Chapter XIII of the novel before choosing the best answers to the questions below:

5 Now, you shall hear how I have been received in my new home, as I am led to imagine the Heights will be. It is to amuse myself that I dwell on such subjects as the lack of external comforts: they never occupy my thoughts, except at the moment when I miss them. I should laugh and dance for joy, if I found their absence was the total of my miseries, and the rest was an unnatural dream!

10 The sun set behind the Grange as we turned on to the moors; by that, I judged it to be six o'clock; and my companion halted half an hour, to inspect the park, and the gardens, and, probably, the place itself, as well as he could; so it was dark when we dismounted in the paved yard of the farm-house, and your old fellow-servant, Joseph, issued out to receive us by the light of a dip candle. He did it with a courtesy that redounded to his credit. His first act was to elevate his torch to a level with my face, squint malignantly, project his under-lip, and turn away. Then he took the two horses, and led them into the stables; reappearing for the purpose of locking the outer gate, as if we lived in an ancient castle.

15 Heathcliff stayed to speak to him, and I entered the kitchen—a dingy, untidy hole; I daresay you would not know it, it is so changed since it was in your charge. By the fire stood a ruffianly child, strong in limb and dirty in garb, with a look of Catherine in his eyes and about his mouth.

20 “This is Edgar’s legal nephew,” I reflected—“mine in a manner; I must shake hands, and—yes—I must kiss him. It is right to establish a good understanding at the beginning.”

I approached, and, attempting to take his chubby fist, said—“How do you do, my dear?”

25 He replied in a jargon I did not comprehend.

“Shall you and I be friends, Hareton?” was my next essay at conversation.

An oath, and a threat to set Throttler on me if I did not “frame off” rewarded my perseverance.

30 “Hey, Throttler, Lad!” whispered the little wretch, rousing a half-bred bull-dog from its lair in a corner. “Now, wilt thou be ganging?” he asked authoritatively.

Love for my life urged a compliance; I stepped over the threshold to wait till the others should enter. Mr. Heathcliff was nowhere visible; and Joseph, whom I followed to the stables, and requested to accompany me in, after staring and muttering to himself, screwed up his nose and replied—“Mim! mim! mim! Did iver Christian body hear aught like it? Mincing un’ munching! How can I tell whet ye say?”

35 “I say, I wish you to come with me into the house!” I cried, thinking him deaf, yet highly disgusted at his rudeness.

40 “None o’me! I gotten summut else to do,” he answered, and continued his work; moving his lantern jaws meanwhile, and surveying my dress and countenance (the former a great deal too fine, but the latter, I’m sure, as sad as he could desire) with sovereign contempt. (Pgs. 119-120)

20. The primary purpose of the first paragraph is to
- A. remind the reader of Isabella's high social status.
 - B. disclose the great misery Isabella is experiencing.
 - C. detail the filthy conditions of Wuthering Heights.
 - D. prepare the reader for Heathcliff's cruelty.
 - E. demonstrate the lack of servants at Wuthering Heights.
21. The imagery in this selection is most likely to create what impression in the reader's mind?
- A. anxious anticipation
 - B. dismal regret
 - C. pervasive hostility
 - D. inexorable doom
 - E. cautious hopefulness
22. One reason Brontë uses dialect is to
- A. distract the reader from the action.
 - B. lend an element of fantasy to the novel.
 - C. delineate the evil and good characters.
 - D. suggest the problems with local language differences.
 - E. mark the class status of the speaker.
23. What is the purpose of lines 38-40?
- A. to indicate Joseph's disapproval of Isabella
 - B. to reveal Isabella's contempt for Joseph
 - C. to disclose Heathcliff's influence on Joseph
 - D. to give insight into Joseph's reasons for disliking Isabella
 - E. to demonstrate Isabella's innocence in the situation
24. Little Hareton does NOT demonstrate which of the following characteristics?
- A. imperiousness
 - B. perniciousness
 - C. timorousness
 - D. flagitiousness
 - E. temerity

PRACTICE MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS 25 - 30

Carefully read the following passage from Chapter XII of the novel before choosing the best answers to the questions below:

Our first thought, on his departure, was to force an exit somewhere. We tried the kitchen door, but that was fastened outside: we looked at the windows—they were too narrow for even Cathy's little figure.

5 "Master Linton," I cried, seeing we were regularly imprisoned, "you know what your diabolical father is after, and you shall tell us, or I'll box your ears, as he has done your cousin's."

"Yes, Linton, you must tell," said Catherine. "It was for your sake I came; and it will be wickedly ungrateful if you refuse."

10 "Give me some tea, I'm thirsty, and then I'll tell you," he answered. "Mrs. Dean, go away. I don't like you standing over me. Now, Catherine, you are letting your tears fall into my cup. I won't drink that. Give me another."

Catherine pushed another to him, and wiped her face. I felt disgusted at the little wretch's composure, since he was no longer in terror for himself. The anguish he had exhibited on the moor subsided as soon as ever he entered Wuthering Heights; so I guess he had been menaced with an awful visitation of wrath if he failed in decoying us there; and, that accomplished, he had no further immediate fears.

15 "Papa wants us to be married," he continued, after sipping some of the liquid. "And he knows your papa wouldn't let us marry now; and he's afraid of my dying if we wait; so we are to be married in the morning, and you are to stay here all night; and, if you do as he wishes, you shall return home next day, and take me with you."

20 "Take you with her, pitiful changeling!" I exclaimed. "You marry? Why, the man is mad! or he thinks us fools, every one. And do you imagine that beautiful young lady, that healthy, hearty girl, will tie herself to a little perishing monkey like you? Are you cherishing the notion that anybody, let alone Miss Catherine Linton, would have you for a husband? You want whipping for bringing us in here at all, with your dastardly puling tricks: and—don't look so silly, now! I've a very good mind to shake you severely, for your contemptible treachery, and your imbecile conceit."

I did give him a slight shaking; but it brought on the cough, and he took to his ordinary resource of moaning and weeping, and Catherine rebuked me.

30 "Stay all night? No," she said, looking slowly round. "Ellen, I'll burn that door down but I'll get out."

And she would have commenced the execution of her threat directly, but Linton was up in alarm for his dear self again. He clasped her in his two feeble arms sobbing—"Won't you have me, and save me? not let me come to the Grange? Oh, darling Catherine! you mustn't go and leave, after all. You must obey my father—you must!"

35 "I must obey my own," she replied, "and relieve him from this cruel suspense. The whole night! What would he think? He'll be distressed already. I'll either break or burn a way out of the house. Be quiet! You're in no danger; but if you hinder me—Linton, I love papa better than you!"

40 The mortal terror he felt of Mr. Heathcliff's anger restored to the boy his coward's eloquence. Catherine was near distraught: still, she persisted that she must go home, and tried entreaty in her turn, persuading him to subdue his selfish agony. While they were thus occupied, our jailor re-entered. (Pgs. 228-229)

25. What is the overall mood of this scene?
- A. mysterious
 - B. morbid
 - C. anxious
 - D. pensive
 - E. ironic
26. What is Nelly suggesting in lines 14-16?
- A. Heathcliff is abusing Linton frequently.
 - B. Heathcliff has brainwashed Linton into following the revenge plot.
 - C. Linton acted on his own when he tricked Catherine and Nelly.
 - D. Linton is capable of cruelty just like his father.
 - E. Heathcliff threatened to harshly punish Linton if he failed in securing the women.
27. What type of shift occurs in Linton's demeanor by the end of the section?
- A. apprehensive to angry
 - B. calm to disquieted
 - C. saturnine to exasperated
 - D. lugubrious to seditious
 - E. unnerved to placid
28. Catherine is determined to escape because she
- A. does not wish to marry Linton.
 - B. is terrified of Heathcliff.
 - C. fears her father may take revenge upon Heathcliff.
 - D. does not want to worry her father.
 - E. believes Heathcliff will never let her leave.
29. Which of the following is NOT a reason Nelly berates Linton in lines 21-27?
- A. Linton is behaving like a sullen, selfish child.
 - B. Linton is too sickly to justify marrying Catherine.
 - C. Linton tricked the women into coming there.
 - D. Linton behaved treacherously towards them.
 - E. Linton is cooperating with Heathcliff's plans.
30. What do the references to Heathcliff in this scene suggest about his character?
- A. He is calculating and cowardly.
 - B. He is vengeful and reckless.
 - C. He is evil and dangerous.
 - D. He is cruel and restless.
 - E. He is manipulative and persistent.

Answers and Explanations

- The repetition of conjunctions in lines 1-5 is an example of
 - assonance: the repetition of vowel sounds
 - polysyndeton*: using a number of conjunctions in close succession
 - caesura: a pause in a line of verse
 - fabliau: a short, humorous and ribald tale
 - aporia: speaking to oneself or directly to the reader, especially when contemplating a course of action
- What does the use of parenthesis in lines 11-12 denote?
 - a thought the narrator had during the dream: the parentheses separate the sentence from the flow of thoughts Lockwood experiences during the dream
 - an assumption the narrator made after the dream was over: Lockwood is not making an assumption, but posing a question
 - an interpretation suggested by another character: again the sentence is not an interpretation, but a question
 - a reflection the narrator had after the dream was over*
 - a question asked by Heathcliff: there is no suggestion the question was posed by Heathcliff
- What is the primary mood Brontë creates through the imagery of the first paragraph?
 - morbid: gloomy and gruesome*
 - pensive
 - empathetic
 - ironic
 - mysterious: while the mood might be described as mysterious, it is not the primary mood of the first paragraph
- What type of shift occurs in Heathcliff's attitude after the narrator reveals himself?
 - recondite to frightening: Heathcliff does not enter the room seeming deeply mysterious; instead, he seems fearful
 - pensive to affable: Heathcliff is never friendly
 - timorous to riled: Heathcliff enters the room nervously and then becomes enraged*
 - apprehensive to enervated: Heathcliff appears to be agitated, not exhausted
 - penitent to aloof: Heathcliff does not repent of anything
- When Lockwood says, "I'm not going to endure the persecutions of your hospitable ancestors again," he is suggesting that
 - Heathcliff's ancestors persecuted the narrator's kin in the past.
 - Lockwood finds Heathcliff's kin to be of the lower classes.
 - His bad dreams were caused by Heathcliff's inhospitality.
 - Heathcliff has not properly described his ancestry.
 - The spirits haunting his dreams are Heathcliff's kin.*

6. What literary genre is often characterized by supernatural events like that found in this passage?
- A. The Epistolary novel: a novel written as a series of letters or other documents
 - B. *The Gothic novel: Gothic novels often include supernatural occurrences*
 - C. Bildungsroman: a coming-of-age story
 - D. Satire: a writing technique intended to ridicule or criticize its subject matter
 - E. Crime Fiction: genre dealing with crimes, criminals, and motives
7. Catherine describes her dream to Nelly in order to explain:
- A. her fear of death: Catherine never expresses a fear of death
 - B. *her difficulty in deciding to marry Edgar: Catherine's dream demonstrates her attachment to Heathcliff, which explains her conflict over Edgar*
 - C. her contempt for religion and the after-life: Catherine does not express contempt for religion and the after-life
 - D. her hatred for her brother: while Catherine does express contempt for her brother that is not the purpose of her dream.
 - E. her fear of losing Heathcliff: Catherine never expresses a fear of losing Heathcliff; rather, she assumes it can never happen.
8. Which of the following is NOT a reason Catherine offers for marrying Edgar?
- A. Heathcliff's low class status
 - B. marrying Edgar will not alter her relationship with Heathcliff
 - C. *her love for Edgar is central to her being: Catherine never indicates that her love for Edgar is very important to her.*
 - D. marrying Edgar will allow her to help Heathcliff
 - E. she and Heathcliff would be beggars if married
9. What can the reader infer is the effect of Heathcliff exiting when he does?
- A. *he remains unaware of Catherine's true feelings for him: Heathcliff exits before Catherine expresses her love for him.*
 - B. he mistakenly thinks Catherine will marry him: Catherine gives no indication that she will marry Heathcliff.
 - C. he believes Nelly has turned against him: Nelly never indicates she has turned against Heathcliff
 - D. he thinks Nelly will change Catherine's mind about Edgar: Nelly never indicates she will attempt to change Catherine's mind
 - E. he believes Catherine is deeply in love with Edgar: while Heathcliff may infer from Catherine's choice that she loves Edgar that is not the primary effect of her speech.
10. The comment, "They'll meet the fate of Milo!" in Line 38 is an example of a(n):
- A. catachresis: misuse or strained use of words
 - B. *allusion: a reference to a person, place, or event.*
 - C. allegory: a writing that has a double meaning
 - D. neologism: a newly coined phrase
 - E. metaphor.

11. What traditional element of Romanticism is present in this passage?
- A. the idea of nature as a powerful spiritual force
 - B. *a desire to rise above the limitations of ordinary human existence: Catherine expresses this desire when she states, "surely you and everybody have a notion that there is or should be an existence of yours beyond you. What were the use of my creation, if I were entirely contained here?"*
 - C. a strong interest in death: Catherine discusses the after-life in the context of her dream, but there is not a strong focus on death
 - D. isolation, both emotional and geographical: isolation is not discussed
 - E. elements of the supernatural: supernatural elements are not discussed
12. What type of shift occurs in Nelly's tone in the final paragraph?
- A. conspiratorial to apathetic: Nelly is never indifferent towards Catherine and her decisions
 - B. *forbearing to irascible: Nelly begins patient and becomes angry.*
 - C. tolerant to pusillanimous: Nelly is tolerant, but never behaves in a cowardly way.
 - D. impatient to benign: Nelly is impatient at first, but does not become agreeable, rather she scolds Catherine
 - E. irritable to condoling: Nelly is not sympathetic to Catherine at the end of the passage.
13. Catherine believes a separation from Heathcliff is
- A. obligatory: necessary
 - B. ineluctable: unavoidable
 - C. profligate: immoral
 - D. exigent: urgent
 - E. *incogitable: unthinkable: Catherine cannot imagine separation from Heathcliff*
14. Edgar banishes Heathcliff from Thrushcross Grange for which of the following reasons?
- A. Heathcliff's immoral courting of Isabella
 - B. Heathcliff's bad moral character is offending Catherine
 - C. Heathcliff's poor morals have negatively influenced Edgar
 - D. *Heathcliff's bad moral character will negatively affect the household*
 - E. Heathcliff's immoral upbringing
15. What qualities does Catherine urge her husband to display?
- A. *intrepidness and pugnacity: Catherine urges her husband to be brave and aggressive when she locks him in with Heathcliff.*
 - B. forbearance and belligerence: Catherine never urges Edgar to be patient
 - C. amenability and gallantry: Catherine does not urge Edgar to be agreeable
 - D. fortitude and clemency: Catherine does not urge Edgar to be forgiving
 - E. acquiescence and longanimity: Catherine does not urge Edgar to be patient

16. Heathcliff compares Edgar to a lamb, and Catherine then compares Edgar to a type of
- A. weasel
 - B. rat
 - C. *rabbit: Catherine calls Edgar a "leveret," which is a type of rabbit*
 - D. squirrel
 - E. bird
17. In lines 20-21, Heathcliff discloses his
- A. regret that Catherine prevents him from hurting Edgar.
 - B. *unwillingness to physically assault Edgar.*
 - C. impatience in waiting for Edgar to strike him first.
 - D. unhappiness with Edgar's banishment of Heathcliff.
 - E. distaste for Edgar's method of removing Heathcliff.
18. Nelly lies about Edgar's approach in order to:
- A. protect Heathcliff from injury: Nelly may be trying to protect Heathcliff from injury, but that is not her primary purpose.
 - B. force Heathcliff to apologize.
 - C. calm Catherine down.
 - D. *protect Edgar from an attack by Heathcliff: Nelly is trying to persuade Heathcliff to leave, instead of stay and attack Edgar.*
 - E. assist Edgar in assaulting Heathcliff: Nelly encourages Heathcliff to leave, which prevents Edgar from assaulting him.
19. What persuades Heathcliff to leave?
- A. his fear of Edgar's irrationality: Heathcliff is not fearful of Edgar himself
 - B. *his inability to fight three armed men: Heathcliff realizes he cannot prevail in fighting three armed men*
 - C. his desire to maintain a relationship with Catherine: Heathcliff does not leave to maintain his relationship. He leaves to escape Edgar's men.
 - D. his inability to stop himself from killing Edgar: Heathcliff does wish to harm Edgar, but that does not persuade him to leave.
 - E. his loyalty to Isabella: Heathcliff has no loyalty to Isabella
20. The primary purpose of the first paragraph is to:
- A. remind the reader of Isabella's high class status: the first paragraph indicates Isabella is used to external comforts, but it is not the primary purpose
 - B. *disclose the great misery Isabella is experiencing: Isabella foreshadows her misery at Wuthering Heights in the first paragraph.*
 - C. detail the filthy conditions of Wuthering Heights: the filthy conditions are not discussed until the third paragraph
 - D. prepare the reader for Heathcliff's cruelty: no indications of Heathcliff's cruelty are found in the first paragraph
 - E. demonstrate the lack of servants at Wuthering Heights: the lack of servants are not indicated in the first paragraph

21. The imagery in this selection is most likely to create what impression in the reader's mind?
- A. Anxious anticipation
 - B. Dismal regret: while Isabella may regret her decision, it is not shown here
 - C. *Pervasive hostility: Isabella feels like no one at Wuthering Heights welcomes her*
 - D. Inexorable doom: there are no indications of impending disaster
 - E. Cautious hopefulness: the imagery never creates an impression of hopefulness
22. One reason Brontë uses dialect is to
- A. distract the reader from the action: the dialect does not distract from the action
 - B. lend an element of fantasy to the novel: the purpose of dialect is the opposite, it lends credibility and realism to the novel
 - C. delineate the evil and good characters: the characters who speak with dialects are not grouped together as either good or evil characters
 - D. suggest the problems with local language differences: no problems with local language differences are suggested by the novel
 - E. *mark the class status of the speaker: the Yorkshire dialect indicates the low class of the speaker throughout Wuthering Heights*
23. What is the purpose of lines 38-40?
- A. *to indicate Joseph's disapproval of Isabella: Joseph looks at Isabella with contempt, demonstrating his disapproval of her*
 - B. to reveal Isabella's contempt for Joseph: while Isabella does not like Joseph, that is not expressed in lines 38-40
 - C. to disclose Heathcliff's influence on Joseph: Joseph's behavior does not seem to be influenced by Heathcliff
 - D. to give insight into Joseph's reasons for disliking Isabella: the passage does not indicate Joseph's reasons for disliking Isabella
 - E. to demonstrate Isabella's innocence in the situation: these lines do not address Isabella's innocence or guilt in the situation
24. Little Hareton does NOT demonstrate which of the following characteristics?
- A. imperiousness: authoritativeness
 - B. perniciousness: hurtfulness
 - C. *timorousness: Hareton is never timid*
 - D. flagitiousness: wickedness
 - E. temerity: boldness
25. What is the overall mood of this scene?
- A. mysterious: the scene might be described as mysterious, but it is not the primary mood
 - B. morbid
 - C. *anxious: Isabella narrates and her anxiety over her new situation is the primary mood of the scene*
 - D. pensive
 - E. ironic

26. What is Nelly suggesting in lines 14-16?
- A. Heathcliff is abusing Linton frequently: Nelly does not suggest frequent abuse of Linton in these lines
 - B. Heathcliff has brainwashed Linton into following the revenge plot: Nelly suggests Heathcliff threatened Linton into the plot, not brainwashed him
 - C. Linton acted on his own when he tricked Catherine and Nelly: Nelly suggests just the opposite, that Heathcliff threatened Linton into tricking them
 - D. Linton is capable of cruelty just like his father: Nelly does not suggest Linton's cruelty in these lines
 - E. *Heathcliff threatened to harshly punish Linton if he failed in securing the women.*
27. What type of shift occurs in Linton's demeanor by the end of the section?
- A. apprehensive to riled: Linton never appears angry
 - B. *disimpassioned to disquieted: Linton is calm and becomes anxious*
 - C. saturnine to galled: Linton is not gloomy during the scene
 - D. lugubrious to seditious: Linton is neither mournful nor seditious
 - E. unnerved to placid: Linton's demeanor shifts in the opposite way; He begins placid or calm, and then becomes anxious
28. Why is Catherine determined to escape?
- A. She does not wish to marry Linton: Catherine does not express her feelings about marrying Linton in this scene
 - B. She is terrified of Heathcliff: Catherine does not express fear of Heathcliff
 - C. She fears her father may take revenge upon Heathcliff: Catherine never indicates she fears her father may take revenge upon Heathcliff
 - D. *She does not want to worry her father: Catherine is determined to escape because she fears her father will be very worried*
 - E. She believes Heathcliff will never let her leave: Catherine never indicates her fear of Heathcliff's detention of her
29. Which is not a reason Nelly berates Linton in lines 21-27?
- A. *Linton is behaving like a sullen, selfish child: While Nelly does think Linton acts like a selfish child, that is not a reason cited in lines 21-27.*
 - B. Linton is too sickly to justify marrying Catherine.
 - C. Linton tricked the women into coming there.
 - D. Linton behaved treacherously towards them.
 - E. Linton is cooperating with Heathcliff's plans.
30. What do the references to Heathcliff in this scene suggest about his character?
- A. He is calculating and cowardly: Heathcliff is never referred to as cowardly
 - B. He is vengeful and reckless: Heathcliff is not described as reckless
 - C. *He is evil and dangerous: Heathcliff is called "diabolical," and Linton is in "mortal terror" of him during this scene.*
 - D. He is cruel and restless: Heathcliff is never described as restless
 - E. He is manipulative and persistent: Heathcliff is described as manipulative, but his persistence is not addressed

Free Response (Essay) Items

PRACTICE FREE RESPONSE QUESTION 1

Read the following passage from Chapter VI and write a well-organized essay in which you analyze the change that occurs in Heathcliff's position in the household and its effect on the novel. Include a discussion of what factors define Heathcliff's class, and how his ambiguous status is central to the major conflict of the novel.

Young Earnshaw was altered considerably in the three years of his absence. He had grown sparer, and lost his colour, and spoke and dressed quite differently; and, on the very day of his return, he told Joseph and me we must thenceforth quarter ourselves in the back-kitchen, and leave the house for him. Indeed, he would have carpeted and papered a small spare room for a parlour; but his wife expressed such pleasure at the white floor and huge glowing fireplace, at the pewter dishes and delf-case, and dog-kennel, and the wide space there was to move about in where they usually sat, that he thought it unnecessary to her comfort, and so dropped the intention.

She expressed pleasure, too, at finding a sister among her new acquaintances; and she prattled to Catherine, and kissed her, and ran about with her, and gave her quantities of presents, at the beginning. Her affection tired very soon, however, and when she grew peevish, Hindley became tyrannical. A few words from her, evincing a dislike to Heathcliff, were enough to rouse in him all his old hatred of the boy. He drove him from their company to the servants, deprived him of instructions of the curate, and insisted that he should labour out of doors instead; compelling him to do so as hard as any other lad on the farm.

Heathcliff bore his degradation pretty well at first because Cathy taught him what she learnt, and worked or played with him in the fields. They both promised fair to grow up as rude as savages; the young master being entirely negligent how they behaved, and what they did, so they kept clear of him. He would not even have seen after their going to church on Sundays, only Joseph and the curate reprimanded his carelessness when they absented themselves; and that reminded him to order Heathcliff a flogging, and Catherine a fast from dinner or supper. But it was one of their chief amusements to run away to the moors in the morning and remain there all day, and the after punishment grew a mere thing to laugh at. The curate might set as many chapters as he pleased for Catherine to get by heart, and Joseph might thrash Heathcliff till his arm ached; they forgot everything the minute they were together again: at least the minute they had contrived some naughty plan of revenge; and many a time I've cried to myself to watch them growing more reckless daily, and I not daring to speak a syllable, for fear of losing the small power I still retained over the unfriended creatures. One Sunday evening, it chanced that they were banished from the sitting-room, for making a noise, or a light offence of the kind; and when I went to call them to supper, I could discover them nowhere. We searched the house, above and

below, and the yard and stables; they were invisible: and, at last, Hindley in a passion told us to bolt the doors, and swore nobody should let them in that night. The household went to bed; and I too, anxious to lie down, opened my lattice and put my head out to hearken, though it rained: determined to admit them in spite of the prohibition, should they return. In a while, I distinguished steps coming up the road, and the light of a lantern glimmered through the gate. I threw a shawl over my head and ran to prevent them from waking Mr. Earnshaw by knocking. There was Heathcliff, by himself: it gave me a start to see him alone. (Pgs. 44-45)

PRACTICE FREE RESPONSE QUESTION 2

Read the following passage from Chapter XIV and write a well-organized essay in which you analyze the changes that occur in the characters as they move between Thrushcross Grange and Wuthering Heights. Include a discussion of how the houses themselves contrast with each other, and how those contrasts seem to extend to the household occupants.

Mr. Edgar's coldness depressed me exceedingly; and all the way from the Grange I puzzled my brains how to put more heart into what he said, when I repeated it; and how to soften his refusal of even a few lines to console Isabella. I daresay she had been on the watch for me since morning: I saw her looking through the lattice as I came up the garden causeway, and I nodded to her; but she drew back, as if afraid of being observed. I entered without knocking. There never was such a dreary, dismal scene as the formerly cheerful house presented! I must confess, that if I had been in the young lady's place, I would, at least, have swept the hearth, and wiped the tables with a duster. But she already partook of the pervading spirit of neglect which encompassed her. Her pretty face was wan and listless; her hair uncurled: some locks hanging lankly down, and some carelessly twisted round her head. Probably she had not touched her dress since yester evening. Hindley was not there. Mr. Heathcliff sat at a table, turning over some papers in his pocket-book; but he rose when I appeared, asked me how I did, quite friendly, and offered me a chair. He was the only thing there that seemed decent; and I thought he never looked better. So much had circumstances altered their positions, that he would certainly have struck a stranger as a born and bred gentleman; and his wife as a thorough little slattern! She came forward eagerly to greet me, and held out one hand to take the expected letter. I shook my head. She wouldn't understand the hint, but followed me to a sideboard, where I went to lay my bonnet, and importuned me in a whisper to give her directly what I had brought. Heathcliff guessed the meaning of her manœuvres, and said—"If you have got anything for Isabella (as no doubt you have, Nelly) give it to her. You needn't make a secret of it: we have no secrets between us."

PRACTICE FREE RESPONSE QUESTION 3

Read the following passage from Chapter XXVII and write a well-organized essay in which you analyze the effects of Nelly's behavior on major events of the novel. Include a discussion of how her participation in the novel's action affects her status as a narrator.

He approached once more, and made as if he would seize the fragile being; but, shrinking back, Linton clung to his cousin, and implored her to accompany him, with a frantic importunity that admitted no denial. However I disapproved, I couldn't hinder her: indeed, how could she have refused him herself? What was filling him with dread we had no means of discerning; but there he was, powerless under its gripe, and any addition seemed capable of shocking him into idiocy. We reached the threshold; Catherine walked in, and I stood waiting till she had conducted the invalid to a chair, expecting her out immediately; when Mr. Heathcliff, pushing me forward, exclaimed—"My house is not stricken with the plague, Nelly; and I have a mind to be hospitable to-day: sit down, and allow me to shut the door."

He shut and locked it also. I started.

...

"I thought it had been your cousin Hareton," I observed to Catherine. "I wish he would arrive! Who knows but he might take our part?"

"It was three servants sent to seek you from the Grange," said Heathcliff, overhearing me. "You should have opened a lattice and called out: but I could swear that chit is glad you didn't. She's glad to be obliged to stay, I'm certain."

At learning the chance we had missed, we both gave vent to our grief without control; and he allowed us to wail on till nine o'clock. Then he bid us go upstairs, through the kitchen, to Zillah's chamber; and I whispered my companion to obey: perhaps we might contrive to get through the window there, or into a garret, and out by its skylight. The window, however, was narrow, like those below, and the garret trap was safe from our attempts; for we were fastened in as before. We neither of us lay down: Catherine took her station by the lattice, and watched anxiously for morning; a deep sigh being the only answer I could obtain to my frequent entreaties that she would try to rest. I seated myself in a chair, and rocked to and fro, passing harsh judgment on my many derelictions of duty; from which, it struck me then, all the misfortunes of my employers sprang. It was not the case in reality, I am aware; but it was, in my imagination, that dismal night; and I thought Heathcliff himself less guilty than I. (Pgs. 226-231)

PRACTICE FREE RESPONSE QUESTION 4

Read the following passage from Chapter XXXIII and write a well-organized essay in which you analyze the motif of doubles or pairs throughout the novel. Identify the symmetry Brontë creates between the two generations of characters and discuss its purposes and effects.

They lifted their eyes together, to encounter Mr. Heathcliff: perhaps you have never remarked that their eyes are precisely similar, and they are those of Catherine Earnshaw. The present Catherine has no other likeness to her, except a breadth of forehead, and a certain arch of the nostril that makes her appear rather haughty, whether she will or not. With Hareton the resemblance is carried farther: it is singular at all times, *then* it was particularly striking; because his senses were alert, and his mental faculties wakened to unwonted activity. I suppose this resemblance disarmed Mr. Heathcliff: he walked to the hearth in evident agitation; but it quickly subsided as he looked at the young man: or, I should say, altered its character; for it was there yet. He took the book from his hand, and glanced at the open page, then returned it without any observation; merely signing Catherine away: her companion lingered very little behind her, and I was about to depart also, but he bid me sit still.

“It is a poor conclusion, is it not?” he observed, having brooded a while on the scene he had just witnessed: “an absurd termination to my violent exertions? I get lever and mattocks to demolish the two houses, and train myself to be capable of working like Hercules, and when everything is ready and in my power, I find the will to lift a slate off either roof has vanished! My old enemies have not beaten me; now would be the precise time to revenge myself on their representatives: I could do it; and none could hinder me. But where is the use? I don’t care for striking: I can’t take the trouble to raise my hand! That sounds as if I had been labouring the whole time only to exhibit a fine trait of magnanimity. It is far from being the case: I have lost the faculty of enjoying their destruction, and I am too idle to destroy for nothing.

“Nelly, there is a strange change approaching; I’m in its shadow at present. I take so little interest in my daily life that I hardly remember to eat and drink. Those two who have left the room are the only objects which retain a distinct material appearance to me; and that appearance causes me pain, amounting to agony. About *her* I won’t speak; and I don’t desire to think; but I earnestly wish she were invisible: her presence invokes only maddening sensations. *He* moves me differently: and yet if I could do it without seeming insane, I’d never see him again! You’ll perhaps think me rather inclined to become so,” he added, making an effort to smile, “if I try to describe the thousand forms of past associations and ideas he awakens or embodies. But you’ll not talk of what I tell you; and my mind is so eternally secluded in itself, it is tempting at last to turn it out to another.

“Five minutes ago Hareton seemed a personification of my youth, not a human being; I felt to him in such a variety of ways, that it would have been impossible to have accosted him rationally. In the first place, his startling likeness to Catherine connected him fearfully with her. That, however, which you may suppose the most potent to arrest my imagination, is actually the least: for what is not connected with her to me? and what does not recall her? I cannot look down to this floor, but her features are shaped in the flags! In every cloud, in every tree—filling the air at night, and caught by glimpses in every object by day—I am surrounded with her image! The most ordinary faces of men and women—my own features—mock me with a resemblance. The entire world is a dreadful collection of memoranda that she did exist, and that I have lost her! Well, Hareton’s aspect was the ghost of my immortal love: of my wild endeavours to hold my right; my degradation, my pride, my happiness, and my anguish –

“But it is frenzy to repeat these thoughts to you: only it will let you know why, with a reluctance to be always alone, his society is no benefit; rather an aggravation of the constant torment I suffer; and it partly contributes to render me regardless how he and his cousin go on together. I can give them no attention any more.” (Pgs. 271-272)

PRACTICE FREE RESPONSE QUESTION 5

The frame-narrative technique allows the novelist to frequently shift the narrative view-point by relying on various first-person accounts. Write a well-organized essay discussing the advantages and disadvantages of the narrative form of *Wuthering Heights*. Be sure to examine the technique's effects on the reader and the impact a different narrative form would have on the novel.

PRACTICE FREE RESPONSE QUESTION 6

Critics have stated that *Wuthering Heights* is novel which lacks a hero or heroine. Write a well-organized essay supporting or refuting that statement. In your essay, consider whether Heathcliff is a hero or a villain and to what degree he and Catherine are sympathetic to the reader.

PRACTICE FREE RESPONSE QUESTION 7

The "Literary Quality" of a piece of literature is often measured by the extent to which the plot and situation are character driven, the natural results of character action and interaction. In a well-written essay, defend or refute the position that *Wuthering Heights* is just such a character-driven novel. Avoid plot summary.

Wuthering Heights

Advanced Placement in English Literature and Composition Teaching Unit

Study Guide Teacher's Copy

Chapter I

1. Where and when does the story begin? How do these aspects of the setting inform your reading?

The story begins during 1801 in the English countryside. The year and location are significant and should inform the reader's perspective because the Industrial Revolution was transforming England socially and economically during that time period.

2. Briefly describe the landscape and the architecture found in the first chapter. Relate them to both the Gothic novel literary genre and Romanticism.

The landscape is the isolated English countryside, which is often exposed to extreme weather. Wuthering Heights is described as a strong building with jutting stones defending the corners. Lockwood notes the "grotesque carving" over the front of the building and door, which includes "a wilderness of crumbling griffins and shameless little boys." (Pg. 10) Geographical isolation and descriptions of the English countryside are common characteristics of Romantic literature. Extreme weather and landscapes, as well as sinister or ruined buildings, are often found in the Gothic novel genre.

3. What inscription over the door does Mr. Lockwood notice, and why does he not question Mr. Heathcliff about it? What effect might this detail have on the reader?

The name "Hareton Earnshaw" and the date "1500" are inscribed over the door. Mr. Lockwood stops himself for asking about the history of the place because of Heathcliff's impatient attitude at the door. The detail of the inscription may arouse the reader's curiosity about the history of the mysterious home.

4. What is the narrative point of view of the first chapter?

The opening chapter is told in the first person by Mr. Lockwood.

5. What can the reader expect from a story told from this point of view?

When a story is told in the first-person, the reader can expect a subjective perspective. Usually, the narrator will be involved in the story and reveal personal feelings, experiences, and thoughts to the reader. The reader may have to evaluate the reliability of the narrator if the reader suspects the narrator is not trustworthy for some reason or withholding part of the story.

6. Characterize Mr. Lockwood. What is his present situation?

Mr. Lockwood is a reserved, socially awkward man, but seems to be polite, intelligent, and a gentleman. He is renting Thrushcross Grange from Mr. Heathcliff and is a newcomer to the area.

7. Why does Mr. Lockwood describe his location as a “perfect misanthropist’s heaven”?

Mr. Lockwood is referring to the social isolation of Thrushcross Grange and Wuthering Heights. The place is heaven for a person who hates society and wishes to be left alone.

8. Who is Mr. Heathcliff? Describe him and compare your description with Lockwood’s description of Heathcliff.

Mr. Heathcliff is Mr. Lockwood’s landlord and the owner of both Wuthering Heights and Thrushcross Grange. Mr. Heathcliff is morose, reserved, and seems somewhat cruel. Despite Heathcliff’s apparent ill-humor and rudeness, especially when his guest is attacked by dogs, Mr. Lockwood thinks he is an excellent fellow and immediately likes him.

9. How does Lockwood characterize Heathcliff’s class in contrast to the man’s appearance? How would you categorize Lockwood’s class and why?

Lockwood indicates that Heathcliff looks like a dark-skinned gypsy physically, and gypsies are usually of the lower classes, but he dresses like a gentleman. Lockwood is clearly a member of the upper classes, a gentleman. He is well educated, which is disclosed by his journal entry, and he observes the formalities of society during his visit with Heathcliff.

10. Why has Lockwood gained a reputation for being “deliberately heartless?”

Lockwood relates how he stared at a beautiful girl at the sea-shore, but when she returned his gazes, he ignored her. He caused the young lady to become so upset she left the beach.

11. What other characters are introduced during the first chapter?

One of Heathcliff’s servants, Joseph, is introduced. He is a very old man. Another servant, an unnamed woman, is also introduced.

12. Why do Heathcliff's dogs turn against Lockwood?

Lockwood winks and makes faces at the dogs while he is sitting still. The dogs become very agitated and attempt to attack him.

13. How do you think Brontë intended the reader to feel towards Mr. Lockwood at the end of the first chapter?

Brontë intends the reader to recognize that Lockwood is a somewhat naïve or foolish man and not a very reliable narrator. He is obviously misjudging Heathcliff, and he unwisely plans to visit his landlord again, despite the man's clear dislike for guests.

Chapter II

1. What drives Mr. Lockwood to return to Wuthering Heights? Evaluate his decision.

Mr. Lockwood went to his study, planning to avoid the trip to Wuthering Heights and sit by his fire, but a housekeeper was already putting out the fire. Mr. Lockwood has clearly made a poor decision to take the trip to Wuthering Heights. Mr. Heathcliff seemed unenthused about another visit, and the weather is bad. It is very cold, and a snow storm is coming.

2. "Wretched inmates! I ejaculated, mentally, "you deserve perpetual isolation from your species for your churlish inhospitality. At least, I would not keep my doors barred in the day-time. I don't care—I will get in!" So resolved, I grasped the latch and shook it vehemently. (Pg. 15)

What purpose does the above passage serve in the development of the characters?

Brontë is further portraying Mr. Lockwood as a foolish man. He has gone to Wuthering Heights uninvited again, despite Mr. Heathcliff's clear dislike for company and becomes angry when he is not treated hospitably. The passage also demonstrates the difference between what a gentleman expects of a home and the way Heathcliff lives. The reader is led to infer that Heathcliff is a suspicious, paranoid man because he locks his doors in the daytime.

3. What does the dialect Joseph speaks in suggest about him? How does the use of dialect affect the story? Who else speaks with a dialect in this chapter?

Joseph speaks in a local, Yorkshire dialect, and his manner of speaking suggests he is of the lower classes and uneducated. Brontë uses dialect to denote the class of her characters, as well as lend realism to the story. Romantic literature often emphasizes the local characteristics of the setting, and dialect is a means to achieve a local portrayal of Yorkshire. Zillah, the housekeeper, also speaks with a Yorkshire accent, although it is milder than Joseph's.

4. Characterize Mrs. Heathcliff based on the descriptions of her in this chapter.

Mrs. Heathcliff is a beautiful, fair-haired young lady. She is clearly a member of the upper-class, but treats her company rudely. She is strong-willed, appears unhappy and trapped in her home, and mischievously scares Joseph by pretending to cast spells. She shows a little kindness to Mr. Lockwood by urging someone to guide him in the snow storm.

5. Why is Mr. Lockwood confused at first about the social position of Hareton Earnshaw? What appears to be the relationship between Hareton and the other house members?

Mr. Lockwood at first thinks Hareton is a servant because he dresses and speaks as if uneducated and of the lower classes. His appearance is rough and unrefined, and his hands are dirty like a laborer's. Mr. Lockwood then questions this assumption based on the way Hareton interacts with Mrs. Heathcliff, which is not the behavior of a servant. It appears Hareton lives as an equal to the other house members, but it is a complete mystery to the reader what their relationships are at this point.

6. What does Mr. Lockwood mean when he says, "Here is the consequence of being buried alive...?" (Pg. 18)

Mr. Lockwood uses a metaphor to explain Mrs. Heathcliff's isolated existence in the country as being "buried alive." Mr. Lockwood thinks she has married an inferior man, Hareton because of her ignorance that better men existed. Mr. Lockwood then pities her and vows not to make her regret her choice. He conceitedly thinks his own company will show the young lady what better men are available.

7. Mr. Lockwood makes a series of mistaken assumptions about the inhabitants of Wuthering Heights. Identify his blunders, and Heathcliff's corrections.

Mr. Lockwood at first mistakenly assumes that Mrs. Heathcliff is Mr. Heathcliff's wife. Mr. Heathcliff corrects his guest by explaining that his wife is dead, and Mrs. Heathcliff is his daughter-in-law. Mr. Lockwood then makes another mistake by guessing that Hareton is Mr. Heathcliff's son and Mrs. Heathcliff's husband. Mr. Heathcliff scoffs at the thought that Hareton is his son and explains that his son is also dead.

8. What series of events leads to Mr. Lockwood's nosebleed? Who comes to his aide?

Mr. Lockwood inquires about staying at Wuthering Heights, but Heathcliff insists he has no lodgings for guests and won't allow Mr. Lockwood to sleep in the living room for fear of theft. Insulted, Mr. Lockwood storms out and grabs a lantern to help him find his way. Joseph believes Mr. Lockwood is stealing the lantern and sends the dogs after him. The dogs knock him down, and Heathcliff and Hareton laugh at him, which drives Mr. Lockwood to such anger that he has a nosebleed. Zillah, the housekeeper, comes to his aide. She brings him inside, cleans him up, and takes him to a bedroom.

9. What is the primary purpose of Chapter II?

The primary purpose of Chapter II is exposition. The reader is introduced to a number of characters and given another glimpse of life inside Wuthering Heights. The mysterious nature of the relationships between the inhabitants of Wuthering Heights draws the reader further into the story.

Chapter III

1. “While leading the way upstairs, she recommended that I should hide the candle, and not make a noise; for her master had an odd notion about the chamber she would put me in, and never let anybody lodge there willingly. I asked the reason. She did not know, she answered: she had only lived there a year or two; and they had so many queer goings on, she could not begin to be curious.” (Pg. 23)

Identify a literary device Brontë is using in the above passage.

Brontë is foreshadowing the disturbing experience Lockwood will have in his chambers that night. The reader is made suspicious about the chamber Lockwood will sleep in because of Heathcliff’s reluctance to allow guests to stay there.

2. What insight into Heathcliff’s character does Lockwood gain by perusing the antique books?

The books contain journal entries written about 25 years ago by a young lady named Catherine. The entries reveal that she and Heathcliff were companions when they were young, and that Heathcliff was treated terribly by a man named Hindley. The abuse Heathcliff suffered may have contributed to the cold, sullen attitude he has displayed to Lockwood.

3. What mood is evoked by the description of Lockwood’s dreams? Identify specific imagery that contributes to the mood.

Both dreams evoke an anxious, tense mood. The second dream, however, creates a morbid, mysterious mood that permeates the rest of the novel. The description of the congregation attacking Lockwood, and his urgent efforts to remove the grip of Catherine contribute to the anxious mood. The imagery of Lockwood rubbing the ghost’s wrist over the broken glass and blood pouring over the sheets contributes to the morbid mood.

4. What type of shift occurs in Heathcliff’s attitude after Lockwood reveals himself?

Heathcliff’s attitude when he enters the room is nervous and fearful. After Lockwood identifies himself, Heathcliff becomes enraged.

5. What conclusions can be drawn from Heathcliff's behavior after Lockwood leaves the bedroom?

Heathcliff displays intense emotion after Lockwood leaves. His behavior suggests he had a deep passion for Catherine, he experienced great grief when he lost her, and he believes in her ghost's existence.

6. What does the exchange between Heathcliff and Mrs. Heathcliff reveal about their respective characters?

Heathcliff demonstrates how he can be extremely cruel, even physically violent, towards Mrs. Heathcliff. Mrs. Heathcliff shows she is bold and defiant.

Chapter IV

1. How does Mr. Lockwood compel Nelly to discuss the inhabitants of Wuthering Heights with him? Are there any underlying motives suggested by his interest?

Nelly needs very little prodding to begin discussing the subject. Lockwood asks her only a few questions in regarding Heathcliff before Nelly begins recounting the man's entire history. She is clearly a bit of a gossip. Lockwood seems overly interested in finding out more about Mrs. Heathcliff. He appears to be considering pursuing her.

2. How does Nelly characterize Heathcliff's monetary status?

She explains he is very wealthy, although no one knows exactly how much money he has. She describes him as greedy and cheap, despite his great wealth.

3. In what way does the narrative change in this chapter? What effect does it have on the story?

In this chapter, Brontë's unique frame narrative form begins. Nelly begins to speak as the primary narrator, yet the novel is still ultimately narrated by Lockwood. Therefore, the story is told to the reader secondhand; Lockwood reports to the reader what Nelly has said to him. Another layer is added to the narrative when Nelly quotes what others have said to her.

4. How does Heathcliff come to reside at Wuthering Heights? What are the class implications of his background, given the setting?

Mr. Earnshaw, the old master of Wuthering Heights, finds Heathcliff apparently abandoned on the streets of Liverpool. He pities the child, and, when he can find no one to turn the child over to, he brings the orphan home to Wuthering Heights. The Earnshaw family is not welcoming of the strange child, but Mr. Earnshaw ultimately raises the child as his own. Class status in England was traditionally determined by lineage as well as wealth. A gentleman was a gentleman by right of birth. Heathcliff's lack of a respectable lineage marks him as being of a lower class.

5. How did Heathcliff's presence affect the relationships between other members of the family?

Mr. Earnshaw favored Heathcliff above Hindley and Catherine, his biological children. Hindley's relationship with his father was damaged as a result; the young man came to view his father as an oppressor. Hindley's relationship with Catherine was also negatively affected because Catherine became very close to Heathcliff.

6. What is Heathcliff's attitude toward Mr. Earnshaw?

Even though Mr. Earnshaw shows favoritism to him, Heathcliff never showed his benefactor gratitude in return. Heathcliff was not disrespectful towards Mr. Earnshaw, but he seemed indifferent.

7. Relate Heathcliff's origins to the Byronic Hero character type.

The Byronic Hero is a character type defined by Lord Byron's epic narrative poem, "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage." The character usually has mysterious origins and a troubled past. The character of Heathcliff possesses mysterious origins, in line with the Byronic Hero character type.

8. Identify the foreshadowing that occurs at the end of Chapter IV.

Nelly indicates she never believed Heathcliff was a vindictive person when he was young, despite all the abuse he suffered at the hands of Hindley. She then warns the story will demonstrate that Heathcliff is vindictive.

Chapter V

1. How were Heathcliff's negative qualities encouraged by Mr. Earnshaw's illness?

Mr. Earnshaw became especially irritable due to his illness. He was particularly upset when anyone abused or spoke badly of Heathcliff in any way. Everyone in the household, therefore, avoided criticizing or punishing Heathcliff, which encouraged his pride and bad tempers.

2. Nelly describes Catherine's behavior during Mr. Earnshaw's illness. What does it suggest about Catherine's character?

Catherine is a high-spirited troublemaker as a young lady. She enjoys being the center of attention and manipulating those around her, but she also is caring in attempting to right the wrongs she commits.

3. How is Heathcliff and Catherine's close relationship demonstrated in Chapter V?

Catherine is very fond of Heathcliff, and the worst punishment for Catherine at this time was to separate her from Heathcliff. Heathcliff obeys Catherine in anything she wishes. Their closeness is shown in how they comfort each other after Mr. Earnshaw's death. Heathcliff and Catherine sit together and discuss how beautiful heaven will be for Mr. Earnshaw.

Chapter VI

1. What are the class implications of the changes Hindley makes to Heathcliff's life at Wuthering Heights?

Hindley made Heathcliff live among the servants, stopped his lessons, and forced him to work outdoors. In doing so, he degraded Heathcliff and lessened his class status. During this time in England, the classes were defined in part by their work and education. The lower classes performed manual labor and were not educated. Hindley makes Heathcliff live the life of a lower class person, which would impact how others viewed Heathcliff's social status.

2. How do Heathcliff and Catherine generally spend their days? Relate their activities to the Romantic genre.

Heathcliff and Catherine usually play on the moors all day. Their closeness to nature, particularly the English countryside, is characteristic of works of Romantic literature.

3. Why does Heathcliff dislike Edgar and Isabella Linton? How does Catherine feel towards the Lintons?

Heathcliff dislikes the Lintons because he finds them spoiled and dull. By Heathcliff's description, Catherine feels the same way about the Lintons at first, but she seems to enjoy their company when they take her in to treat her injury.

4. Describe how the weather relates to the events of the chapter.

It is raining the night that Catherine and Heathcliff run off to Thrushcross Grange, and Hindley locks them out of the house. As in many scenes throughout the novel, stormy weather here coincides with a significant event and the characters' emotions. Heathcliff is upset at leaving Catherine at Thrushcross Grange, and their separation is significant because Catherine will be altered by it.

5. Identify further evidence of Heathcliff's feelings toward Catherine in Chapter VI.

Heathcliff demonstrates his devotion to Catherine by waiting outside the Lintons' window to ensure she is happy to stay there. If she wished to leave, he proclaims he would break through the window to get her. Heathcliff also tells Nelly how he finds Catherine superior to everyone else on earth.

Chapter VII

1. How is Catherine altered by her stay at Thrushcross Grange? How will the changes in Catherine most likely affect her relationship with Heathcliff?

The Lintons groom Catherine and teach her how to behave like a proper lady. She returns to Wuthering Heights wearing fine clothes and behaving in a dignified manner. Because of her new manners and appearance, Catherine will most likely no longer join Heathcliff in their previous wild behavior and allow herself to become dirty like him.

2. Why does Heathcliff become angry with Catherine when she returns?

Catherine comments on how “black and cross” he looks in comparison to Edgar and Isabella Linton, and how dirty Heathcliff is. Heathcliff interprets her comments as insults and accuses her of laughing at him. He is clearly threatened at his playmate’s new appearance and ashamed of his own. Heathcliff’s pride prevents him from understanding that Catherine meant no harm by her comments.

3. How and why does Heathcliff envy Edgar Linton?

Heathcliff wishes he had light hair and skin like Edgar, dressed and behaved as well, and had the chance of inheriting a lot of money like him. Heathcliff seems to be wishing for all of Edgar’s qualities that would result in his being considered of a higher class.

4. How does Nelly attempt to help Heathcliff? In what way is their plan foiled, and how does Catherine respond?

Nelly tries to help Heathcliff by complimenting his fine qualities, cleaning him up, and dressing him well before the Lintons arrive. Her efforts are immediately thwarted when Hindley insists on excluding Heathcliff from dinner. Edgar uses poor judgment in making a comment about Heathcliff’s hair, and Heathcliff throws applesauce at him. Hindley sends Heathcliff to the garret, and Catherine is very upset with Edgar for provoking Heathcliff. She cries at dinner and steals away to see Heathcliff afterwards.

5. What disturbing quality does Heathcliff exhibit in relation to his feelings for Hindley?

Heathcliff exhibits his desire for revenge against Hindley. He shows how serious he is about it by telling Nelly he doesn’t care how long it takes; he just hopes to pay back Hindley before the man dies.

6. How does Lockwood distinguish Nelly from other members of her class?

Lockwood says Nelly does not have the usual low manners of a servant. She is more cultivated. Nelly explains that she has read a great deal, and discipline has taught her wisdom.

Chapter VIII

1. What gains and losses does Hindley experience in Chapter VIII? How does he respond to both?

Hindley's child Hareton is born, but his wife dies shortly after. Hindley despairs so much over his loss that he does not seem to care for his child at all. He began to scorn God and man and behaved so tyrannically that most of his servants leave.

2. How does Catherine's character become divided to some extent?

Catherine behaves in two different ways when she is in the company of the Lintons and Heathcliff. With the Lintons, she behaves properly and conceals her rough nature. At home with Heathcliff, Catherine does not bother to conceal her unruly behavior.

3. What are Nelly's true feelings toward Catherine at this point? Do they affect her reliability as a narrator in any way?

Nelly admits she did not like Catherine much past her childhood. Catherine was arrogant and headstrong and Nelly did her best to try to bring down her haughtiness. Because of Nelly's dislike for Catherine, her narrative of events relating to Catherine can probably not be relied upon as impartial.

4. How has Heathcliff and Catherine's relationship changed? What event demonstrates that change?

Heathcliff becomes suspicious of Catherine's affection towards him and jealous of her attention to the Lintons. The quarrel between Heathcliff and Catherine demonstrates the change. Heathcliff accuses her of neglecting him for the Lintons, and Catherine angrily insults him as a result. She indicates she dislikes his company because he is dull and doesn't do or say anything interesting.

5. What offensive behavior does Catherine engage in towards Edgar? How do they reconcile?

Catherine lies to Edgar about pinching Nelly and then hits him. Edgar is greatly upset by her bad behavior and moves to leave, but is drawn back in sympathy for Catherine's crying. Nelly believes their quarrel resulted in greater intimacy between them, as they behave like lovers when she sees them later.

Chapter IX

1. How does Heathcliff unwittingly thwart his own revenge? What poor behavior on the part of Hindley leads to the occurrence?

Heathcliff happens to walk by as Hindley accidentally drops Hareton over the banister of the steps. Heathcliff reacts instinctively by catching the child, but immediately realizes he has missed a perfect opportunity for revenge against Hindley and obviously regrets saving the child. Hindley had come home drunk and tried to force Hareton to be affectionate, although the child is terrified of his father. In carrying the child up the stairs, he recklessly leans over the banister and drops him.

2. What considerations drive Catherine to accept Edgar's proposal, despite her love for Heathcliff? How does her decision relate to the status of women during this time period and the class structure?

Catherine chooses to accept Edgar's proposal primarily because of his high social standing and wealth. She will become the greatest woman of the parish by marrying him. Despite her love for Heathcliff, she feels it is out of the question to marry him because Hindley has successfully lowered his class status so much. Catherine's decision demonstrates how one of the few ways for women to increase their class status during this time period was through marriage; therefore, class played a significant role in determining spouses. The rigidity and influence of the class structure is demonstrated by how unthinkable it is for Catherine to marry the lower-class Heathcliff, despite her great love for him.

3. What does Catherine's dream and explanation of it reveal about her relationship with Heathcliff?

Catherine's dream and explanation demonstrate how unbreakable the bond between Catherine and Heathcliff seems to be. Catherine sees Heathcliff and herself almost as one being, which cannot be separated—even by heaven.

4. Why does Nelly feel Catherine is misguided about her duties as a wife? How does Catherine's response demonstrate the differences in her feelings for Edgar and Heathcliff?

Nelly is shocked that Catherine believes she can maintain her close relationship with Heathcliff after she marries Edgar. Nelly finds it even more unbelievable that Catherine hopes to help Heathcliff with Edgar's money. Catherine responds to Nelly's suggestion that she and Heathcliff must be separated by her marriage by comparing her love for Edgar to her own love for Heathcliff. She claims Edgar could never separate the two because her love for Heathcliff is like the eternal rocks under the forest, while her love for Edgar is like the changing foliage on the trees.

5. What is the likely cause of Heathcliff's departure from Wuthering Heights?

Heathcliff overhears Catherine's discussion with Nelly, but leaves as soon as Catherine says it would degrade her to marry him. He does not hear Catherine's professions of love for him that follow. Therefore, Heathcliff probably leaves out of devastation because he has no hope of marrying or even maintaining a relationship with her once she is married to Edgar, and Catherine seems to be the only person who matters to him.

6. How does the weather again coincide with a significant plot event?

A violent thunderstorm passes through Wuthering Heights the night Heathcliff runs away, mirroring Catherine and Heathcliff's despair. Heathcliff is distressed over Catherine's intention to marry Edgar, and Catherine is distraught at having apparently upset Heathcliff. Catherine stays out in the storm looking for Heathcliff and becomes seriously ill as a result.

7. How are Catherine's negative personality traits encouraged by her illness?

The doctor indicates Catherine is permanently weakened by her illness and tells her household members they must not disagree with or upset her. These orders allow Catherine to get her way in everything, making her even more stubborn, demanding, and unpleasant.

8. Why is Nelly forced to leave Wuthering Heights?

When Edgar and Catherine marry, Catherine insists that Nelly comes with her to Thrushcross Grange. Nelly does not want to leave little Hareton alone with his father and Joseph, so she refuses at first. Edgar offers her higher wages, and Hindley orders her to leave, indicating he does not want any women in the house now that Catherine is gone.

Chapter X

1. According to Nelly, why was Catherine able to behave so well at Thrushcross Grange before Heathcliff's return?

Edgar and Isabella made it impossible for Catherine to behave badly because they both accommodated all of Catherine's desires and were very affectionate towards her. Catherine had no reason to be bad-tempered with the treatment she received.

2. How does Catherine resolve to settle Edgar's concerns over bringing Heathcliff into the parlour? How is the exchange related to a theme of the novel?

Edgar suggests it would be more suitable for Catherine to meet Heathcliff in the kitchen because of the man's prior low status. Catherine offers to solve the problem by setting two tables in the parlour. One is for Edgar and Isabella because they are of the gentry class. The other is for Heathcliff and Catherine because they are of the lower orders. Her comment highlights again the importance of class considerations throughout the novel.

3. In what ways is Heathcliff altered?

Heathcliff has grown into a tall, athletic man and carries himself as if he has been in the army. His facial expression retains no indications of his former degradation; rather, he appears intelligent. His mannerisms are dignified and lack his previous roughness.

4. What effect does Heathcliff's return have on Catherine and Edgar's relationship?

Heathcliff's return disturbs the peace of Edgar and Catherine's life. Edgar is obviously upset by Catherine's excitement over Heathcliff's return and jealous of her enthusiasm for his previous rival. The couple is upset with each other at first, but Catherine smoothes over their disagreement by being exceptionally kind to her husband.

5. "I heard of your marriage, Cathy, not long since; and, while waiting in the yard below, I meditated this plan—just to have one glimpse of your face, a stare of surprise, perhaps, and pretended pleasure; afterwards settle my score with Hindley; and then prevent the law by doing execution on myself. Your welcome has put these ideas out of my mind..." (Pgs. 85-86)

What does Heathcliff mean by this speech? What does it tell you about his character?

Heathcliff is telling Catherine he did not expect her to be so truly happy to see him. He was just going to look at her once, then go kill Hindley, and, finally, kill himself before he can be arrested. Heathcliff will not execute the plan because of the welcome Catherine has given to him. His speech demonstrates how selfish, dangerous, and focused on revenge Heathcliff really is. If Catherine did not care for him, Heathcliff would be willing to sacrifice his life if it meant avenging Hindley.

6. Describe the suffering both Heathcliff and Catherine claim to have experienced in each other's absence.

Heathcliff indicates he has endured a bitter life since he left Wuthering Heights, but his struggles were all for Catherine. Catherine explains to Nelly how bitter and miserable she has been since Heathcliff left. Both seem to have suffered a great deal while apart.

7. What are the possible negative implications of Isabella's interest in Heathcliff? How does Catherine attempt to deter Isabella's feelings, and what is Isabella's response?

If Isabella were to marry Heathcliff, it would be possible for Heathcliff to become Edgar's heir. If Edgar died without a son, his property would pass to Heathcliff. Isabella is also of a higher social standing than Heathcliff. Catherine tries to deter Isabella's feelings for Heathcliff by describing all of his bad qualities to the young lady. Isabella thinks Catherine is lying about Heathcliff's character out of selfishness. Isabella believes Catherine wants to keep all of Heathcliff's attention to herself.

8. What bad conduct does Heathcliff seem to be engaging in at Wuthering Heights? How does he explain his presence there to Catherine?

Joseph reports that Hindley is losing a great deal of money to Heathcliff playing cards. Heathcliff is clearly preying on his old enemy, and Hindley is getting worse and worse in Heathcliff's presence. Heathcliff tells Catherine he has no evil reasons for staying at Wuthering Heights. He is paying rent to stay there and only stays with his old enemy because it keeps him closer to Catherine.

9. At the close of Chapter X, what analogy does Nelly use to describe how she felt about Heathcliff's presence at Wuthering Heights?

Nelly compares Heathcliff to a beast saying, "I felt that God had forsaken the stray sheep there to its own wicked wanderings, and an evil beast prowled between it and the fold, waiting his time to spring and destroy." (Pg. 93)

Chapter XI

1. How does Nelly demonstrate her superstition in Chapter XI?

While walking on the moors, Nelly stops at a place where she and Hindley used to play as children. She sees an apparition of Hindley as a young boy and obeys her urge to go check on Wuthering Heights at once, fearing something may be wrong.

2. How does Heathcliff appear to be executing his revenge on Hindley? What other relationship of the novel does the interaction between Hareton and Heathcliff parallel?

Heathcliff seems to be gaining his revenge against Hindley by turning Hareton against his father. Heathcliff is also making efforts to lower Hareton's future social status by preventing his education and teaching the child to behave in an unmannerly way. The relationship between Hareton and Heathcliff, which is father/son in nature, parallels the parental role Hindley had with Heathcliff. The relationships are also similar because, just as Hindley lowered Heathcliff's class status by discontinuing his education and forcing him to live like a servant, Heathcliff is taking the same steps towards Hareton.

3. What provokes the argument between Catherine and Heathcliff? What is Heathcliff inferring when he alleges that Catherine has wronged him?

The argument between Catherine and Heathcliff is provoked by Heathcliff's behavior towards Isabella. Nelly and Catherine see him embracing Isabella. Catherine confronts Heathcliff for his behavior, and he becomes angry with her. When Heathcliff alleges Catherine has wronged him, he is referring to her marriage to Edgar.

4. “The tyrant grinds down his slaves and they don’t turn against him; they crush those beneath them.” (Pg. 98) What does Heathcliff mean by this statement? In his scenario, who are the tyrant, the slaves, and those beneath them?

Heathcliff is explaining to Catherine that he will not take revenge against her specifically. In his scenario, Catherine is the tyrant, Heathcliff is the slave, and those he will crush beneath him are the Lintons.

5. How does Edgar attempt to resolve the situation with Heathcliff, and why does Catherine lock them into the kitchen? Relate the scene to Romanticism and the Gothic novel.

Edgar tells Heathcliff he may not come to Thrushcross Grange any more. Edgar indicates Heathcliff must leave immediately or he will be forced to leave. Catherine locks the men in the kitchen to prevent Edgar from receiving help from his servants. She insists that her husband should have the courage to attack Heathcliff alone or apologize. Edgar and Heathcliff are again juxtaposed as opposites in this scene, a typical aspect of Romanticism literature. Edgar is weak and cowardly, while Heathcliff is strong and brutish. In the Gothic novel genre, it is typical for the heroine to be wooed by both a good and a bad suitor, which occurs for Catherine in this scene. Heathcliff is also a typical of the villain-heroes that appear in the genre.

6. Why does Heathcliff leave without repaying the blow Edgar gave him?

Nelly sees three men coming to remove Heathcliff with weapons. Heathcliff realizes he cannot defend himself against them and escapes.

7. What is Nelly’s role in the dispute? How do you think Brontë intended the reader to feel about her behavior?

After Catherine and Heathcliff’s argument begins, Nelly runs to inform Edgar of the situation. She repeats to him what Catherine and Heathcliff have said. It is her information that leads Edgar to ban Heathcliff from the household and ends in his dispute with Catherine over continuing her friendship with Heathcliff. Brontë seems to intend the reader to question whether Nelly’s behavior was proper or not and ultimately realize Nelly’s limitations as a narrator.

8. Do you think Heathcliff is a sympathetic character or a villain at this point in the novel?

Answers may vary. Although Heathcliff engages in despicable deeds, readers are likely to remain sympathetic to him because his history explains his behavior to some extent. Heathcliff’s desire for revenge stems from his inability to be with his true love, Catherine, and the pain he experiences as a result. Further, the people Heathcliff seeks revenge upon are not particularly sympathetic characters, which may allow the reader’s sympathies to remain with Heathcliff.

9. How does Catherine plan to get back at Edgar? In what way does she feel he has wronged her? What character traits underlie her behavior?

Catherine tells Nelly she will repay Edgar by scaring him. She intends to feign illness and distress, breaking her own heart in order to break his and Heathcliff's. Catherine feels Edgar has wronged her by eavesdropping and then thinking badly of her when she was actually vigorously defending him to Heathcliff. Catherine's selfishness and stubbornness underlie her poor behavior towards Edgar. She refuses to see his point of view and is focused on repaying him for daring to upset her.

10. What ultimatum does Edgar give to Catherine? What is her response, and why do you think she responds this way?

Edgar insists that Catherine cannot be friends with both him and Heathcliff. She must choose between the two. Catherine refuses to answer, believing it is inappropriate for Edgar to be bothering her about the topic when she is clearly very upset. While she is clearly upset, she probably also refuses to respond because it is unthinkable for her to choose between her husband and Heathcliff. As she explained to Nelly before her marriage, she did not think it was possible for her marriage to separate her from Heathcliff.

11. How does Edgar attempt to deter Isabella's affection for Heathcliff?

Edgar warns Isabella that if she continues a relationship with Heathcliff, it will end her relationship with her brother.

Chapter XII

1. How does Nelly compare herself to the other household members? How might her characterization affect the reader's perception of her subsequent behavior?

Nelly declares herself the only sensible person at Thrushcross Grange. Her comment may deflect the blame away from her during the subsequent events of the chapter. While Nelly has a hand in the events, her self-characterization suggests that it is the others who are really at fault because they are behaving insensibly.

2. What effect does Nelly's description of Edgar's studies have on Catherine?

Catherine becomes very agitated in response to learning that Edgar has been reading continually during her absence. She takes his behavior as a sign that he does not care for her. The idea of his studying his books provokes her subsequent bizarre behavior and mood.

3. What behavior on the part of Catherine causes Nelly to begin to believe in the seriousness of her illness?

Nelly becomes alarmed when she witnesses the abrupt and frequent changing of Catherine's moods and the array of expressions passing over her face. She is further disturbed by Catherine's delusional rantings and the confusion over her location.

4. What is the focus of Catherine's rantings? How is the scene characteristic of Romantic writings?

Catherine's rantings are focused on the moors, her relationship with Heathcliff, and her own death. The scene is characteristic of Romantic writings because it contains many common elements of the genre. Catherine exhibits an elevated level of passion and emotion in her reflections on her life. She indicates a desire to rise above the limitations of ordinary human existence, exhibited when she wishes Heathcliff to unite with her in death. The focus on death is also characteristic of Romanticism.

5. "But, Heathcliff, if I dare you now, will you venture? If you do, I'll keep you. I'll not lie there by myself: they may bury me twelve feet deep and throw the church down over me, but I won't rest till you are with me. I never will!" (Pg. 110)

Relate Catherine's declaration above to Lockwood's experience at Wuthering Heights in the beginning of the novel. What did Brontë likely intend the reader to believe?

Catherine's assertion that she will never rest until Heathcliff joins her in death, harkens back to the words of the ghost Lockwood dreamed of at Wuthering Heights. The ghost indicated she had not been at rest for eighteen years. Brontë probably expected the reader to believe Catherine actually became a ghost that has haunted Heathcliff. Likewise, the reader might infer that Lockwood's encounter was not just a dream, but an encounter with the ghost.

6. What does the window seem to represent to Catherine?

The window seems to represent freedom to Catherine and a passage back to Wuthering Heights and the moors. She is reminiscing about her happy childhood times there and wishes to return.

7. Why does Edgar declare Isabella has disowned him at the close of Chapter XII?

Edgar warned Isabella about how her pursuit of Heathcliff would affect their relationship. Because she chose to wed Heathcliff, Edgar feels she has made the choice to disown him; Edgar is not choosing to disown her.

Chapter XIII

1. What will be the likely permanent consequence of Catherine's illness? How does Edgar respond to the diagnosis?

The doctor indicates that, while Catherine's life was spared, her mind will never be the same. Edgar cares for Catherine, regardless of the diagnosis, remaining hopeful that she will be completely restored to her former self.

2. What is the significance of Catherine's pregnancy? What are the possible implications of the sex of the child?

Catherine's pregnancy is significant because it may provide an heir to Edgar's wealth. If the child is a boy, he will be the heir to Edgar's fortune. However, inheritances at this time in England passed to the closest male relative, so if the child is a girl, Edgar's fortune may be inherited by Heathcliff. Heathcliff is the closest male relative because he is Edgar's brother-in-law.

3. How does Nelly explain having kept Isabella's letter?

Nelly explains she kept the letter because all relics of the dead are precious. In doing so, she reveals that Isabella has already died.

4. What do the two questions Isabella poses to Nelly reveal about her situation at Wuthering Heights?

Isabella asks two questions of Nelly in her letter: how did she live at Wuthering Heights and preserve the common sympathies of human nature, and is Mr. Heathcliff a man or a devil? Isabella's questions indicate the dire situation for her at Wuthering Heights. The atmosphere she lives in is obviously abhorrent, and Heathcliff is clearly treating her poorly.

5. Briefly characterize the relationships between the various members of Wuthering Heights upon Isabella's arrival.

Hindley hates Heathcliff and reveals his desire to kill him. Joseph fawns over Hareton because the child is of the old family of the house and encourages all of Hareton's bad habits. Joseph is very rude to Isabella.

6. Why does Heathcliff swear to punish Isabella in the place of Edgar at the close of Chapter XIII?

Heathcliff believes Catherine's illness is Edgar's fault. Since Heathcliff is unable to punish Edgar currently, he swears to punish Isabella instead.

Chapter XIV

1. What reasons does Edgar provide for continuing to spurn Isabella's appeals for forgiveness?

Edgar indicates he has no reason to forgive Isabella. She made her own choice, and he is not angry at her, but sorry that he has lost her. He believes he and his sister are now eternally divided.

2. How has the atmosphere at Wuthering Heights affected Isabella physically? Compare her appearance to Heathcliff's.

Nelly finds Isabella looking weak. The negative atmosphere at Wuthering Heights has influenced Isabella's appearance. Her face is wan and listless, her hair is unkempt, and her clothing is dirty. Heathcliff, in contrast, appears well-kempt and well-mannered. Nelly indicates she had never seen him look better.

3. What further evidence does Heathcliff give of his love and passion for Catherine in Chapter XIV?

Heathcliff declares the superiority of his love of Catherine over Edgar's love of her. He claims he would never have deprived Catherine of a friend she cared for, the way Edgar has done. Heathcliff passionately declares that life for him would be hell after losing Catherine, and he begs and then threatens Nelly to help him see Catherine again.

4. What delusions did Isabella hold regarding Heathcliff's character? Identify reasons for and against feeling sympathetic toward Isabella.

Isabella at first believed Heathcliff was a romantic hero, who would be chivalrously devoted to her. Isabella is sympathetic because Heathcliff is treating her terribly and has made her very unhappy. However, the reader may feel less sympathetic towards Isabella after learning Heathcliff never lied to her about his true feelings. In fact, he hung her dog immediately after they left to elope. It seems Isabella was not deceived into marrying Heathcliff, but stubbornly chose not to believe what was evident about his character, which makes her less sympathetic.

5. "No; you're not fit to be your own guardian, Isabella, now; and I, being your legal protector, must retain you in my custody, however distasteful the obligation may be."
(Pg. 131)

How does the above quote further explain the status of women throughout the novel?

Heathcliff's comment illuminates an aspect of the law regarding women at this time period. When married, a woman's husband became her legal protector and custodian, as if she were one of his children. This legal status of women arises repeatedly throughout Wuthering Heights as decisions about marriage are made and concerns over inheritances arise.

6. How does Heathcliff convince Nelly to carry a letter to Catherine, and what do his actions demonstrate about his character? What is Nelly's rationale for agreeing?

Heathcliff threatens to hold Nelly captive overnight if she will not take a letter to Catherine. He says he will create a great stir at the Grange by fighting his way in to see Catherine if Nelly does not help him. His threat to imprison Nelly demonstrates Heathcliff's cruel nature and willingness to disobey the law to achieve his revenge. Nelly says Heathcliff forced her to comply through his threat. She also hoped agreeing to take the letter would prevent another explosive scene and possibly cause a positive change in Catherine's mental state.

Chapter XV

1. Whom does Catherine blame for her impending death? What emotions seem to drive her harsh words?

Catherine says Heathcliff and Edgar have broken her heart, and Heathcliff has "killed" her. Catherine seems to be overtaken with vindictiveness and bitterness as she speaks to Heathcliff.

2. What is Catherine's conception of what her existence will be after death?

Catherine imagines her death will send her soul out into nature, and she'll still be part of the world. However, she also indicates she will not be at peace when she dies, by implication, because she and Heathcliff will be separated.

3. How does Heathcliff seem to be not of the human species in this scene?

Nelly describes Heathcliff as behaving like a mad dog, full of greedy jealousy, while he holds Catherine. Nelly feels as if she is in the company of a creature not of the human race.

4. Who does Heathcliff blame for Catherine's impending death? Is he able to offer his forgiveness?

Heathcliff blames Catherine for her own impending death. He says he can forgive Catherine for destroying his life, but not for destroying her own.

5. Identify typical elements of Romanticism that are present in this scene.

This scene contains a constant elevated emotion level and passion on the part of Catherine and Heathcliff, which is a typical element of Romanticism. There is strong focus on death, and Catherine exhibits a desire to rise above the limitations of ordinary human existence by hoping to prevent a separation between her and Heathcliff even in death.

6. Explain Nelly's agitation at Heathcliff's refusal to leave. What does she fear will be the consequences if Edgar finds him there?

When Heathcliff refuses to leave, Nelly becomes agitated. Presumably, she fears Edgar will be extremely angry with her for allowing Heathcliff in and might fire her.

Chapter XVI

1. What is the emerging pattern of deaths in the novel?

Catherine is the third mother to die in the novel, after Mrs. Earnshaw and Hindley's wife, Frances. Catherine is the second woman to die as a result of childbirth.

2. How does Heathcliff respond to the news of Catherine's death? Is his character sympathetic at this time?

Heathcliff passionately declares he hopes Catherine is not at peace and that she haunts him for the rest of his life. He is devastated at her loss and hits his head against a tree in anguish. Heathcliff is sympathetic to some degree because of the obvious despair he is suffering. However, his wish to have Catherine haunt him, rather than be at peace, is selfish, and his violence to himself is somewhat disturbing.

3. What final attempt does Heathcliff make to compete with Edgar? How does his attempt again emphasize how the two men are opposites?

Heathcliff removes the lock of Edgar's hair that is in a locket around Catherine's neck and replaces it with a lock of his own hair. Nelly discovers the two locks and compares them. Edgar's hair is light, while Heathcliff's hair is black, and Nelly twists them together and puts them both in the locket.

4. What is the significance of where Catherine is buried? What does it reveal about Edgar?

Catherine is not buried at the chapel, with the Linton descendents, or with her own descendents, but out in the open air on the moor. Her burial site demonstrates that Edgar respected his wife's wishes and understood where she wanted to be buried.

Chapter XVII

1. How does the weather again play into the events of the story?

Just after Catherine's burial, the weather changes from fair to rain and then snow for the next month. The snowy weather puts an end to the summery weather they had been experiencing.

2. Contrast Isabella's condition on arrival at the Grange with her demeanor the last time Nelly saw her. How has she changed?

The last time Nelly saw Isabella she was downtrodden and listless due to her conditions at Wuthering Heights. When Isabella arrives at the Grange, she is exuberant and giddy as a result of her escape.

3. Why does Isabella feel certain Heathcliff won't chase her?

She believes Heathcliff's hatred for her is so strong that he will not bother to chase her through England.

4. How does Isabella react to Hindley's plan? Is her response surprising? What does her response demonstrate about her character?

Isabella refuses to remain quiet and allow Heathcliff to walk into Hindley's plan to kill him. She warns Heathcliff of Hindley's plan to kill him. Her response is surprising because Heathcliff has treated her so terribly she has good reason to allow him to be killed. Her refusal to aid in murder, even of someone she hates, demonstrates her good and honest character.

5. Is Heathcliff still sympathetic during Chapter XVII? What can you infer about why he is so brutal at this particular time?

Heathcliff's violent beating of Hindley is repulsive, particularly because Hindley is already badly injured when Heathcliff continues to beat him. Heathcliff's rough treatment of Isabella also makes him unsympathetic during this chapter. It is likely that Heathcliff's excessive violence is brought on by his despair over the recent loss of Catherine.

6. What is Heathcliff's attitude toward his child?

Heathcliff does not pursue Isabella and try to take his child, but he warns Ellen that he will take the child when he wants it.

7. What is the difference in the wishes Edgar and Heathcliff have for Catherine's soul?

Edgar does not wish Catherine's soul to haunt him the way Heathcliff wants. Edgar comes to terms with his grief and hopes Catherine has gone on to heaven.

8. What similar experiences have Edgar and Hindley endured? How does Nelly explain the difference in their reactions?

Both Edgar and Hindley were both loving husbands and fathers, but lost their wives. Nelly attributes their different reactions to their respective characters. Hindley is a worse and weaker man than Edgar. Edgar trusted God during his troubles, and God comforted him.

9. Compare how Hindley's death affects Nelly to how Catherine's death affected her. Is there any significance in the difference?

Nelly cries over Hindley's death as if he were her own brother. She is a great deal more distraught over Hindley's death than she was over Catherine's. The difference in her responses further demonstrates Nelly's dislike of Catherine, which again calls into question her perspective as a narrator.

10. What are the financial circumstances of Hindley's death and the consequences for Hareton?

Hindley had mortgaged all of his land to Heathcliff in exchange for cash to fuel his gambling habit. Hareton, who should have become a wealthy man when his father died, was reduced to the status of a poor servant and completely dependent on his father's enemy, Heathcliff.

11. "Now, my bonny lad, you are mine! And we'll see if one tree won't grow as crooked as another, with the same wind to twist it!" (Pg. 159)

What does Heathcliff mean? How does he intend to dispute Edgar's claim to the child?

Heathcliff intends to destroy Hareton's life and character in the same way he destroyed Hindley's. Heathcliff tells Nelly that if Edgar takes Hareton, he will retrieve his own child from Isabella.

12. Why is it ironic that Heathcliff has become the master of Wuthering Heights?

It is ironic that Heathcliff becomes the master of Wuthering Heights because he arrived at the home as a poor foreigner. After Hindley lowered Heathcliff's class status so completely, it is remarkable that Heathcliff has now become the master of the home.

Chapter XVIII

1. What characteristics of her mother and father does Cathy possess?

Cathy has her mother's eyes, high spirits, and capacity for intense attachments. The child has her father's fair skin and hair, small features, sensitivity, and gentleness.

2. What are the effects of Edgar's confining Cathy so completely to the Grange?

Cathy grows up completely ignorant of the existence of Wuthering Heights and her relatives there. Her confinement to the Grange creates an intense curiosity and desire in Cathy to explore the country more.

3. Why is Edgar drawn away from the Grange?

Edgar leaves the Grange to visit Isabella. His sister is dying and wishes Edgar to become the guardian of her son, Linton.

4. How do Cathy and Hareton interact before Nelly arrives? What relationship from their parents' generation does the pair seem to mimic?

Cathy and Hareton seem very fond of each other before Nelly arrives. Their adventure together on the moor reminds the reader of the relationship between the young Catherine and Heathcliff.

5. What personality traits does Hareton reveal when addressed as a servant by Cathy? How does his class status parallel that of Heathcliff's?

Hareton reveals his pride and fiery temper. Like Heathcliff when he was young, Hareton's class status is ambiguous. He is born into a good family, but has been raised as a servant. Therefore, Hareton appears to be of the lower class, but carries the pride of an upper-class person.

6. In what way does Nelly focus on self-preservation during this chapter? Are her actions understandable or contemptible?

Nelly coerces Cathy into keeping the visit to Wuthering Heights a secret by telling the girl Edgar may fire her if he finds out. Nelly's behavior is somewhat contemptible because she is again deceiving her employer, Edgar, in order to conceal her dereliction of duties.

Chapter XIX

1. Characterize Linton Heathcliff. Which of his relatives does he resemble? How does Cathy respond to her cousin?

Linton is an irritable, sickly, and demanding boy. Linton closely resembles his uncle, Edgar. Cathy is at first disappointed by Linton because he is so irritable and unfriendly. However, once she begins to coddle him, Linton responds well to her, and Cathy is pleased with him.

2. What reasons does Edgar offer to Joseph in an attempt to allow Linton to remain at Thrushcross Grange? How does Joseph regard those reasons?

Edgar explains Isabella's wish for Linton to remain under his guardianship. He further comments on the child's precarious health. Joseph indicates that Heathcliff does not care what Isabella wanted and intends to take custody of Linton.

Chapter XX

1. How does Nelly explain away Linton's lack of knowledge about his father?

Nelly does not reveal the true reasons for Isabella and Heathcliff's separation to Linton. Instead, she tells Linton his parents lived apart because Heathcliff's work kept him in the North and Isabella's heath required her to live in the South. She further explains that Isabella never discussed Heathcliff because she was afraid Linton would be upset and want to see his father.

2. What is Heathcliff's behavior and attitude toward his son? What purpose will Linton serve for him? How does this purpose fit in with a primary theme of the novel?

Heathcliff is contemptuous towards his son. He refers to Linton as "it," and expresses his displeasure over Linton's weak, feminine appearance. Heathcliff reveals that Linton is useful to him because the child is Edgar's heir. Heathcliff hopes to secure inheritance of the Grange via Linton. Heathcliff's plan for Linton fits in with the primary theme of revenge. He will use Linton in furtherance of his revenge plan against Edgar.

3. Characterize Nelly's behavior in coercing Linton to travel to Wuthering Heights and remain there. How do you think Brontë intended the reader to feel about Nelly's actions?

Nelly deceives Linton into believing his situation at Wuthering Heights will be more pleasant than it actually will be. She also cruelly tries to sneak out and leave Linton without his noticing. Brontë probably intended the reader to be critical of Nelly's actions because it is clear Nelly is behaving dishonestly and manipulating the boy.

Chapter XXI

1. What conditions does Linton live under at Wuthering Heights according to servants there?

Although Heathcliff clearly dislikes his son, he does not treat the child poorly according to the servants. Heathcliff is providing Linton with lessons, and Linton spends his time in the parlour or lying in bed all day. The servants describe how selfish and troublesome Linton is. He complains frequently and demands to have things exactly as he wants.

2. What characteristics of Cathy's lead to her encounter with Heathcliff?

Cathy is strong-willed and exuberant, which leads her to walk ahead of Nelly and ignore requests to stop. Cathy consequently encounters Heathcliff before Nelly reaches her.

3. What is Heathcliff's purpose in having Cathy visit Wuthering Heights? Is it odd that he confides his goals in Nelly?

Heathcliff hopes Cathy and Linton will fall in love because, in the event of Edgar and Linton's deaths, their marriage would secure Heathcliff as heir to the Grange. It seems odd that Heathcliff confides his goals to Nelly because she works for the object of Heathcliff's revenge, Edgar. Perhaps Heathcliff considers her an ally because he grew up with Nelly.

4. "If Linton died," I answered, "and his life is quite uncertain, Catherine would be the heir."
"No, she would not," he said. "There is no clause in the will to secure it so: his property would go to me: but, to prevent disputes, I desire their union, and am resolved to bring it about." (Pg. 182)

What is the meaning of this exchange between Nelly and Heathcliff? How might Heathcliff know what is contained in Edgar's will? What literary device is employed?

Nelly and Heathcliff are discussing who would inherit Thrushcross Grange in the event of Edgar and Linton's deaths. Heathcliff asserts that there is no provision in Edgar's will that would ensure his property would pass to Catherine. It seems bizarre that Edgar's enemy, Heathcliff, knows the contents of the will. Heathcliff's knowledge foreshadows the revelation later that Heathcliff has bought off Edgar's attorney.

5. What complex feelings does Heathcliff have towards Hareton? Why are his expectations concerning the boy satisfied?

Heathcliff can sympathize with the Hareton's low social position, despite his responsibility for it. Heathcliff was in the same position as Hareton when he was growing up. Heathcliff is satisfied by Hareton because he has shaped the naturally intelligent boy into an ignorant heathen. Heathcliff would not be so satisfied if Hareton had been born a fool.

6. What metaphor does Heathcliff use to compare Hareton and Linton? How does Heathcliff delight in this comparison?

Heathcliff calls Hareton gold that has been used as paving stones and calls Linton tin that has been polished up like silver. Heathcliff delights in the fact that he has removed Hareton's superior qualities and raised up Linton's inferior ones. Heathcliff sees his work with Hareton as revenge on Hindley.

7. What characteristics of Heathcliff does Linton exhibit towards Hareton? How does Nelly feel towards Linton?

Linton demonstrates he can be cruel like Heathcliff when taunting Hareton. Nelly witnesses Linton's abuse of Hareton and begins to dislike Linton.

8. Consider Nelly's handling of the love letters. Where do her loyalties and priorities seem to lie?

Nelly seems more loyal to Cathy than to Edgar by keeping Cathy's secret. Because of the problems that have arisen from deceiving Edgar in the past, it seems like Nelly should be more loyal to her master.

Chapter XXII

1. How has the end of Cathy's romance affected the girl? What compounds its effect?

Cathy becomes sad and listless after her romance with Linton ends. Her sadness is compounded by Edgar's illness, which leaves her with no companion but Nelly.

2. Why does Cathy cry during her walk? How do her concerns fit in with a theme of the novel? How does Nelly calm her?

Cathy cries because she is afraid her father is dying. Her concern for her father's life fits in with the theme of death and dying that permeates Wuthering Heights. Nelly calms Cathy by assuring her Edgar is not dying and will not be anytime soon.

3. In what way does Heathcliff provide further evidence of his manipulative and vengeful nature during Chapter XXII?

Heathcliff plays on the feelings Cathy has, and she is vulnerable to his manipulations. In order to further his vengeance plot against Edgar, Heathcliff convinces Cathy she has broken Linton's heart and seriously impaired his health.

4. What does Cathy persuade Nelly to accompany her in doing? How does Nelly's treatment of Cathy compare with her treatment of the child's mother, Catherine? What accounts for the difference?

Cathy persuades Nelly to accompany her to Wuthering Heights in order to check on Linton's health. Nelly is much more sympathetic to and indulgent of Cathy than she was of the girl's mother. The difference in Nelly's treatment of the two Catherine's could be attributed to many reasons. Nelly obviously disliked Catherine, perhaps because Catherine was harsh with Nelly, or because Nelly was jealous of Catherine. Nelly has raised Cathy like her own child, therefore, she cares much more for the girl.

Chapter XXIII

1. Analyze how Linton is becoming involved in his father's plans for revenge against Edgar. How is he able to manipulate Cathy?

Linton repeats how Heathcliff taunts him for being worthless and saying, "if he had been in my place, he would be more the master of the Grange than your father by this time." (Pg. 200) Heathcliff has therefore suggested to Linton that he ought to pursue possession of the Grange. Linton also suggests marriage to Cathy. Linton is able to manipulate Cathy by playing up his illness and blaming her for worsening his condition.

2. How do the disputes of Cathy and Linton's parents affect the pair? Is the way their argument ends surprising?

Cathy and Linton repeat to each other what their feuding parents have said. Cathy is influenced by her father's negative feelings for Heathcliff, and she insults him to Linton, while Linton responds by repeating what Heathcliff has told him about the relationship between the elder Catherine and Edgar. Cathy becomes so angry with Linton for his talk of her parents that she pushes his chair. Her action is slightly surprising because Cathy has never behaved in a violent way up until this point of the novel.

3. In what ways do Nelly and Catherine's opinions of Linton and his illness differ?

Catherine loves Linton and expresses her fondness for him when he is good. Nelly does not like him because he is bad-tempered. Nelly believes Linton is very ill and will not live past twenty years of age. Catherine is upset by her comment and believes, because Linton is younger than she, that he will live as long.

4. "And he'll soon do as I direct him, with some slight coaxing. He's a pretty little darling when he's good. I'd make such a pet of him, if he were mine." (Pg. 204)

How does Cathy's attitude towards Linton, as expressed in the above quote, compare with her mother's relationship with Edgar?

Cathy seems to desire control over Linton, planning to train him to do as she says. She is fond of his appearance. The elder Catherine also sought to exercise control over her husband in their relationship, and he often did as she directed. The relationships between the two couples are similar in that way.

Chapter XXIV

1. When do descriptions of the English countryside, a common element of Romanticism literature, become prominent in Chapter XXIV?

Linton and Cathy discuss what the best way to spend a hot summer day is and provide detailed descriptions of the English countryside.

2. What cruelty does Cathy engage in towards Hareton? What are her true feelings toward him? Which relationship of their parents' generation does theirs parallel in some ways?

Because Cathy ridiculed him for not being able to read before, Hareton demonstrates to her that he can now read his name over the door. Instead of praising his endeavor, Cathy further criticizes him for not knowing his numbers. Cathy seemed to like Hareton during their first meeting, but now seems to despise him. The relationship between Cathy and Hareton seems to parallel the relationship between the elder Catherine and Heathcliff. The younger couple mimics the older couple's difference in social class.

3. What violence does Cathy witness at Wuthering Heights? What are the probable underlying reasons for the attack? Who does Linton believe is to blame?

Cathy sees Hareton violently throw Linton out of the common room into the kitchen. Linton becomes so agitated that he begins to cough blood. It seems that Hareton attacks Linton because he is jealous of the relationship between Linton and Cathy, and he feels excluded. Linton blames Cathy for Hareton's behavior.

4. To what does Linton attribute his mistreatment of Cathy? Why is Heathcliff happy about Cathy's attitude toward the mistreatment?

Linton says he doubts himself because Heathcliff criticizes him so cruelly and upsets him so much that he behaves badly. Cathy tells Heathcliff to stay out of Linton's mistreatment of her, indicating it was her business. Heathcliff is happy Cathy does not seem upset over Linton's bad treatment of her.

5. How does Nelly's behavior in this chapter compare and contrast with her behavior in similar situations earlier in the novel? Why do you suppose she reacts the way she does to these particular events?

Instead of keeping Cathy's secret from Edgar, as she did when Cathy was secretly writing to Linton, Nelly immediately discloses Cathy's behavior to Edgar. Her behavior in this scene is reminiscent of when she alerted Edgar about the quarrel between Catherine and Heathcliff during Chapter XI, which resulted in Catherine's illness. It is unclear why Nelly chooses this time to be honest with Edgar. Perhaps she feels Cathy's behavior has been especially egregious this time.

6. Who serves as the primary narrator of Chapter XXIV? Explain how the narrative form of this chapter fits in with the overall narrative structure of the novel.

Cathy serves as the primary narrator of Chapter XXIV. This chapter is one of the few where another layer is added to the narrative. Typically, Nelly describes her first-hand account of events to Lockwood and Lockwood records them for the reader. In this chapter, Nelly does not witness the events; rather, she is quoting Cathy's description. She in turn reports Cathy's account to Lockwood, who records it for the reader. This chapter exhibits the nature of the frame narrative, which contains multiple layers.

Chapter XXV

1. How does Chapter XXV establish the time frame of the narrative? What is surprising about the timing of the events Nelly is currently describing?

At the onset of Chapter XXV, Nelly discloses that the events she is now describing happened just over a year ago. The proximity of the action to the present time is probably surprising to the reader because, until this point, the reader has had a sense that the action occurred far in the past.

2. In what way does Nelly hope Lockwood will become involved in the other characters' lives? Why does Lockwood doubt the idea?

Nelly reveals she suspects Lockwood has romantic feelings for Cathy and suggests the two might marry. Lockwood doubts this will happen because he does not believe Cathy would love him back, and he is not bold enough to pursue her. He also indicates Yorkshire is not his home, and he will want to return to the "busy world" soon.

3. What are Edgar's feelings regarding death? What are his primary concerns regarding Cathy?

For a long time, Edgar has looked forward to his death and being buried with his wife. However, now that his death is approaching, he does not feel ready. He is most concerned with how Cathy will cope with the loss of her father after he dies. He'd be willing to let her marry Linton, even if it resulted in Heathcliff inheriting his property, if Linton would be able to comfort Cathy.

4. Why does Edgar see it as favorable for Cathy to marry Linton in financial terms? How would knowledge of Linton's illness alter his opinion? How is Heathcliff's plan for revenge threatened by his son's impending death?

Linton is Edgar's heir to Thrushcross Grange, and Edgar sees a marriage between Cathy and Linton as beneficial because Cathy may then be able to remain in her home. However, if Edgar knew how sick Linton was, he might not want Cathy to marry him because Heathcliff would be Linton's heir. If Linton dies before Edgar, Heathcliff no longer will have a claim to Thrushcross Grange via his son.

5. What foreshadowing is present at the close of Chapter XXV?

Nelly foreshadows the terrible treatment Linton receives from Heathcliff, the young man's impending death, and Heathcliff's determination to inherit Thrushcross Grange at the close of Chapter XXV.

Chapter XXVI

1. Compare Linton's current condition to his previous condition. How does he behave oddly?

Linton appears to be much sicker than the last time Cathy saw him. As Nelly observes, Linton does not behave in his usual peevish, demanding way. Rather, he behaves in a listless apathetic manner. To Nelly, his behavior suggests the self-absorbed moroseness of an invalid.

2. What does Cathy guess is the reason Linton insists on visiting with her? What hints does Linton give Cathy that helps her reach this conclusion?

Cathy guesses by Linton's behavior and comments that Heathcliff has compelled him to visit with Cathy against his will. Linton suggests Heathcliff is forcing him to meet with Cathy by saying, "And—and, if you did meet my father, and he asked you about me, don't lead him to suppose that I've been extremely silent and stupid: don't look sad and downcast, as you are doing—he'll be angry," and "Don't provoke him against me, Catherine, for he is very hard." (Pg. 221)

Chapter XXVII

1. How is Edgar deceived about the true nature of Linton's character?

Because Linton's letters to Edgar do not reveal his poor character, Edgar guesses that Linton takes after him in personality as well as looks. Nelly does not correct his impression, feeling it is better not to upset him during his illness with something he cannot change.

2. Why does Linton's behavior cause Cathy to grow so impatient with him?

Cathy is upset Linton has again requested to meet with her when he obviously does not wish to see her. Cathy is angry she has been called from her sick father's bedside when Linton is clearly taking no pleasure from their meeting.

3. What would be the implications for Heathcliff of Linton dying before Edgar?

If Linton dies before Edgar, and he has not married Cathy, then Heathcliff will have no legal claim to Thrushcross Grange.

4. In what way does Cathy challenge Heathcliff's power? What do her actions reveal about her character?

After Heathcliff imprisons Cathy and Nelly in Wuthering Heights, Cathy declares she is not afraid of Heathcliff. She challenges Heathcliff's power by scratching and biting at his hand to get the key from him. Cathy's actions reveal her bravery and boldness.

5. How do Heathcliff's vengeful actions in Chapter XXVII differ from those committed before? What continues to drive him? How may readers' feelings toward Heathcliff change during this chapter?

Up until Chapter XXVII, Heathcliff has not committed any apparently illegal acts to execute his revenge, but in this chapter he imprisons Nelly and Cathy in Wuthering Heights. Heathcliff is apparently still driven by his hatred toward Edgar for taking Catherine away from him. Heathcliff reaches the height of his cruelty in Chapter XXVII, by refusing his dying son medical attention and imprisoning two women; therefore, readers might become less sympathetic towards him.

6. How does Brontë first arouse the reader's sympathy for Linton and then make his character unsympathetic in Chapter XXVII?

During Linton's meeting with Cathy on the heath, he is very ill and terrified of his cruel father, which arouses sympathy for him in the readers. However, once Linton has served Heathcliff's will and his life is out of danger, he is so calm, selfish, and unsympathetic to Cathy's distress over her dying father that his wretched character is revealed, and he becomes unsympathetic.

7. What is the tone of the story once Cathy and Nelly are inside Wuthering Heights?

The tone of the story once Cathy and Nelly are imprisoned becomes anxious and desperate.

8. "I seated myself in a chair, and rocked to and fro, passing harsh judgment on my many derelictions of duty; from which, it struck me then, all the misfortunes of my employers sprang." (Pg. 231)

To what extent does this statement seem true or false? Has Nelly played a significant role in the misfortunes of her employers?

Answers may vary. Nelly's actions have played significant roles in the misfortunes of her employers, particularly her behavior in Chapter XI that culminated in Catherine's illness. While Nelly's choices impacted the sequence of events, the other characters still seem ultimately at fault for their own misfortunes. Catherine ultimately brings on her own despair by marrying Edgar instead of staying true to her feelings and marrying Heathcliff.

Chapter XXVIII

1. What rumor has been spread regarding Nelly and Cathy's disappearance?

Zillah reports that the villagers are saying both Nelly and Cathy were lost in Blackhorse Marsh, and Heathcliff has been taking care of them.

2. What surprising behavior does Linton engage in towards Cathy? What character traits does Linton reveal through his behavior?

Linton is assisting in keeping Cathy from going to Edgar's deathbed and treating her coldly. He also expresses his happiness that Edgar will die soon, making him owner of all of Cathy's possessions. Linton even demands Cathy give over her locket containing pictures of her mother and father, insisting they are also his. Linton reveals how cruel and selfish he truly is by his attitude and actions towards Cathy.

3. Why does Edgar endeavor to change his will, and how does he intend to alter it? Why does the attorney, Mr. Green, not come until after Edgar's death?

Edgar endeavors to change his will because he realizes Heathcliff's purpose in forcing the marriage of Cathy and Linton is to secure Edgar's personal property and estate. Edgar intends to alter the will by creating a trust for Cathy, which is the only way to protect her fortune from her husband's inheriting it. Heathcliff has bribed Mr. Green not to respond to Edgar's requests to change his will, which is why Mr. Green does not arrive until after Edgar's death.

4. Describe how Cathy finally escapes. How does the manner of her escape fit into the motif of windows in the novel and relate back to Lockwood's dreams?

Cathy's anguish finally persuaded Linton to help her escape. He left Cathy's bedroom door unlocked, and she escapes through the window in her mother's former bedroom. Cathy's escape from her imprisonment in Wuthering Heights through a window is consistent with the motif of windows as a symbol of freedom throughout the novel. It is also significant that she escapes through the same window where Lockwood encountered the ghost of the elder Catherine in Chapter III.

Chapter XXIX

1. What are Heathcliff's plans for Cathy? Why will he not allow her to stay at Thrushcross Grange?

Heathcliff plans to have Cathy return with him and live at Wuthering Heights. He refuses to allow her to remain at Thrushcross Grange because he asserts that Cathy must work for her shelter and food at Wuthering Heights. Heathcliff is also seeking to make more money by renting out the Grange.

2. According to Cathy, how will she and Linton have revenge against Heathcliff?

Cathy explains she and Linton will have revenge against Heathcliff because they have each other to love, and they know no one loves Heathcliff. She asserts that his cruelty arises from his great misery and loneliness.

3. How does Heathcliff demonstrate the extremity of his obsession with Catherine? What are his own burial plans? Relate both to Romanticism and the Gothic novel.

Heathcliff demonstrates his extreme obsession with Catherine by requesting the sexton dig up her grave. He opens her coffin to see her and removes the side of her coffin opposite where Linton lies. Heathcliff bribes the sexton to remove the corresponding side of his own coffin when he is buried there, so that he and Catherine might dissolve into one. Heathcliff's strong interest in death, exhibited in this scene is characteristic of both Romanticism and the Gothic novel. Furthermore, his behavior of disturbing the dead is also a taboo characteristic of the Gothic novel.

4. How has Catherine's ghost continuously disappointed Heathcliff? Relate Heathcliff's experiences with Catherine's ghost to Lockwood's.

Heathcliff reveals he has been tortured by Catherine's ghost since her death because the ghost reveals its presence to him, but, no matter how much Heathcliff begs, it will not show itself. Heathcliff describes an occurrence in Catherine's former chamber very similar to Lockwood's experience. He describes Catherine's ghost outside the window. The similarity of Heathcliff's experience to Lockwood's suggests Catherine's ghost actually exists, Lockwood's encounter with it was not just a dream.

Chapter XXX

1. Contrast Zillah's attitude towards her duties as a housekeeper to Nelly's.

Zillah never disobeys her master and, even if she thinks Mr. Heathcliff is wrong, she feels it is not her place to give him advice or get involved. Zillah's attitude provides a stark contrast to Nelly's behavior as a housekeeper. Nelly disobeys her masters on numerous occasions and often meddles in their affairs and gives advice. Up until this point, the reader might have thought all housekeepers behave like Nelly, but Zillah provides an alternate example.

2. What are the financial implications of Linton's death? What effect do they have on Heathcliff's revenge plot?

Linton's will leaves everything to Heathcliff, which Heathcliff probably forced his son to do. Cathy is left completely destitute. Heathcliff has achieved his ultimate revenge goals of inheriting all of Hindley and Edgar's wealth.

3. How does Zillah's relationship with Cathy and Hareton in Chapter XXX parallel Nelly's relationship with the elder Catherine and Heathcliff?

Like the way Nelly felt towards the elder Catherine, Zillah believes Cathy is too proud and should be brought down a bit. In a similar way to how Nelly assisted Heathcliff in grooming himself for Catherine, Zillah assists Hareton in cleaning himself up for Cathy's company.

4. What are the dynamics of Cathy and Hareton's relationship?

Hareton clearly cares for Cathy. He makes his best efforts to be kind to her; however, Cathy is angry at him for not assisting her while Linton was ill, and she proudly spurns his attempts at kindness. Hareton responds defiantly to any insult from Cathy and often responds explosively.

5. "At first, on hearing this account from Zillah, I determined to leave my situation, take a cottage, and get Catherine to come and live with me: but Mr. Heathcliff would as soon permit that as he would set up Hareton in an independent house; and I can see no remedy, at present unless she could marry again; and that scheme it does not come within my province to arrange." (Pg. 249)

Consider the context of the above quote. Why are Nelly's words significant in light of her audience?

Nelly states the above quote to Mr. Lockwood. She sees the only possible salvation for Cathy to be in a new marriage. Nelly seems to be slyly suggesting or hoping that Lockwood might pursue Cathy.

Chapter XXXI

1. What seem to be Hareton's motives for improving his reading skills? What is ironic about Cathy's response to them?

Hareton is motivated to improve his reading skills because Cathy makes fun of him for his inability to read. He hopes to gain her respect by improving himself. Yet, as Hareton works at his reading, Cathy does not gain respect for him. Instead, she ironically makes fun of him for his mistakes and mispronunciations.

2. What disturbs Heathcliff about Hareton's appearance? What does Heathcliff mean when he says he might "thwart" himself?

Heathcliff indicates that Hareton resembles Catherine more and more as time goes on. Heathcliff says he may thwart himself, implying he may not be able to continue his ill treatment of Hareton because the boy reminds Heathcliff so much of Catherine.

3. How does Lockwood again exhibit his conceitedness? What does he reflect on while he leaves Wuthering Heights?

Lockwood esteems himself to be part of a "better class of people" than Catherine's usual company, but he theorizes she is unable to recognize his superiority due to her constant companions. As Lockwood rides away, he thinks it would have been better than a fairy tale if he and Mrs. Heathcliff fell in love and traveled to the city together.

Chapter XXXII

1. How does the opening of this chapter remind the reader of an earlier chapter? What is the intended effect of the opening?

Chapter XXXII begins with the date of Lockwood's diary entry, which is the same way the novel began in Chapter I. The effect of the dated opening is to give the reader a sense of the novel coming full circle to a closing and to indicate the amount of time that Lockwood has been absent.

2. What signs of change does Lockwood encounter upon his arrival at Wuthering Heights?

Lockwood and the reader know something has changed at Wuthering Heights because the gate is not locked as it usually is, and it smells pleasantly of flowers and fruit. The doors and windows are also open.

3. How does Cathy endeavor to obtain Hareton's forgiveness? What earlier scene of the novel involved a request for forgiveness, and how do the two scenes compare?

Cathy seeks Hareton's forgiveness at first by simply asking him to be her cousin now, in spite of her prior bad behavior. He refuses at first, convinced she hates him. Cathy then gives him a gift, which is a book. She promises, if he accepts it, that she will teach him to read it without teasing him about his mistakes. Hareton forgives her and accepts the book. This scene parallels Heathcliff and Catherine's final meeting, during which Catherine asks for Heathcliff's forgiveness. Heathcliff cannot fully forgive her, which contrasts with Hareton's forgiveness of the young Cathy. The difference is a hopeful indicator that Cathy and Hareton's relationship will not follow the model of Catherine and Heathcliff's.

Chapter XXXIII

1. How does Heathcliff learn about Hareton and Cathy's friendship? What is his response, and why does he appear to respond in that way?

Cathy discloses their friendship during a fight with Heathcliff at breakfast. When she refuses to obey him, Heathcliff at first grabs Cathy's hair and moves to strike her. However, he stops after intently gazing into Cathy's face, seeming to lose his composure. It is likely he stopped himself because he was reminded of Catherine when he looked into her daughter's face.

2. What feelings does the sight of Cathy and Hareton reading together arouse in Heathcliff? In what way has Heathcliff changed?

Heathcliff appears agitated by the sight of Cathy and Hareton together because they both resemble Catherine. He discloses to Nelly that now is the perfect time to complete his revenge against Hindley and Edgar, by destroying their children's lives, but he has lost his enjoyment for the revenge. Heathcliff's passion for revenge and destruction finally seems to be exhausted. He is distracted by a peculiar change that is coming over him.

3. What particularly does Hareton represent to Heathcliff?

Heathcliff sees Hareton as an embodiment of his own youth and a representation of all he has endured due to his love of Catherine. The sight of Hareton reminds Heathcliff of his immortal love, his degradation, his happiness, and his anguish.

Chapter XXXIV

1. What can the reader infer about Heathcliff's experience on the moors when he was out all night? How does the narrative form restrict the reader's knowledge of the event?

Heathcliff only cryptically reveals that he is now on the threshold of heaven after being on the threshold of hell. The reader can infer that Heathcliff's heaven would be to die and be reunited with Catherine, so he must have received some sign that his death is impending. He also seems to be distracted by a ghost, which is restricting him from eating. The first-person, framed narrative form does not allow the reader to know what happened to Heathcliff while out all night because Nelly was not with Heathcliff, and he won't tell her what happened.

2. What does Heathcliff's rejection of Nelly's suggestion for a minister signify? What other matter does he raise in response?

Heathcliff's rejection of Nelly's suggestion demonstrates his lack of religious beliefs. His entire life has been focused on his love for Catherine, and the only after-life he seeks is to be reunited with her. Religious conceptions of heaven have no value or attraction for him. In response to Nelly's suggestion, Heathcliff reminds her of the way he wants to be buried. He particularly wants her to ensure that the sexton obeys Heathcliff's directions to have his coffin joined with Catherine's.

3. What further suggestions of the supernatural occur upon Heathcliff's death?

The people in the area believe that Heathcliff walks about the moors, near the church, and even inside Wuthering Heights. Joseph claims to have seen him and Catherine every rainy night, and Nelly relates how he she met a young boy on the moors who was crying because he had just seen the ghosts.

4. How do windows and the weather arise again as a motif in the final chapter?

Nelly comes to Heathcliff's chamber the morning of his death because she sees his window open from outside, and she is concerned because it is raining. She finds Heathcliff dead in his bed, soaked with rain coming from the open window. Windows are repeatedly a sign of freedom for the characters, and Heathcliff seems to have escaped to his heaven with Catherine through the window. The rain at the time of his death marks a significant occurrence at Wuthering Heights and the extreme emotion of its occupants.

5. What final comments do Nelly and Lockwood make regarding the dead? How do they seem to fit in with the final events of the novel?

Nelly indicates she believes the dead are at peace. Lockwood, likewise, says it is hard to imagine Heathcliff and Catherine are not at peace at their tranquil gravesite. Their comments seem at odds with the final events of the novel. Heathcliff appears to be conversing with the ghost of Catherine, which has not been at rest for eighteen years, before his death. The sightings of ghosts on the moors and the nature of the tumultuous relationship between Heathcliff and Catherine seem to suggest the two are not at peace.

6. Consider the impending marriage of Hareton and Cathy. What is the significance of the union? How does it reflect on the rest of the novel?

The marriage of Hareton and Cathy is significant because it represents the beginning of a new era for the two households of Wuthering Heights and Thrushcross Grange. Hareton and Cathy combine the best qualities of the inhabitants of the two houses, and their union seems to right the wrongs of the previous generation. They are the doubles of the elder Heathcliff and Catherine, but Hareton and Cathy will not experience the anguish and devastation of their doubles. It seems that the terrible history of Wuthering Heights and Thrushcross Grange will not repeat itself through the happy couple.

Wuthering Heights

Advanced Placement in English Literature and Composition Teaching Unit

Study Guide Student Copy

Chapter I

1. Where and when does the story begin? How do these aspects of the setting inform your reading?
2. Briefly describe the landscape and the architecture found in the first chapter. Relate them to both the Gothic novel literary genre and Romanticism.
3. What inscription over the door does Mr. Lockwood notice, and why does he not question Mr. Heathcliff about it? What effect might this detail have on the reader?
4. What is the narrative point of view of the first chapter?
5. What can the reader expect from a story told from this point of view?

6. Characterize Mr. Lockwood. What is his present situation?
7. Why does Mr. Lockwood describe his location as a “perfect misanthropist’s heaven”?
8. Who is Mr. Heathcliff? Describe him and compare your description with Lockwood’s description of Heathcliff.
9. How does Lockwood characterize Heathcliff’s class in contrast to the man’s appearance? How would you categorize Lockwood’s class and why?
10. Why has Lockwood gained a reputation for being “deliberately heartless?”
11. What other characters are introduced during the first chapter?
12. Why do Heathcliff’s dogs turn against Lockwood?
13. How do you think Brontë intended the reader to feel towards Mr. Lockwood at the end of the first chapter?

Chapter III

1. “While leading the way upstairs, she recommended that I should hide the candle, and not make a noise; for her master had an odd notion about the chamber she would put me in, and never let anybody lodge there willingly. I asked the reason. She did not know, she answered: she had only lived there a year or two; and they had so many queer goings on, she could not begin to be curious.” (Pg. 23)

Identify a literary device Brontë is using in the above passage.

2. What insight into Heathcliff’s character does Lockwood gain by perusing the antique books?
3. What mood is evoked by the description of Lockwood’s dreams? Identify specific imagery that contributes to the mood.
4. What type of shift occurs in Heathcliff’s attitude after Lockwood reveals himself?
5. What conclusions can be drawn from Heathcliff’s behavior after Lockwood leaves the bedroom?
6. What does the exchange between Heathcliff and Mrs. Heathcliff reveal about their respective characters?

Chapter IV

1. How does Mr. Lockwood compel Nelly to discuss the inhabitants of Wuthering Heights with him? Are there any underlying motives suggested by his interest?
2. How does Nelly characterize Heathcliff's monetary status?
3. In what way does the narrative change in this chapter? What effect does it have on the story?
4. How does Heathcliff come to reside at Wuthering Heights? What are the class implications of his background, given the setting?
5. How did Heathcliff's presence affect the relationships between other members of the family?
6. What is Heathcliff's attitude toward Mr. Earnshaw?
7. Relate Heathcliff's origins to the Byronic Hero character type.
8. Identify the foreshadowing that occurs at the end of Chapter IV.

Chapter V

1. How were Heathcliff's negative qualities encouraged by Mr. Earnshaw's illness?
2. Nelly describes Catherine's behavior during Mr. Earnshaw's illness. What does it suggest about Catherine's character?
3. How is Heathcliff and Catherine's close relationship demonstrated in Chapter V?

Chapter VI

1. What are the class implications of the changes Hindley makes to Heathcliff's life at Wuthering Heights?
2. How do Heathcliff and Catherine generally spend their days? Relate their activities to the Romantic genre.
3. Why does Heathcliff dislike Edgar and Isabella Linton? How does Catherine feel towards the Lintons?
4. Describe how the weather relates to the events of the chapter.
5. Identify further evidence of Heathcliff's feelings toward Catherine in Chapter VI.

Chapter VII

1. How is Catherine altered by her stay at Thrushcross Grange? How will the changes in Catherine most likely affect her relationship with Heathcliff?
2. Why does Heathcliff become angry with Catherine when she returns?
3. How and why does Heathcliff envy Edgar Linton?
4. How does Nelly attempt to help Heathcliff? In what way is their plan foiled, and how does Catherine respond?
5. What disturbing quality does Heathcliff exhibit in relation to his feelings for Hindley?
6. How does Lockwood distinguish Nelly from other members of her class?

Chapter VIII

1. What gains and losses does Hindley experience in Chapter VIII? How does he respond to both?
2. How does Catherine's character become divided to some extent?
3. What are Nelly's true feelings toward Catherine at this point? Do they affect her reliability as a narrator in any way?
4. How has Heathcliff and Catherine's relationship changed? What event demonstrates that change?
5. What offensive behavior does Catherine engage in towards Edgar? How do they reconcile?

Chapter IX

1. How does Heathcliff unwittingly thwart his own revenge? What poor behavior on the part of Hindley leads to the occurrence?
2. What considerations drive Catherine to accept Edgar's proposal, despite her love for Heathcliff? How does her decision relate to the status of women during this time period and the class structure?
3. What does Catherine's dream and explanation of it reveal about her relationship with Heathcliff?
4. Why does Nelly feel Catherine is misguided about her duties as a wife? How does Catherine's response demonstrate the differences in her feelings for Edgar and Heathcliff?
5. What is the likely cause of Heathcliff's departure from Wuthering Heights?
6. How does the weather again coincide with a significant plot event?
7. How are Catherine's negative personality traits encouraged by her illness?
8. Why is Nelly forced to leave Wuthering Heights?

Chapter X

1. According to Nelly, why was Catherine able to behave so well at Thrushcross Grange before Heathcliff's return?
2. How does Catherine resolve to settle Edgar's concerns over bringing Heathcliff into the parlour? How is the exchange related to a theme of the novel?
3. In what ways is Heathcliff altered?
4. What effect does Heathcliff's return have on Catherine and Edgar's relationship?
5. "I heard of your marriage, Cathy, not long since; and, while waiting in the yard below, I meditated this plan—just to have one glimpse of your face, a stare of surprise, perhaps, and pretended pleasure; afterwards settle my score with Hindley; and then prevent the law by doing execution on myself. Your welcome has put these ideas out of my mind..." (Pgs. 85-86)

What does Heathcliff mean by this speech? What does it tell you about his character?

Chapter XI

1. How does Nelly demonstrate her superstition in Chapter XI?
2. How does Heathcliff appear to be executing his revenge on Hindley? What other relationship of the novel does the interaction between Hareton and Heathcliff parallel?
3. What provokes the argument between Catherine and Heathcliff? What is Heathcliff inferring when he alleges that Catherine has wronged him?
4. “The tyrant grinds down his slaves and they don’t turn against him; they crush those beneath them.” (Pg. 98) What does Heathcliff mean by this statement? In his scenario, who are the tyrant, the slaves, and those beneath them?
5. How does Edgar attempt to resolve the situation with Heathcliff, and why does Catherine lock them into the kitchen? Relate the scene to Romanticism and the Gothic novel.

6. Why does Heathcliff leave without repaying the blow Edgar gave him?

7. What is Nelly's role in the dispute? How do you think Brontë intended the reader to feel about her behavior?

8. Do you think Heathcliff is a sympathetic character or a villain at this point in the novel?

9. How does Catherine plan to get back at Edgar? In what way does she feel he has wronged her? What character traits underlie her behavior?

10. What ultimatum does Edgar give to Catherine? What is her response, and why do you think she responds this way?

11. How does Edgar attempt to deter Isabella's affection for Heathcliff?

Chapter XII

1. How does Nelly compare herself to the other household members? How might her characterization affect the reader's perception of her subsequent behavior?
2. What effect does Nelly's description of Edgar's studies have on Catherine?
3. What behavior on the part of Catherine causes Nelly to begin to believe in the seriousness of her illness?
4. What is the focus of Catherine's rantings? How is the scene characteristic of Romantic writings?
5. "But, Heathcliff, if I dare you now, will you venture? If you do, I'll keep you. I'll not lie there by myself: they may bury me twelve feet deep and throw the church down over me, but I won't rest till you are with me. I never will!" (Pg. 110)

Relate Catherine's declaration above to Lockwood's experience at Wuthering Heights in the beginning of the novel. What did Brontë likely intend the reader to believe?

6. What does the window seem to represent to Catherine?
7. Why does Edgar declare Isabella has disowned him at the close of Chapter XII?

Chapter XIII

1. What will be the likely permanent consequence of Catherine's illness? How does Edgar respond to the diagnosis?
2. What is the significance of Catherine's pregnancy? What are the possible implications of the sex of the child?
3. How does Nelly explain having kept Isabella's letter?
4. What do the two questions Isabella poses to Nelly reveal about her situation at Wuthering Heights?
5. Briefly characterize the relationships between the various members of Wuthering Heights upon Isabella's arrival.
6. Why does Heathcliff swear to punish Isabella in the place of Edgar at the close of Chapter XIII?

Chapter XIV

1. What reasons does Edgar provide for continuing to spurn Isabella's appeals for forgiveness?
2. How has the atmosphere at Wuthering Heights affected Isabella physically? Compare her appearance to Heathcliff's.
3. What further evidence does Heathcliff give of his love and passion for Catherine in Chapter XIV?
4. What delusions did Isabella hold regarding Heathcliff's character? Identify reasons for and against feeling sympathetic toward Isabella.
5. "No; you're not fit to be your own guardian, Isabella, now; and I, being your legal protector, must retain you in my custody, however distasteful the obligation may be."
(Pg. 131)

How does the above quote further explain the status of women throughout the novel?

6. How does Heathcliff convince Nelly to carry a letter to Catherine, and what do his actions demonstrate about his character? What is Nelly's rationale for agreeing?

Chapter XV

1. Whom does Catherine blame for her impending death? What emotions seem to drive her harsh words?
2. What is Catherine's conception of what her existence will be after death?
3. How does Heathcliff seem to be not of the human species in this scene?
4. Who does Heathcliff blame for Catherine's impending death? Is he able to offer his forgiveness?
5. Identify typical elements of Romanticism that are present in this scene.
6. Explain Nelly's agitation at Heathcliff's refusal to leave. What does she fear will be the consequences if Edgar finds him there?

Chapter XVI

1. What is the emerging pattern of deaths in the novel?
2. How does Heathcliff respond to the news of Catherine's death? Is his character sympathetic at this time?
3. What final attempt does Heathcliff make to compete with Edgar? How does his attempt again emphasize how the two men are opposites?
4. What is the significance of where Catherine is buried? What does it reveal about Edgar?

Chapter XVII

1. How does the weather again play into the events of the story?
2. Contrast Isabella's condition on arrival at the Grange with her demeanor the last time Nelly saw her. How has she changed?
3. Why does Isabella feel certain Heathcliff won't chase her?
4. How does Isabella react to Hindley's plan? Is her response surprising? What does her response demonstrate about her character?
5. Is Heathcliff still sympathetic during Chapter XVII? What can you infer about why he is so brutal at this particular time?
6. What is Heathcliff's attitude toward his child?

7. What is the difference in the wishes Edgar and Heathcliff have for Catherine's soul?

8. What similar experiences have Edgar and Hindley endured? How does Nelly explain the difference in their reactions?

9. Compare how Hindley's death affects Nelly to how Catherine's death affected her. Is there any significance in the difference?

10. What are the financial circumstances of Hindley's death and the consequences for Hareton?

11. "Now, my bonny lad, you are *mine*! And we'll see if one tree won't grow as crooked as another, with the same wind to twist it!" (Pg. 159)

What does Heathcliff mean? How does he intend to dispute Edgar's claim to the child?

12. Why is it ironic that Heathcliff has become the master of Wuthering Heights?

Chapter XVIII

1. What characteristics of her mother and father does Cathy possess?
2. What are the effects of Edgar's confining Cathy so completely to the Grange?
3. Why is Edgar drawn away from the Grange?
4. How do Cathy and Hareton interact before Nelly arrives? What relationship from their parents' generation does the pair seem to mimic?
5. What personality traits does Hareton reveal when addressed as a servant by Cathy? How does his class status parallel that of Heathcliff's?
6. In what way does Nelly focus on self-preservation during this chapter? Are her actions understandable or contemptible?

Chapter XIX

1. Characterize Linton Heathcliff. Which of his relatives does he resemble? How does Cathy respond to her cousin?
2. What reasons does Edgar offer to Joseph in an attempt to allow Linton to remain at Thrushcross Grange? How does Joseph regard those reasons?

Chapter XX

1. How does Nelly explain away Linton's lack of knowledge about his father?
2. What is Heathcliff's behavior and attitude toward his son? What purpose will Linton serve for him? How does this purpose fit in with a primary theme of the novel?
3. Characterize Nelly's behavior in coercing Linton to travel to Wuthering Heights and remain there. How do you think Brontë intended the reader to feel about Nelly's actions?

Chapter XXI

1. What conditions does Linton live under at Wuthering Heights according to servants there?
2. What characteristics of Cathy's lead to her encounter with Heathcliff?
3. What is Heathcliff's purpose in having Cathy visit Wuthering Heights? Is it odd that he confides his goals in Nelly?
4. "If Linton died," I answered, "and his life is quite uncertain, Catherine would be the heir."
"No, she would not," he said. "There is no clause in the will to secure it so: his property would go to me: but, to prevent disputes, I desire their union, and am resolved to bring it about." (Pg. 182)

What is the meaning of this exchange between Nelly and Heathcliff? How might Heathcliff know what is contained in Edgar's will? What literary device is employed?

Chapter XXII

1. How has the end of Cathy's romance affected the girl? What compounds its effect?
2. Why does Cathy cry during her walk? How do her concerns fit in with a theme of the novel? How does Nelly calm her?
3. In what way does Heathcliff provide further evidence of his manipulative and vengeful nature during Chapter XXII?
4. What does Cathy persuade Nelly to accompany her in doing? How does Nelly's treatment of Cathy compare with her treatment of the child's mother, Catherine? What accounts for the difference?

Chapter XXIII

1. Analyze how Linton is becoming involved in his father's plans for revenge against Edgar. How is he able to manipulate Cathy?
2. How do the disputes of Cathy and Linton's parents affect the pair? Is the way their argument ends surprising?
3. In what ways do Nelly and Catherine's opinions of Linton and his illness differ?
4. "And he'll soon do as I direct him, with some slight coaxing. He's a pretty little darling when he's good. I'd make such a pet of him, if he were mine." (Pg. 204)

How does Cathy's attitude towards Linton, as expressed in the above quote, compare with her mother's relationship with Edgar?

Chapter XXIV

1. When do descriptions of the English countryside, a common element of Romanticism literature, become prominent in Chapter XXIV?
2. What cruelty does Cathy engage in towards Hareton? What are her true feelings toward him? Which relationship of their parents' generation does theirs parallel in some ways?
3. What violence does Cathy witness at Wuthering Heights? What are the probable underlying reasons for the attack? Who does Linton believe is to blame?
4. To what does Linton attribute his mistreatment of Cathy? Why is Heathcliff happy about Cathy's attitude toward the mistreatment?
5. How does Nelly's behavior in this chapter compare and contrast with her behavior in similar situations earlier in the novel? Why do you suppose she reacts the way she does to these particular events?
6. Who serves as the primary narrator of Chapter XXIV? Explain how the narrative form of this chapter fits in with the overall narrative structure of the novel.

Chapter XXV

1. How does Chapter XXV establish the time frame of the narrative? What is surprising about the timing of the events Nelly is currently describing?
2. In what way does Nelly hope Lockwood will become involved in the other characters' lives? Why does Lockwood doubt the idea?
3. What are Edgar's feelings regarding death? What are his primary concerns regarding Cathy?
4. Why does Edgar see it as favorable for Cathy to marry Linton in financial terms? How would knowledge of Linton's illness alter his opinion? How is Heathcliff's plan for revenge threatened by his son's impending death?
5. What foreshadowing is present at the close of Chapter XXV?

Chapter XXVII

1. How is Edgar deceived about the true nature of Linton's character?
2. Why does Linton's behavior cause Cathy to grow so impatient with him?
3. What would be the implications for Heathcliff of Linton dying before Edgar?
4. In what way does Cathy challenge Heathcliff's power? What do her actions reveal about her character?
5. How do Heathcliff's vengeful actions in Chapter XXVII differ from those committed before? What continues to drive him? How may readers' feelings toward Heathcliff change during this chapter?

Chapter XXVIII

1. What rumor has been spread regarding Nelly and Cathy's disappearance?
2. What surprising behavior does Linton engage in towards Cathy? What character traits does Linton reveal through his behavior?
3. Why does Edgar endeavor to change his will, and how does he intend to alter it? Why does the attorney, Mr. Green, not come until after Edgar's death?
4. Describe how Cathy finally escapes. How does the manner of her escape fit into the motif of windows in the novel and relate back to Lockwood's dreams?

Chapter XXIX

1. What are Heathcliff's plans for Cathy? Why will he not allow her to stay at Thrushcross Grange?
2. According to Cathy, how will she and Linton have revenge against Heathcliff?
3. How does Heathcliff demonstrate the extremity of his obsession with Catherine? What are his own burial plans? Relate both to Romanticism and the Gothic novel.
4. How has Catherine's ghost continuously disappointed Heathcliff? Relate Heathcliff's experiences with Catherine's ghost to Lockwood's.

Chapter XXX

1. Contrast Zillah's attitude towards her duties as a housekeeper to Nelly's.
2. What are the financial implications of Linton's death? What effect do they have on Heathcliff's revenge plot?
3. How does Zillah's relationship with Cathy and Hareton in Chapter XXX parallel Nelly's relationship with the elder Catherine and Heathcliff?
4. What are the dynamics of Cathy and Hareton's relationship?
5. "At first, on hearing this account from Zillah, I determined to leave my situation, take a cottage, and get Catherine to come and live with me: but Mr. Heathcliff would as soon permit that as he would set up Hareton in an independent house; and I can see no remedy, at present unless she could marry again; and that scheme it does not come within my province to arrange." (Pg. 249)

Consider the context of the above quote. Why are Nelly's words significant in light of her audience?

Chapter XXXI

1. What seem to be Hareton's motives for improving his reading skills? What is ironic about Cathy's response to them?
2. What disturbs Heathcliff about Hareton's appearance? What does Heathcliff mean when he says he might "thwart" himself?
3. How does Lockwood again exhibit his conceitedness? What does he reflect on while he leaves Wuthering Heights?

Chapter XXXII

1. How does the opening of this chapter remind the reader of an earlier chapter? What is the intended effect of the opening?
2. What signs of change does Lockwood encounter upon his arrival at Wuthering Heights?
3. How does Cathy endeavor to obtain Hareton's forgiveness? What earlier scene of the novel involved a request for forgiveness, and how do the two scenes compare?

Chapter XXXIII

1. How does Heathcliff learn about Hareton and Cathy's friendship? What is his response, and why does he appear to respond in that way?
2. What feelings does the sight of Cathy and Hareton reading together arouse in Heathcliff? In what way has Heathcliff changed?
3. What particularly does Hareton represent to Heathcliff?

Chapter XXXIV

1. What can the reader infer about Heathcliff's experience on the moors when he was out all night? How does the narrative form restrict the reader's knowledge of the event?
2. What does Heathcliff's rejection of Nelly's suggestion for a minister signify? What other matter does he raise in response?
3. What further suggestions of the supernatural occur upon Heathcliff's death?
4. How do windows and the weather arise again as a motif in the final chapter?
5. What final comments do Nelly and Lockwood make regarding the dead? How do they seem to fit in with the final events of the novel?
6. Consider the impending marriage of Hareton and Cathy. What is the significance of the union? How does it reflect on the rest of the novel?

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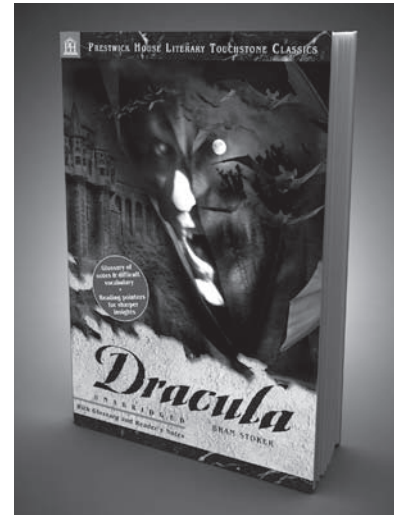
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