Jane Eyre Quiz

Chapters Eleven to Twenty



Learning Objective

To learn the story of Jane Eyre in detail.

Success Criteria

- All pupils will be able to recount the events in each chapter.
- Most pupils will be able to use quotes in their answers.
- Some pupils will be able to embed quotes in their answers.

- 1. Why is Jane disappointed when she reaches Millcote?
- 2. Describe Mrs Fairfax.
- 3. Who is the owner of Thornfield?
- 4. What is a 'Turkey carpet'?
- 5. How is Mr Rochester regarded by Mrs Fairfax?
- 6. Who does Mrs Fairfax say is responsible for the 'mirthless' laugh Jane hears?

Chapter 11 - Answers

1. Why is Jane disappointed when she reaches Millcote?

She imagined that someone would come to meet her, but there is nobody there so she is not sure what to do and says, '...all sorts of doubts and fears are troubling my thoughts.'

2. Describe Mrs Fairfax.

Mrs Fairfax is an old lady who wears a black dress with a white 'snowy muslin' apron and a widow's cap. She is sitting in a chair by the fire and knitting while the cat lies 'demurely' at her feet.

3. Who is the owner of Thornfield?

Mr Rochester, not Mrs Fairfax.

Chapter 11 - Answers

4. What is a 'Turkey carpet'?

An expensive Turkish rug, known for their intricate designs.

5. How is Mr Rochester regarded by Mrs Fairfax?

She likes him and respects him and says he is a 'just and liberal landlord' with a character that is 'unimpeachable' or trustworthy. She also says he is a little hard to work out and you can't always tell if he is in 'jest or earnest', if he is joking or serious.

6. Who does Mrs Fairfax say is responsible for the 'mirthless' laugh Jane hears?

Grace Poole.

- 1. Describe Adèle.
- 2. Why does Jane like to go up to the attic?
- 3. What is a Gytrash?
- 4. What happens to the man on the horse?
- 5. Describe him.
- 6. Why does Jane not want to return to Thornfield?
- 7. What revelation awaits her when she gets there?

Chapter 12 - Answers

1. Describe Adèle.

Adèle is 'lively' and a little bit spoiled so she is sometimes 'wayward' or disobedient but she soon 'became obedient and teachable' for Jane. She is average in ability, with 'no great talents' but she also has no great defects of character. She likes Jane and Jane likes her and so were 'both content in each other's society.'

2. Why does Jane like to go up to the attic?

She likes to look out over the 'sequestered field and hill'. She longs to have more company and although she is happy living with Adèle and Mrs Fairfax, she wants 'other and more vivid kinds of goodness', more variety and to find out about the world.

Chapter 12 - Answers

3. What is a Gytrash?

A black dog of legend, said to haunt roads waiting for unwary travellers. Jane describes a 'lion-like creature with long hair and a huge head.'

4. What happens to the man on the horse?

The horse slips on some ice and falls over, throwing the man onto the road.

5. Describe him.

The man is about 35, 'middle' or average height with a broad chest, and has 'stern features' and a brow which is 'heavy' or prominent. He is wearing a riding cloak with a fur collar and is not good humoured but has a 'frown' on his face and his eyebrows are drawn in 'and gathered'. He is not handsome.

Chapter 12 - Answers

6. Why does Jane not want to return to Thornfield?

Jane feels that Thornfield represents 'stagnation' or staying still. She says her room is 'lonely' and she wants some excitement in the 'uniform and too still existence' she has there.

7. What revelation awaits her when she gets there?

Jane finds the 'Gytrash' called Pilot in Mrs Fairfax's room. She then questions Leah who tells her that Mr Rochester has brought the dog and that he is currently waiting for the surgeon as he 'had an accident'. Jane realises the man she met in the lane is Mr Rochester.

- 1. How does Mr Rochester greet Jane?
- 2. What are 'cadeaux'?
- 3. What is Jane's 'cadeau'?
- 4. What is Jane's opinion of Mr Rochester?

Chapter 13 - Answers

1. How does Mr Rochester greet Jane?

He completely ignores her and continues to look at Pilot and Adèle in front of the fire. He bows when Mrs Fairfax introduces Jane but still does not look at her.

2. What are 'cadeaux'?

They are presents or gifts.

3. What is Jane's 'cadeau'?

Rochester praises the progress Adèle has made and Jane says hearing his approval of her work is her 'cadeau'.

4. What is Jane's opinion of Mr Rochester?

She thinks Rochester is quite odd and fickle and she cannot work out what he is thinking. She also says he is 'abrupt' or gruff.

- 1. How does Rochester refer to Adèle?
- 2. What is his justification for this?
- 3. How does Jane 'blunder'?
- 4. What is Rochester's opinion of himself?
- 5. What does Rochester say about Jane's 'austere' manner?
- 6. What has Rochester bought for Adèle?

Chapter 14 - Answers

- 1. Rochester refers to Adèle in an unkind way. What does he say? He calls her a 'brat'.
- 2. What is his justification for this?

He says that because he is unmarried, he has 'no pleasant associations' with the talk or prattle of children.

3. How does Jane 'blunder'?

Rochester asks Jane if she thinks he is handsome and she replies without thinking, saying 'No, sir.'

Chapter 14 - Answers

4. What is Rochester's opinion of himself?

He says that fate or 'Fortune' has not been kind and has 'knocked me about'. He says he is as 'hard and tough as an India rubber ball' which suggests that his experiences mean he keeps his guard up, although he does say there is a 'chink or two' in his hard exterior.

- 5. What does Rochester say about Jane's 'austere' manner?

 He says it's not natural for her to be austere, in the same way it is unnatural for him to be 'vicious'.
- 6. What has Rochester bought for Adèle?

 A pink, silk dress.

- 1. Why does Rochester take care of Adèle?
- 2. What happened when Rochester had his 'meeting at the Bois de Boulogne' with 'the vicomte'.
- 3. Does the story change Jane's feelings about Adèle? Explain.
- 4. How has her opinion of Rochester changed?
- Describe the events of the fire.

Chapter 15 - Answers

1. Why does Rochester take care of Adèle?

Adèle is the daughter of Celine Varens, an opera-dancer with whom Rochester once had a love affair or 'grande passion'. Celine claimed that Adèle was Rochester's child, but he did not really believe her. However, when Celine abandoned the child to run off with 'a musician or singer', Rochester felt duty bound to look after her.

2. What happens when Rochester has a 'meeting at the Bois de Boulogne' with 'the vicomte'.

The meeting was a duel, which is a pre-arranged fight to settle a point of honour. Rochester left the vicomte with a 'bullet on one of his poor etiolated [feeble] arms.' Rochester considered himself the victor.

Chapter 15 - Answers

3. Does the story change Jane's feelings about Adèle? Explain.

No. Jane is very clear in telling Rocherster that Adèle is not to blame for 'her mother's faults or yours'. In fact she says she may become closer to her than before as she knows Adèle is 'parentless' and a 'lonely little orphan' who treats Jane as a friend.

4. How has her opinion of Rochester changed?

Jane enjoys evenings with Rochester where they talk and he tells her about the world, giving her 'glimpses of its scenes and ways'. She no longer craves the company of others and begins to see him not as ugly, but as 'the object I liked best to see'. She is still aware of his faults, 'for he brought them frequently before me', but believes him to be a good man at heart. Jane wishes she could alleviate his sadness and even though she does not know what causes it, 'would have given much to assuage it.' In short, Jane is falling for Rochester.

Chapter 15 - Answers

5. Describe the events of the fire.

Jane is in bed and wakes with a start, thinking she hears fingers tracing across her door, but decides it must be Pilot. She then hears a 'demoniac laugh' which scares her as she associates it with a 'goblin' and 'a devil', something evil. She decides to go to Mrs Fairfax so leaves her room, finds a candle outside on the floor, then notices smoke in the air and 'a strong smell of burning.' Jane realises that Rochester's room is on fire so she runs in, finding the bed curtains ablaze. She tries to wake him but the smoke had 'stupefied him.' Jane throws water from the jug and bowl, kept in the room for washing, then brings her own jug and throws more water on the fire.

Rochester finally wakes up thinking there has been a flood, but Jane explains what has happened, fetches him a candle and he 'surveyed the bed, all blackened and scorched'. Jane wants to fetch Mrs Fairfax, but Rochester will not let her and makes her sit in his room while he goes upstairs. On his return, Rochester tells Jane it was Grace Poole who set the fire and to 'say nothing about it'. He takes Jane's hand and thanks her for saving his life, 'I have pleasure in owing you so immense a debt.' Jane says he owes her nothing but Rochester goes on to say she is 'My cherished preserver'. Eventually Jane returns to her room but does not sleep as she is in turmoil.

- 1. Describe Grace Poole.
- 2. What was the 'official' explanation for the fire?
- 3. Grace Poole advises Jane to bolt her bedroom door before going to sleep. Why does Jane think Grace Poole is hypocritical?
- 4. Who is Blanche Ingram?
- 5. Why does Jane reprimand herself saying '...a greater fool than Jane Eyre had never breathed the breath of life'?

Chapter 16 - Answers

1. Describe Grace Poole.

Grace Poole is 'taciturn-looking' as if she is someone who does not say very much and is quite stern in appearance. She wears a brown dress and a checked apron with a cap. She does not have a look of 'paleness or desperation' which Jane expected to see after the events of the night before. When she looked at Jane, there was no emotion in her face, no 'consciousness of guilt, or fear of detection'. She just said good morning and continued sewing the new bed curtains.

2. What was the 'official' explanation for the fire?

That Rochester fell asleep with a candle still lit. His bed curtains 'got on fire', but luckily he woke and put the fire out with the water in the 'ewer'.

Chapter 16 - Answers

3. Grace Poole advises Jane to bolt her bedroom door before going to sleep. Why does Jane think Grace Poole is hypocritical?

Jane believes Grace Poole is the arsonist. Grace says she should lock her door for fear of 'robbers', but Jane believes Grace is warning her to bolt the door because she is trying to find out Jane's habits so that she can attack her at a later date.

4. Who is Blanche Ingram?

Blanche Ingram is a fine lady, a friend of Rochester. She attends his Christmas ball and is considered the 'belle of the evening', so she must be beautiful.

Chapter 16 - Answers

5. Why does Jane reprimand herself saying '...a greater fool than Jane Eyre had never breathed the breath of life'?

Jane has feelings for Rochester and indulges in 'hopes, wishes and sentiments' about him. She begins to think that he likes her too because he spends time with her and because of what he says after the events of the fire. But then Rochester goes to stay with the Ingrams who are rich and have high social status and Jane thinks she has been a fool to believe he is interested in her at all. 'You of importance to him in any way?' 'How dared you? Poor stupid dupe!' Jane is very hard on herself, and says she should draw a picture of herself and a picture of Blanche and when she begins to think Rochester 'thinks well of you', she should take them out and compare them, reminding herself 'is it likely he would waste a serious thought on this indigent and insignificant plebeian?' Jane is convinced Rochester will marry Blanche Ingram, who is his equal in social status.

- 1. What does Jane mean by 'keep to your caste'?
- 2. What is strange about Grace Poole?
- 3. What does 'sanctum' mean?
- Describe the different reactions to Adèle from Miss Ingram, Lady Lynn, Mrs Dent and Amy and Louisa Eshton.
- 5. What is Jane's opinion of Rochester now?
- 6. What is Blanche and Lady Ingram's opinion of governesses?
- 7. What do you think Rochester was going to say when he broke off saying, 'Good-night, my -' in his conversation with Jane?

Chapter 17 - Answers

1. What does Jane mean by 'keep to your caste'?

Caste is a Hindu word and refers to different classes in society. Jane means that she should keep to her own kind and be 'too self-respecting' to love someone in a different class 'where such a gift is not wanted and would be despised.'

2. What is strange about Grace Poole and her habits?

Grace Poole only spends one hour each day with the other servants in the servants' hall, and the rest of the time she stays on the second storey, alone and sewing. None of the other servants seem to think that this is strange behaviour, and 'no one pitied her solitude and isolation.' Furthermore, Jane overhears the other servants saying she is paid much more than them for her work, but no-one says what her work is.

3. What does 'sanctum' mean?

Sanctum means a private place where nobody else is allowed

Chapter 17 - Answers

4. Describe the different reactions to Adèle from Miss Ingram, Lady Lynn, Mrs Dent and Amy and Louisa Eshton.

Miss Ingram is sarcastic and 'looked down' on Adèle which suggests she thinks the child is beneath her notice. Out loud she says, 'Oh what a little puppet!' but her tone makes this sound like an insult. Lady Lynn essentially takes no notice of Adèle, just commenting that this must be 'Mr Rochester's ward, I suppose'. Mrs Dent is more friendly and kisses Adele's hand, while Amy and Louisa Eshton seem more enamoured of Adèle and exclaim 'What a love of a child!'

5. What is Jane's opinion of Rochester now?

Jane is irretrievably in love with Rochester. Despite her best efforts to deny her feelings, when she sees him they 'spontaneously arrived, green and strong!' She compares him to the other guests but says the 'light of the candles had as much soul in it as their smile'. Jane has to admit 'while I breathe and think, I must love him.'

Chapter 17 - Answers

6. What is Blanche and Lady Ingram's opinion of governesses?

Blanche says all her governesses were either 'detestable' or 'ridiculous' and Lady Ingram says she suffered much from their inadequacy and 'caprice' or moodiness. Blanche tells the story of one governess and a tutor who 'took the liberty of falling in love with each other' and how they used this as an excuse to 'hoist our dead-weights from the house.'

7. What do you think Rochester was going to say when he broke off saying 'Good-night, my –' in his conversation with Jane?

He may have wanted to say 'my love' but stopped himself as he was afraid of a 'prating prig of a servant' going by. He certainly speaks to Jane very tenderly and seems concerned that she is 'depressed'.

- 1. How does the game of charades described differ from the modern one?
- 2. Why does Jane say Miss Ingram is 'inferior' even though, socially, Miss Ingram is her superior?
- 3. What are Jane's conclusions about Rochester and Miss Ingram?
- 4. Who arrives unexpectedly and where has he come from?
- 5. Who is the second unexpected visitor and what does she want?

Chapter 18 - Answers

1. How does the game of charades described differ from the modern one?

The modern game of charades depends on one person standing up and using mime to act out the name of a book, film or song. In Jane Eyre's time, charades was much more involved. The participants dress up and create a scene which they act out without speaking. The audience has to guess the word or syllable. Another scene follows which elucidates another word or syllable. The first charade in Jane Eyre was 'bride', the second was 'well' making 'Bridewell', which was a prison.

2. Why does Jane say Miss Ingram is 'inferior' even though, socially, Miss Ingram is her superior?

Jane considers Miss Ingram to be all image and no substance, 'showy but she was not genuine', repeating ideas and entertaining stories without being very 'original' or giving her own opinion. She also says she has no 'sympathy and pity' and is horrible to Adèle, 'always treating her with coldness and acrimony.' In other words, Jane does not like Miss Ingram at all.

Chapter 18 - Answers

3. What are Jane's conclusions abut Rochester and Miss Ingram?

Jane believes Rochester will marry Miss Ingram, not from love, but 'for family, perhaps political reasons'. Miss Ingram was of the same social status as Rochester and would be considered a suitable match.

4. Who arrives unexpectedly and where has he come from?

Mr Mason arrives out of the blue when Rochester is not at home. He has come from the 'West Indes'.

5. Who is the second unexpected visitor and what does she want?

The second arrival is an old woman, who says she must 'tell the gentry their fortunes'. She only wants to see the ladies though and refuses to see any men.

- 1. What is Jane's opinion of having her fortune told?
- 2. Why does Jane jump to her feet when the woman mentions that she knows Grace Poole?
- 3. What does the 'witch' say about Rochester and Miss Ingram?
- 4. What is revealed to Jane about the gypsy woman?
- 5. What is Jane's opinion of Rochester's deception?
- 6. What is Rochester's reaction to the news that Mr Mason has arrived?

Chapter 19 - Answers

- 1. What is Jane's opinion of having her fortune told?
- Jane appears to be indifferent to it, she says 'I don't care about it mother' and warns the old woman that she does not believe in such things.
- 2. Why does Jane jump to her feet when the woman mentions that she knows Grace Poole?
- Jane is wary of Grace Poole, believing she set fire to Rochester's bed, so when the old woman says she knows her, Jane stops thinking the encounter with the fortune teller is unimportant and suspects some 'diablerie' or devil magic.
- 3. What does the 'witch' say about Rochester and Miss Ingram?

She says they are to be married that they will be 'a superlatively happy pair'. She says he must love her because she is a 'handsome, noble, witty, accomplished lady' and that she considers his financial and social status perfect for her

Chapter 19 - Answers

4. What is revealed to Jane about the gypsy woman?

The gypsy woman turns out to be Mr Rochester dressed up. 'Mr Rochester stepped out of his disguise.'

5. What is Jane's opinion of Rochester's deception?

She says it is 'not right' and thinks he has been trying to 'draw me out – or in'. She feels he has set out to discover information from her in a dishonest way and that it is unfair.

6. What is Rochester's reaction to the news that Mr Mason has arrived?

Rochester reacts with shock, tightening his hand on Jane's wrist with a 'convulsive grip', he cannot get his breath. He goes white, keeps repeating 'Mason! - the West Indes!' and has to sit down with Jane's help. He asks for a glass of wine and information as to what the guests are doing in the dining room.

- 1. How does Rochester persuade everyone to go back into their rooms after they have all heard the deadly scream?
- 2. What job does Rochester ask Jane to do and with what condition?
- Describe what has happened to Mason.
- 4. What is Mason's last request of Rochester before he leaves and why is it surprising?
- 5. When Rochester talks to Jane about being with someone who will make him a better person, 'the instrument for my cure' who does he mean?
- 6. How does Rochester explain Mason's absence?

Chapter 20 - Answers

1. How does Rochester persuade everyone to go back into their rooms after they have all heard the deadly scream?

He reassures them that it was just a servant having a bad dream which induced a fit and asks the men to show the ladies 'the example' and return to their rooms. He says Miss Ingram will obviously be more sensible than to give in to 'idle terrors', he tells Amy and Louisa that they are a 'pair of doves' who must return to their 'nest' and he assures the older ladies that they will 'take cold' if they stay in the cold gallery any longer.

2. What job does Rochester ask Jane to do and with what condition?

Rochester asks Jane to sit with Mr Mason who has been injured. She is to sponge the blood and if he feels faint, give him water and 'your salts to his nose'. Jane must not speak to the man 'on any pretext' and Mason must not speak to Jane either, even though they are to be left for up to two hours.

Chapter 20 - Answers

3. Describe what has happened to Mason.

Mason has been stabbed by a woman, but the surgeon says the 'flesh is torn' as well as cut. Mason explains that 'She worried me like a tigress'. It seems he was trying to talk to the woman, 'I thought I could have done some good', but she turned on him. She bit him and 'sucked the blood' saying she would drain his heart.

4. What is Mason's last request of Rochester before he leaves and why is it surprising?

Mason begs Rochester to 'let her be treated as tenderly as may be' which is surprising because the woman he is talking about just tried to kill him.

Chapter 20 - Answers

5. When Rochester talks to Jane about being with someone who will make him a better person, 'the instrument for my cure', who does he mean?

On the face of it, Rochester is talking about Blanche Ingram, and this seems to be confirmed when he says to Jane 'you have noticed my tender penchant for Miss Ingram'.

6. How does Rochester explain Mason's absence?

He says that Mason got up early and left and he 'rose at four to see him off'.

