

Jane Eyre Quiz

Chapters Thirty-One to Thirty-Eight



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.

Chapter 31

1. What important event has happened at the beginning of this chapter?
2. What is Jane's attitude to her pupils?
3. How does Jane feel about her position?
4. How does St. John compare himself to Jane?
5. What are St. John's feelings for Miss Oliver?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 31 - Answers

1. What important event happens at the beginning of this chapter?

Jane has her first day at the school house which she is running by herself.

2. What is Jane's attitude to her pupils?

She finds them 'unmannered' and 'rough' and has to remind herself that the children are 'flesh and blood as good as the scions of gentlest genealogy'. She tells herself that they have just as much intelligence and kindness as high born children and that it is her job to 'develop' them. However, she doesn't expect to enjoy it.

3. How does Jane feel about her position?

Jane admits that she does not feel happy and content, but 'felt desolate' and realises that she now has a much lower social status than before. She thinks these feelings are wrong and trusts that she will 'get the better of them' over time. She still thinks she made the better choice - to be desolate but 'free and honest' rather than deliriously happy for a short time as Rochester's mistress.

Chapter 31 - Answers

4. How does St. John compare himself to Jane?

St. John finds Jane looking unhappy and says he understands how she is feeling. Although he doesn't know Jane's circumstances, he can see she is finding it hard to adjust and says he went through something similar in the past when he thought he had 'made a mistake in entering the ministry'. He found himself longing to do lots of other things, but says that eventually 'light broke and relief fell' as he realised he should go to the 'East' and be a missionary.

5. What are St. John's feelings for Miss Oliver?

St. John clearly has strong feelings for Miss Oliver which he attempts to overcome, although the reasons for this are not explained. He can barely speak to her, keeping his face 'stern and square', perhaps in an effort to disguise his feelings, but Jane observes this. She also notices 'his solemn eye melt with sudden fire' before he brings himself back under control and recognises the suffering of someone who has to deny themselves the love they feel for another person.

Chapter 32

1. How does Jane feel about her pupils now?
2. Has she forgotten about Rochester?
3. What is Jane's opinion of Miss Oliver now that she knows her better?
4. What is Mr Oliver's attitude to the potential relationship between his daughter and St. John?
5. What does Jane think about the potential relationship?
6. What reason does St. John give for not pursuing Miss Oliver?
7. What does St. John take from Jane?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 32 - Answers

1. How does Jane feel about her pupils now?

Jane gets to know her pupils well and finds most of them 'obliging and amiable' and some of them she even admires. Some of them have made speedy progress and Jane finds that they 'took a pleasure in doing their work well'. She becomes friends with their families, spending evenings with them. In fact, Jane says she became a 'favourite in the neighbourhood' and received smiles and 'hellos' wherever she went.

2. Has she forgotten about Rochester?

Although Jane feels happier in her day to day life, she has 'stormy-dreams' at night which are full of Mr Rochester 'loving him and being loved by him'. When Jane wakes, she feels 'the convulsion of despair' but her daily routine means she does not dwell on these feelings.

Chapter 32 - Answers

3. What is Jane's opinion of Miss Oliver now that she knows her better?

Jane likes Miss Oliver well enough although she says she 'was not profoundly interesting or thoroughly impressive'. She does have some good qualities, such as being 'lively' and 'charming' and Jane says: 'Still, I liked her.'

4. What is Mr Oliver's attitude to the potential relationship between his daughter and St. John?

Mr Oliver says St. John is from a fine family with an 'old name' and might 'make an alliance with the best', in other words, marry Miss Oliver. He thinks it is a shame that St. John had decided to become a missionary, 'throwing a valuable life away'.

Chapter 32 - Answers

5. What does Jane think about the potential relationship?

Jane cannot see a reason for St. John not to marry Miss Oliver. She says that when he inherited Mr Oliver's fortune, he could 'do as much good with it as if he went and laid his genius out to wither' in other words he could achieve as much with Mr Oliver's fortune as he could going to be a missionary overseas.

6. What reason does St. John give for not pursuing Miss Oliver?

St. John says he will not marry Miss Oliver, although he loves her, because he knows all her 'defects' and thinks she will 'not make me a good wife'. He would want her to be a missionary's wife and knows she would not be able to do it and he will not give up his 'vocation' or 'great work' to be with her either.

7. What does St. John take from Jane?

He tears the edge off a piece of paper Jane is using to protect the painting she is working on.

Chapter 33

1. What story does St. John tell Jane?
2. What is her main concern afterwards?
3. What is the significance of the piece of paper he took from her?
4. What news does he reveal to Jane?
5. What is Jane's reaction and final decision about it?
6. What does she say about marriage?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 33 - Answers

1. What story does St. John tell Jane?

St. John tells Jane the story of her own life, without mentioning that it is her although he hints at it saying 'there are parallel points in her history and yours'. Not until the end does he reveal that he knows who Jane is.

2. What is her main concern afterwards?

Jane immediately asks after Mr Rochester, 'what is he doing? Is he well?' She will not be diverted from trying to find out about him, 'Did no one see Mr Rochester?' St. John cannot understand why he is her main concern.

3. What is the significance of the piece of paper he took from her?

On the piece of paper he took from her, Jane had written 'Jane Eyre'. She had said her name was 'Jane Elliot' but St. John had suspected the truth for some time and he now knew her true identity.

Chapter 33 - Answers

4. What news does he reveal to Jane?

St. John reveals that Jane has inherited £20,000 from her uncle in Madeira who has died. He also reveals that they are cousins.

5. What is Jane's reaction and final decision about it?

Jane is stunned and almost cannot believe it, 'don't you think there is a mistake?' When Jane realises that she is related to St. John and his sisters, she is ecstatic and very excited 'Oh, I am glad! - I am glad!' She decides that £20,000 is too much for her to inherit alone 'it would torment and oppress me' and that, to be fair, she must split it four ways between her and her cousins.

6. What does Jane say about marriage?

She says 'Marry! I don't want to marry, and never shall marry.'

Chapter 34

1. What does Jane do to busy herself before Christmas?
2. What is her opinion now of the potential marriage of St. John and Miss Oliver?
3. What does Jane feel about her relationship with St. John now that she lives with him and his sisters?
4. What does she feel after he has asked her to learn 'Hindostanee'?
5. Has Jane forgotten about Rochester? Give reasons.
6. What does Jane think of St. John's proposal?
7. How does St. John treat Jane afterwards?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 34 - Answers

1. What does Jane do to busy herself before Christmas?

Jane shuts up the school and resolves to 'clean down' Moor House ready for Mary and Diana's return. She wants 'to arrange every chair, table, bed, carpet...' to make it look lovely and then to spend two days with Hannah 'beating of eggs, sorting of currants, grating of spices...' cooking up Christmas food. She is looking forward to having the sisters back and wants 'things in an absolute state of readiness' for them.

2. What is her opinion now of the potential marriage of St. John and Miss Oliver?

Jane suddenly sees that St. John was right about marrying Miss Oliver, it would have been a mistake. She sees him as 'hard and cold' because when she shows him the house, he does not speak a word of compliment or enjoyment about it. She realises that 'he would hardly make a good husband' and that if he married Miss Oliver he would 'despise himself for the feverish influence it exercised over him'. Jane thinks he's right to choose to be a missionary.

Chapter 34 - Answers

3. What does Jane feel about her relationship with St. John now that she lives with him and his sisters?

Jane says he did not keep his promise of treating her like a sister and 'continually made little chilling differences between us'. She now feels 'the distance between us to be far greater' than it was when she was schoolmistress.

4. What does she feel after he has asked her to learn 'Hindostanee'?

Jane spends more time with St. John more after he asks her to learn 'Hindostanee' but he turns out to be a difficult teacher, expecting Jane to 'do a great deal'. She finds that working alongside St. John 'took away a certain liberty of mind' and his 'praise and notice were more restraining than his indifference.' Jane cannot laugh or talk lightly but must be always serious when he is near because she feels that being lively is 'distasteful' to him. Jane finds herself increasingly trying to please him, but in doing so must 'disown half my nature'. She is no longer being truly herself and she finds this difficult and unpleasant.

Chapter 34 - Answers

5. Has Jane forgotten about Rochester? Give reasons.

Jane has not forgotten Mr Rochester. She says her concern for him was not 'a vapour sunshine could disperse' and she longed to know what had happened to him. She would 'brood over it' in her bedroom each night and even wrote to Mrs Fairfax, twice, but received no reply. After six months she says 'my hope died out.' She fears Rochester has left the country and is pursuing a wild life on the continent like he did before.

6. What does Jane think of St. John's proposal?

Jane vacillates over St. John's proposal. She recognises the advantages in having a new direction in life but the thought of it makes her 'shudder'. She eventually decides that she could go to be a missionary, but cannot be his wife for he 'has no more of a husband's heart for me than that frowning giant of a rock...' She says a marriage to him would be 'monstrous. I will never undergo it.'

Chapter 34 - Answers

7. How does St. John treat Jane afterwards?

Although St. John says he will give Jane a fortnight to reconsider, his 'iron silence' shows feelings of displeasure towards her. He doesn't kiss her goodnight as he has done on previous occasions and even when Jane follows him to say goodnight, he shakes her hand coldly and she observes 'He was deeply displeased by what had occurred that day'. Although Jane does not love St. John, she values his friendship and is saddened by his attitude. She asks for his forgiveness but he denies he has even been offended which makes it worse, as he is lying.

Chapter 35

1. How does Jane regard St. John now?
2. What plan does St. John have for Jane if she won't marry him, and what does Jane think about it?
3. What is St. John's attitude to Jane's continued interest in Mr Rochester?
4. Describe Jane's experience when she was alone with St. John and he renewed his proposal to her.

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 35 - Answers

1. How does Jane regard St. John now?

Without being nasty in any way, St. John made it very clear that Jane had mortally offended him. She found this 'torture' and regarded him as no longer a human being she could relate to, but made of 'marble; his eye was a cold, bright, blue gem; his tongue a speaking instrument - nothing more.' It is as if he has no feelings at all.

2. What plan does St. John have for Jane if she won't marry him, and what does Jane think about it?

St. John says that since she will not marry him, he will speak to a missionary whose wife needs a 'coadjutor' or assistant thus allowing Jane to travel to India after all.

Jane says she made no promise to go to India except with him, and will not go with someone else. She believes she would 'not live long in that climate' and that she will not 'resolve on quitting England' until she has found out about Mr Rochester.

3. What is St. John's attitude to Jane's continued interest in Mr Rochester?

St. John says her love is 'lawless and unconsecrated', not blessed by God, and that she 'ought to have crushed it' long ago. He thinks she should be embarrassed to mention it.

Chapter 35 - Answers

4. Describe Jane's experience when she was alone with St. John and he renewed his proposal to her?

Jane felt 'awed' by St. John's bible reading and prayers and 'felt the greatness and goodness of his purpose so sincerely' that she cannot help but 'feel it too.' When they are alone, St. John speaks again of marriage again puts his hand on her head. Jane describes him as a 'guardian angel', his tone is much gentler than before and Jane has a feeling of 'veneration so strong' that she nearly gives in to him. Strangely, she says the 'dim room was full of visions' so it seems as if she is having some kind of spiritual experience. St. John speaks softly to her and Jane says 'how far more potent is it than force!' He takes Jane in his arms but she says it wasn't the embrace of love for 'I had felt what it was to be loved'. Nevertheless, she is in a state of spiritual excitement and says to God 'show me the path!'

Suddenly Jane feels a sensation through her body, 'an inexpressible feeling that thrilled it through...' and hears a voice calling 'Jane! Jane! Jane!' St. John hears nothing, but Jane recognises the voice of Rochester and replies 'I am coming: wait for me!' She runs into the garden to ask 'Where are you?' but there was no reply. She declares this is the 'work of nature.' When St. John approaches her, she demands to be left alone and spends the night praying in her bedroom and waiting for daylight.

Chapter 36

1. Has St. John given up the idea of Jane being his wife? Explain.
2. What does Jane discover when she reaches Thornfield?
3. According to the innkeeper, how did Rochester behave once Jane had left him?
4. What happened on the night of the fire?
5. What is Jane's reaction to this news?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 36 - Answers

1. Has St. John given up the idea of Jane being his wife? Explain?

No, he has not given up on Jane becoming his wife; he slips a note under her door before he leaves for Cambridge saying that he will expect a 'clear decision' when he returns. He suspects she is going to Rochester and warns 'pray that you enter not into temptation'. He also says he will pray for her 'hourly'.

2. What does Jane discover when she reaches Thornfield?

Jane discovers that Thornfield is a ruin. She compares it to a man watching his love sleep and creeping to take a closer look only 'he finds she is stone dead.' Jane says there is the 'silence of death about it' and that the front of the house is 'fragile-looking' with no battlements or chimneys as 'all had crashed in.'

Chapter 36 - Answers

3. According to the innkeeper, how did Rochester behave once Jane had left him?

The innkeeper explains that Rochester looked for Jane 'as if she had been the most precious thing in the world' and when he couldn't find her, 'he grew savage' and wanted to be alone. He sent Mrs Fairfax away with a generous annuity and sent Adèle to school. He 'broke off acquaintance with all the gentry' and shut himself in Thornfield. He only went out at night to wander the grounds 'just like a ghost'.

Chapter 36 - Answers

4. What happened on the night of the fire?

On the night of the fire, Grace Poole drank too much gin and fell asleep so Bertha took her keys and went 'roaming about the house'. She set fire to the room next to hers, then she went to Jane's old room and 'kindled the bed there'. When Rochester realised the house was burning, he went up to the attics and 'got the servants out of their beds' and helped them get out of the house. He then returned to rescue 'his mad wife', but she was on the roof, 'shouting out'. Rochester went onto the roof, but she 'yelled and gave a spring, and the next minute she lay smashed on the pavement.' He tried to get out of the house, but the stairs collapsed leaving him severely injured. He lost one eye, the other was damaged and had no sight, and one hand had to be amputated after being badly crushed.

5. What is Jane's reaction to this news?

Jane immediately hires a chaise to take her to Rochester. She is so anxious to reach him that she offers to pay 'twice the hire you usually demand.'

Chapter 37

1. What is the weather on Jane's arrival at Ferndean?
2. How does Jane describe Rochester when she sees him? What is her reaction?
3. What does Rochester think Jane is when he realises she is there?
4. What convinces him that it is really her?
5. When they talk over supper, how does Jane feel? When has she felt the opposite of this?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 37

6. What is the weather like in the morning? Is this significant?
7. Why is Rochester's jealousy aroused? Does this link to any other episode in the novel?
8. What are Jane's thoughts on becoming Rochester's wife?
9. Rochester reflects on his life over the last year. What are his conclusions about it?
10. What strange experience did Rochester have? What makes it even more strange?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 37 - Answers

1. What is the weather on Jane's arrival at Ferndean?

When Jane arrives at Ferndean, it is raining and the sky is 'sad' with a 'cold gale'.

2. How does Jane describe Rochester when she sees him? What is her reaction?

Jane describes Rochester as a wild creature that has been 'fettered' and was 'dangerous to approach'. She compares him to a sightless, 'caged eagle'. She sees him stretching his hand out to try to 'gain an idea of what lay around him'. However, she does not feel frightened of him in his 'blind ferocity', she actually wants to kiss him but decides she will 'not accost him yet.'

3. What does Rochester think when he realises Jane is there?

Rochester thinks Jane is a vision and that she will disappear. He says he has had many dreams at night 'when I have clasped her once more to my heart, as I do now' but in the morning found it was 'an empty mockery'. He cannot let himself believe that she is really there.

Chapter 37 - Answers

4. What convinces him that it is really her?

Jane tells him about inheriting a fortune from her uncle. Rochester is sure 'I should never dream that.' It is too practical a matter to be in a dream.

5. When they talk over supper, how does Jane feel? When has she felt the opposite of this?

When they talk, Jane is relaxed and comfortable. She says there is no 'harassing restraint, no repressing of glee and vivacity with him.' She felt the opposite of this when she talked to St. John.

6. What is the weather like in the morning? Is this significant?

In the morning the weather is sunny and bright, the 'rain is over and gone'. This seems to reflect Rochester's mood.

Chapter 37 - Answers

7. Why is Rochester's jealousy aroused? Does this link to any other episode in the novel?

Rochester's jealousy is aroused because Jane tells her story and mentions St. John. Rochester realises that he is a younger man and Jane tells him that St. John is 'tall, fair, with blue eyes, and a Grecian profile.' Through questioning, Rochester discovers that St. John asked Jane to marry him and presumes she would rather have a young, healthy man than him with 'seared vision' and 'crippled strength'. It is similar to a conversation Rochester and Jane had the night he asked her to marry him, but the other way around as Jane thought then that he wanted to marry Blanch Ingram.

8. What are Jane's thoughts on becoming Rochester's wife?

She says it is the best thing she can imagine. 'To be your wife is, for me, to be as happy as I can be on earth.'

Chapter 37 - Answers

9. Rochester reflects on his life over the last year. What are his conclusions about it?

Rochester believes God punished him for trying to get Jane to marry him when he already had a wife. He says he 'did wrong' and should not have put her in that position. The 'disasters' that happened, particularly the fire, Rochester says 'has humbled me for ever.' He said he recently began to feel 'remorse, repentance; the wish for reconciliation to my Maker.'

10. What strange experience did Rochester have? What makes it even more strange?

Four days earlier, Rochester was sitting by the window in his room and was filled with grief. He says he 'longed for thee, Jane!' He believed her dead and wanted God to allow him to die also. He called out loud, 'Jane! Jane! Jane!' and heard a reply, 'I am coming: wait for me.' The strange thing is that Jane had the same experience at the same time, hearing Rochester call out to her and replying to him exactly as he heard it.

Chapter 38

1. What is the wedding of Jane and Rochester like?
2. How do Mary, Diana and St. John respond to the news?
3. What happens to Adèle?
4. What major change happens to Rochester's health?
5. What becomes of Mary and Diana?
6. What does St. John do over the years?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 38 - Answers

1. What is the wedding of Jane and Rochester like?

The wedding is very quiet, 'the parson and clerk, were alone present.' Jane goes back to the house and tells the servants she is married - even they didn't know it was going to happen!

2. How do Mary, Diana and St. John respond to the news?

Mary and Diana are both delighted and 'approved the step unreservedly.' St. John never replies to the letter Jane sends, although he writes to her six months later but does not mention her marriage.

3. What happens to Adèle?

Jane goes to see Adèle in her school and finds her 'pale and thin' and unhappy. Jane does not approve of the school's rules which are 'too strict' and 'too severe' for Adèle. She thinks she will become her governess, but finds she does not have the hours as 'my husband needed them all' so they send Adèle to a school 'on a more indulgent system' that is nearby so Jane can visit often or bring her home.

Chapter 38 - Answers

4. What major change happens to Rochester's health?

Rochester's sight gradually becomes better until he 'recovered the sight of that one eye.' He is able to see his baby son when he is born.

5. What becomes of Mary and Diana?

Mary and Diana both marry and are happy. Diana marries a 'captain in the navy' and Mary marries a 'clergyman'. They all see each other once a year.

6. What does St. John do over the years?

St. John goes to India as planned and becomes a missionary. Jane says 'His is the exaction of the apostle, who speaks but for Christ'. He does not marry and at the end of the novel he is clearly near to death, 'his glorious sun hastens to its setting.' Jane realises the next letter she will get will be informing her he has died, but she does not feel sad. She says 'No fear of death will darken St. John's last hour' as he will be untroubled by conscience and will be eager to return to God.



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