

Jane Eyre Quiz

Chapters One to Ten



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 1

1. The book's title is 'Jane Eyre: An Autobiography'. Explain who is telling the story to the reader.
2. Where is Jane living at the beginning of the book? Why is she there?
3. Describe how Mrs Reed treats Jane.
4. Describe John.
5. Re-tell the incident at the end of the chapter.

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 1 - Answers

1. The book's title is 'Jane Eyre An Autobiography'. Explain who is telling the story to the reader.

Although Charlotte Bronte wrote the book, she assumes the character of Jane who tells the story of her life as an adult, looking back.

2. Where is Jane living at the beginning of the book? Why is she there?

At the beginning of the book Jane is living with her Aunt Reed and her cousins, John, Georgiana and Eliza. She is an orphan and was taken in by her uncle and aunt.

3. Describe how Mrs Reed treats Jane.

Mrs Reed keeps Jane 'at a distance' from her own children and suggests that Jane is not a good child and she is waiting for her to have a 'more sociable and childlike disposition' before including her in the family.

Chapter 1 - Answers

4. Describe John.

John is 14 years old and a school boy. He is fat with 'dingy and unwholesome skin' and large features with big arms and legs. He eats a lot and has a fat face. His mother indulges him, especially by bringing him home from school because of his 'delicate health' when really he is sickly because he eats too many cakes and sweet things.

5. Re-tell the incident at the end of the chapter.

John, after insulting Jane, tells her to come to his chair. He sticks his tongue out at her and then suddenly hits Jane so that she staggers backwards. He says she has no business to take books as 'you are a dependent' which means she depends on Aunt Reed for her home and food. John sends Jane to stand by the door and then throws the book at her head. Jane cuts her head on the door and lashes out at John calling him a 'Wicked and cruel boy!' He then attacks Jane and pulls her hair and calls her a 'rat'. When Mrs Reed and the servants arrive, Jane is lifted up bodily and taken to the red-room upstairs.

Chapter 2

1. Why does Jane describe herself as a 'rebel slave'?
2. Why does Miss Abbot say that Jane is 'less than a servant'?
3. Describe how Bessie and Miss Abbot regard Jane.
4. What is an Abigail?
5. What has happened previously in the Red Room?
6. What is Jane's opinion of John, Eliza and Georgiana?
7. What are her feelings about her life?
8. Why does she run to the door and shake the lock?
9. How does Mrs Reed react to this incident?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 2 - Answers

1. Why does Jane describe herself as a 'rebel slave'?

Jane compares herself to a slave because she must do as she is told and never complain. Because she finally stands up for herself, she has rebelled. Just like a slave, she is now being punished with 'strange penalties' for her rebellion.

2. Why does Miss Abbot say that Jane is 'less than a servant'?

Servants at least are useful, Miss Abbot means that Jane is not useful and she is just a drain on the Mrs Reed's resources without putting anything back.

3. Describe how Bessie and Miss Abbot regard Jane.

Miss Abbot says she has warned Mrs Reed about Jane, saying 'she's an underhand little thing'. Bessie does not join in wholeheartedly, but does remind Jane that without Mrs Reed she would be in the 'poorhouse'.

4. What is an Abigail?

An Abigail is a lady's maid.

Chapter 2 - Answers

5. What has happened previously in the red-room?

Jane's Uncle Reed died or 'breathed his last' in the red-room.

6. What is Jane's opinion of John, Eliza and Georgiana?

Jane thinks Eliza is strong willed and 'selfish'. Georgiana, she says, is spiteful and has a bad temper and although she describes her as beautiful, she does not think her character is. She is always picking faults with things or is 'captious'. Jane describes John as cruel, spoiling plants in the conservatory and killing animals, describing how he 'twisted the necks of the pigeons'. He is not even very pleasant to his mother, who he calls 'old girl' and never listens to her wishes.

7. What are her feelings about her life?

Jane thinks she has been treated very unfairly 'Unjust! –unjust!' in fact she thinks about going on hunger strike and 'letting myself die.' she is very upset about what has happened.

Chapter 2 - Answers

8. Why does she run to the door and shake the lock?

Jane sees a light move and thinks it is some kind of spirit or phantom, she feels 'oppressed' and frightened and tries to be let out.

9. How does Mrs Reed react to this incident?

Mrs Reed thinks Jane is bluffing and says she will have to stay in the room for an extra hour.

Chapter 3

1. What is the significance of Mrs Reed calling in Mr Lloyd the apothecary rather than the physician?
2. Why does Bessie not want to be alone in the nursery with Jane?
3. Why do the tart and the book not cheer Jane?
4. Why is Mr Lloyd described as 'The good apothecary'?
5. What do we learn about Jane's mother and father?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 3 - Answers

1. What is the significance of Mrs Reed calling in Mr Lloyd the apothecary rather than the physician?

The apothecary is called for the servants, the family would have used 'a physician'. This shows Jane's status in the household.

2. Why does Bessie not want to be alone in the nursery with Jane?

Bessie thinks Jane might die in the night and doesn't want to be the only one there if this happens.

3. Why do the tart and the book not cheer Jane?

Jane is too traumatised by her experience to be able to enjoy the tart and the book. Even though the tart is on a plate she had often asked to look at, it is 'too late'; she is very depressed and can not have pleasure in anything.

Chapter 3 - Answers

4. Why is Mr Lloyd described as 'The good apothecary'?

He is kind to Jane and seems concerned for her welfare. He listens to her concerns with respect which no-one else does.

5. What do we learn about Jane's mother and father?

Jane's father was a 'clergyman' who married her mother even though all her mother's friends warned against it as he was 'beneath her'. When they had been married a year, her father caught typhus and died and a month later her mother died of the same thing.

Chapter 4

1. Why does Mrs Reed sweep Jane 'like a whirlwind' into the nursery?
2. What happens next?
3. Who is Mr Brocklehurst?
4. How does Mrs Reed describe Jane to Mr Brocklehurst?
5. Describe Jane's outburst to Mrs Reed.
6. How does Bessie treat Jane at the end of this chapter?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 4 - Answers

1. Why does Mrs Reed sweep Jane 'like a whirlwind' into the nursery?

John has tried to be nasty to Jane again, but Jane hits him in the face. When he runs to Mrs Reed to tell her, she says that Jane is 'not worthy of notice' and that he should not 'associate with her.' At this Jane 'cried out' that 'They are not fit to associate with me'. Mrs Reed reacts by pushing Jane into the nursery, leaving her there for the rest of the day.

2. What happens next?

Jane challenges Mrs Reed to think about what her deceased husband would think of her. Mrs Reed had promised him she would look after Jane like a child of her own before he died. Jane tries to make her feel guilty by saying he can see her from Heaven, as can Jane's mother and father. Mrs Reed lashes out and 'boxed both my [Jane's] ears'.

Chapter 4 - Answers

3. Who is Mr Brocklehurst?

He is the manager of a school, he has come to the house in response to a letter from Mrs Reed.

4. How does Mrs Reed describe Jane to Mr Brocklehurst?

Mrs Reed says that Jane has 'a tendency to deceit' which means she is an habitual liar.

5. Describe Jane's outburst to Mrs Reed.

Jane is badly hurt by what Mrs Reed has said about her. She tells Mrs Reed that she is 'not deceitful' otherwise she would have said that she loves her, but in fact she 'dislikes' her and only hates John Reed more. She says it is Georgiana who lies, not her. Jane says she is glad Mrs Reed is 'no relation' of hers, by which she means by blood, and that Mrs Reed has treated her with 'miserable cruelty' and is a liar for saying Jane is deceitful. Mrs Reed leaves the room and Jane feels she has won the argument.

Chapter 4 - Answers

6. How does Bessie treat Jane at the end of this chapter?

Bessie shows some compassion. She lets Jane have her tea with her and gets cook to bake a 'little cake'. She promises not to 'scold' Jane again and tells her she is leaving in a couple of days for school. They discuss Jane's feelings about leaving and Jane says she will be 'rather sorry' to leave Bessie. In the end, Jane kisses Bessie and they hug and Jane passes an afternoon with 'peace and harmony'.

Chapter 5

1. How does Jane feel about leaving Gateshead?
2. How does Jane travel and how far?
3. What are Monitors?
4. Describe Miss Temple.
5. Describe the meals at Lowood on Jane's first day.

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 5 - Answers

1. How does Jane feel about leaving Gateshead?

She is looking forward to it and although she has to get up at 5am, she is up and dressed earlier than this. She is so excited she can't eat her breakfast, and in delight she said 'Good-bye to Gateshead!' as she went out of the door.

2. How does Jane travel and for how far?

Jane travels the journey of 50 miles by coach. She travels on her own.

3. What are Monitors?

Monitors are the pupils who do jobs such as putting the books away and getting the trays for supper.

Chapter 5 - Answers

4. Describe Miss Temple.

She is described as tall and 'fair' with a good figure, dark-brown curly hair and brown eyes with a 'benignant light' which means she has kind eyes. Miss Temple also has a gold watch, which was unusual in those days. Jane is in awe of her.

5. Describe the meals at Lowood on Jane's first day.

Jane's breakfast is burnt porridge which is inedible and water from a communal cup. She has a lunch of bread and cheese, but this is unusual - Miss Temple organises it because breakfast was so bad. Dinner is potatoes and 'rusty meat' which isn't appetising, and supper is water and a piece of oat cake.

Chapter 6

1. How does Miss Scatcherd treat 'Burns'?
2. How does Jane feel about this?
3. How does Helen advise Jane to think about her past with Mrs Reed?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 6 - Answers

1. How does Miss Scatcherd treat 'Burns'?

Miss Scatcherd singled Burns out and picked on her. Even when Burns gets all the answers right in the history lesson, Miss Scatcherd shouts at her for having 'never cleaned your nails this morning.' This is really unfair as the water was frozen that morning. Later Jane sees her receiving 12 strokes on her neck from 'a bundle of twigs' a punishment for being 'slatternly'.

2. How does Jane feel about this?

Jane is outraged and angry, her fingers 'quivered' with 'impotent anger'.

3. How does Helen advise Jane to think about her past with Mrs Reed?

Helen thinks Jane would be happier if she 'tried to forget her severity', by which she means Mrs Reed's. She says life is 'too short' to think about the wrongs done to you all the time. She says it won't be long before 'sin will fall from us' in death and because of this she can forgive wrongs done to her. 'I live in calm, looking to the end.'

Chapter 7

1. Describe the winter conditions at Lowood.
2. What treat did the pupils get on a Sunday?
3. Explain Mr Brocklehurst's 'plan' for bringing the girls up.
4. What did Mr Brocklehurst do to Jane?
5. What helped her through this experience?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 7 - Answers

1. Describe the conditions in winter at Lowood.

Although the girls can not go beyond the garden because of the snow, they must spend an hour a day outside. They have no suitable clothing, no gloves and the snow gets into their shoes, so their hands and feet become numb and covered in chilblains. There is not enough food to keep them satisfied either.

2. What treat do the pupils get on a Sunday?

On Sunday, the pupils get a whole slice of bread with 'a thin scrape of butter' on it, rather than a half slice with no butter.

3. Explain Mr Brocklehurst's 'plan' for bringing the girls up.

Mr Brocklehurst wants to deny the girls any luxury to make them 'hardy, patient and self-denying'. He says that if a meal is badly prepared, they should put up with it and perhaps listen to a lecture about the sufferings of early Christians or 'torments of martyrs'. He says by feeding them, Miss Temple is starving 'their immortal souls!'

Chapter 7 - Answers

4. What does Mr Brocklehurst do to Jane?

He makes her stand on a high stool while he tells everyone that she is a servant of the 'Evil One', the devil. He tells the children to 'avoid her company' and not include her in their conversations. He tells the teachers to keep their eyes on her because she is a 'liar'. Mr Brocklehurst says she was very ungrateful to Mrs Reed who 'reared her as her own daughter' and was sent to school so as not to 'contaminate' the 'purity' of her own children. He makes her stand for another half hour on the stool.

5. What helped her through this experience?

Helen Burns looks at Jane and smiles at her as she goes past the stool. Jane describes her as like an 'angel'.

Chapter 8

1. Why did Jane 'wish to die'?
2. What are Helen's views on death?
3. Describe the tea with Miss Temple.
4. What does Jane notice about Helen during the tea?
5. Why does Miss Temple 'let her [Helen] go more reluctantly'?
6. What made Jane determined to 'pioneer my way through every difficulty'?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 8 - Answers

1. Why does Jane 'wish to die'?

Jane is depressed because she felt as though she had made a good start at Lowood, she had been 'head of the class' that morning and praised by Miss Miller, but now she feels all that has been taken away from her by Mr Brocklehurst's words. She thinks she will not be able to 'rise more' now as she will be shunned by pupils and staff.

2. What are Helen's views on death?

Helen is very accepting of death and almost looks forward to it, believing that it will be the time when God will 'crown us with a full reward' and that it is 'so certain an entrance to happiness'. She can put up with the hardships of her life because she believes this.

Chapter 8 - Answers

3. Describe the tea with Miss Temple.

This is a patch of light and warmth in Jane's otherwise difficult life. Miss Temple is kind to Jane and Helen and listens to Jane's story about Mrs Reed. She promises to write to Mr Lloyd to find out the truth but reassures Jane that she believes her. They then eat tea, toast and cake, for once having enough to satisfy their appetites.

4. What does Jane notice about Helen during the tea?

Jane notices that Helen seems to glow in the company of Miss Temple. She realises that she is very clever as 'They conversed of things I had never heard of' and that her eloquence was not what you would expect from a girl of 14. She saw Helen as beautiful, saying she had 'radiance'. She also suggests Helen is trying to get as much out of a short time span as she can, living 'as much as many live during a protracted existence.'

Chapter 8 - Answers

5. Why does Miss Temple 'let her [Helen] go more reluctantly'?

There is a suggestion that Helen is poorly, as Miss Temple asks about her cough and her chest pain and takes her pulse. The two have already established a close bond and it may be these things which make Miss Temple reluctant to let her go and why she 'breathed a sad sigh' as Helen left the room.

6. What made Jane determined to 'pioneer my way through every difficulty'?

Miss Temple is true to her word and writes to Mr Lloyd. She announces in front of the whole school that Jane is 'completely cleared' from the accusation of lying that was made against her. Jane has new vigour and determination because of this.

Chapter 9

1. Describe Lowood's transformation in spring and summer.
2. Why was death a 'frequent visitor' at Lowood?
3. Where is Helen Burns?
4. How does she comfort Jane?
5. What does 'Resurgam' mean?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter 9 - Answers

1. Describe Lowood's transformation in spring and summer.

As summer approaches, Jane begins to notice her surroundings with pleasure, and enjoys the stream 'full of dark stones and sparkling eddies' compared to the 'torrent' it was in winter. The weather starts to improve and Lowood becomes green with plants and the 'skeleton' trees become leafy again. Jane sees wild primrose and other woodland species and 'enjoyed it often'.

2. Why was death a 'frequent visitor' at Lowood?

Typhus spreads among the pupils. Jane says they are more susceptible to it because of 'semi-starvation and neglected colds'. Out of 80 girls, 45 were sick.

Chapter 9 - Answers

3. Where is Helen Burns?

Helen is ill, but not with typhus. She has consumption, which we call tuberculosis. She is not in the hospital rooms but in Miss Temple's room.

4. How does Helen comfort Jane?

Helen says she is very happy to be going to God. She promises Jane that she will see her again in Heaven saying 'You will come to the same region of happiness'.

5. What does 'Resurgam' mean?

Resurgam means 'I shall rise again.'

Chapter Ten

1. What was the result of the typhus outbreak at Lowood?
2. What role did Miss Temple play in Jane's life?
3. Why did that change?
4. What decision did Jane make?
5. What is a 'testimonial'?
6. Who is Jane's unexpected visitor and what does she want?

Use quotes from the text in your answer.

Chapter Ten - Answers

1. What is the result of the typhus outbreak at Lowood?

The typhus outbreak brings the school under scrutiny and the awful conditions are discovered and improved. A new building 'in a better situation' is built and the food and clothing are upgraded. Instead of Mr Brocklehurst being in sole charge, a committee takes care of the school funds, which means a different view of the girls from more 'sympathising minds'.

2. What role does Miss Temple play in Jane's life?

Miss Temple is equivalent to Jane's 'mother, governess and latterly, companion.' She is very important to Jane.

3. Why does that change?

That changes because Miss Temple gets married and goes to live some distance away with her husband.

Chapter Ten - Answers

4. What decision does Jane make?

Jane decides to leave Lowood. She says, 'I desired liberty' and realises that in order to earn a living, she will have to advertise herself as a governess.

5. What is a 'testimonial'?

It is a reference, saying that Jane is good at her job and of good character.

6. Who is Jane's unexpected visitor and what does she want?

Jane's visitor is Bessie who tells Jane that an uncle of hers, on her father's side (the Eyres), came to Gateshead to see Jane. Of course, she was not there and he could not stay as he was sailing to Madeira in the next day or two.

