

ENGLISH



PRACTICE QUESTIONS

JANE EYRE: 16 PRACTICE QUESTIONS

SCORE

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PERCENTAGE

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STEMUP

Charlotte Brontë: *Jane Eyre*

Read the following extract from Chapter 2 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, the ten-year-old Jane is reflecting on why she is treated so badly at Gateshead Hall.

I was a discord in Gateshead Hall: I was like nobody there; I had nothing in harmony with Mrs. Reed or her children, or her chosen vassalage. If they did not love me, in fact, as little did I love them. They were not bound to regard with affection a thing that could not sympathise with one amongst them; a heterogeneous thing, opposed to them in temperament, in capacity, in propensities; a useless thing, incapable of serving their interest, or adding to their pleasure; a noxious thing, cherishing the germs of indignation at their treatment, of contempt of their judgment. I know that had I been a sanguine, brilliant, careless, exacting, handsome, romping child, though equally dependent and friendless, Mrs. Reed would have endured my presence more complacently; her children would have entertained for me more of the cordiality of fellow-feeling; the servants would have been less prone to make me the scapegoat of the nursery.

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Jane in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane thinks of herself as a discord in her aunt's house, unloved and unlike the others.

Explain the importance of isolation and belonging elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how isolation and belonging is presented
- the effects isolation and belonging has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: *Jane Eyre*

Read the following extract from Chapter 2 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

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(a) Explore how Brontë presents isolation and belonging in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane thinks of herself as a discord in her aunt's house, unloved and unlike the others.

Explain the importance of the character of Jane elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how Jane is presented
- the effects Jane has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre

Read the following extract from Chapter 2 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, Jane has been locked in the red-room as punishment and begins to imagine her dead uncle's ghost.

A singular notion dawned upon me. I doubted not, never doubted, that if Mr. Reed had been alive he would have treated me kindly; and now, as I sat looking at the white bed and overshadowed walls, occasionally also turning a fascinated eye towards the dimly gleaming mirror, I began to recall what I had heard of dead men, troubled in their graves by the violation of their last wishes, revisiting the earth to punish the perjured and avenge the oppressed; and I thought Mr. Reed's spirit, harassed by the wrongs of his sister's child, might quit its abode, whether in the church vault or in the unknown world of the departed, and rise before me in this chamber. I wiped my tears and hushed my sobs, fearful lest any sign of violent grief might waken a preternatural voice to comfort me, or elicit from the gloom some haloed face, bending over me with strange pity.

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Jane in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane's terror grows in the red-room as she imagines a ghostly presence. Explain the importance of fear and the supernatural elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how fear and the supernatural is presented
- the effects fear and the supernatural has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: *Jane Eyre*

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(a) Explore how Brontë presents fear and the supernatural in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane's terror grows in the red-room as she imagines a ghostly presence. Explain the importance of the character of Jane elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how Jane is presented
- the effects Jane has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: *Jane Eyre*

Read the following extract from Chapter 12 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, Jane is walking alone on the roof at Thornfield and thinking about her restless feelings.

It is in vain to say human beings ought to be satisfied with tranquillity: they must have action; and they will make it if they cannot find it. Millions are condemned to a stiller doom than mine, and millions are in silent revolt against their lot. Nobody knows how many rebellions besides political rebellions ferment in the masses of life which people earth. Women are supposed to be very calm generally: but women feel just as men feel; they need exercise for their faculties, and a field for their efforts, as much as their brothers do; they suffer from too rigid a restraint, too absolute a stagnation, precisely as men would suffer; and it is narrow-minded in their more privileged fellow-creatures to say that they ought to confine themselves to making puddings and knitting stockings, to playing on the piano and embroidering bags. It is thoughtless to condemn them, or laugh at them, if they seek to do more or learn more than custom has pronounced necessary for their sex.

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Jane in this extract.

Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane argues that women need action and opportunity just as much as men do.

Explain the importance of women and independence elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how women and independence is presented
- the effects women and independence has within the novel

(20)

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Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre

Read the following extract from Chapter 12 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

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(a) Explore how Brontë presents women and independence in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

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(b) In this extract, Jane argues that women need action and opportunity just as much as men do.

Explain the importance of the character of Jane elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Jane is presented
- the effects Jane has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: *Jane Eyre*

Read the following extract from Chapter 23 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, Rochester has just announced that he plans to marry Blanche Ingram, and Jane answers him angrily.

"I tell you I must go!" I retorted, roused to something like passion. "Do you think I can stay to become nothing to you? Do you think I am an automaton?, a machine without feelings? and can bear to have my morsel of bread snatched from my lips, and my drop of living water dashed from my cup? Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, I am soulless and heartless? You think wrong!, I have as much soul as you,, and full as much heart! And if God had gifted me with some beauty and much wealth, I should have made it as hard for you to leave me, as it is now for me to leave you. I am not talking to you now through the medium of custom, conventionalities, nor even of mortal flesh;, it is my spirit that addresses your spirit; just as if both had passed through the grave, and we stood at God's feet, equal,, as we are!"

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Jane in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane tells Rochester that she has as much soul and heart as he has. Explain the importance of equality and independence elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how equality and independence is presented
- the effects equality and independence has within the novel

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(a) Explore how Brontë presents equality and independence in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane tells Rochester that she has as much soul and heart as he has. Explain the importance of the character of Jane elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how Jane is presented
- the effects Jane has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre

Read the following extract from Chapter 26 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, Rochester has taken the wedding party up to the attic to reveal the secret at Thornfield.

He lifted the hangings from the wall, uncovering the second door: this, too, he opened. In a room without a window, there burnt a fire guarded by a high and strong fender, and a lamp suspended from the ceiling by a chain. Grace Poole bent over the fire, apparently cooking something in a saucepan. In the deep shade, at the farther end of the room, a figure ran backwards and forwards. What it was, whether beast or human being, one could not, at first sight, tell: it grovelled, seemingly, on all fours; it snatched and growled like some strange wild animal: but it was covered with clothing, and a quantity of dark, grizzled hair, wild as a mane, hid its head and face.

"Good-morrow, Mrs. Poole!" said Mr. Rochester. "How are you? and how is your charge to-day?"

"We're tolerable, sir, I thank you," replied Grace, lifting the boiling mess carefully on to the hob: "rather snappish, but not 'rageous."

A fierce cry seemed to give the lie to her favourable report: the clothed hyena rose up, and stood tall on its hind-feet.

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Bertha in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Rochester shows the group a wild figure in a locked room and Bertha is described as an animal.

Explain the importance of madness and secrets elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how madness and secrets is presented
- the effects madness and secrets has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

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(a) Explore how Brontë presents madness and secrets in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

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(b) In this extract, Rochester shows the group a wild figure in a locked room and Bertha is described as an animal.

Explain the importance of the character of Bertha elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Bertha is presented
- the effects Bertha has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre

Read the following extract from Chapter 27 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, Jane has refused to stay with Rochester as his mistress and is resisting his pleading.

Still indomitable was the reply: "I care for myself. The more solitary, the more friendless, the more unsustained I am, the more I will respect myself. I will keep the law given by God; sanctioned by man. I will hold to the principles received by me when I was sane, and not mad, as I am now. Laws and principles are not for the times when there is no temptation: they are for such moments as this, when body and soul rise in mutiny against their rigour; stringent are they; inviolate they shall be. If at my individual convenience I might break them, what would be their worth? They have a worth, so I have always believed; and if I cannot believe it now, it is because I am insane, quite insane: with my veins running fire, and my heart beating faster than I can count its throbs. Preconceived opinions, foregone determinations, are all I have at this hour to stand by: there I plant my foot."

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Jane in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane holds to her principles even though she is tempted and suffering. Explain the importance of morality and self-respect elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how morality and self-respect is presented
- the effects morality and self-respect has within the novel

(20)

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(a) Explore how Brontë presents morality and self-respect in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane holds to her principles even though she is tempted and suffering. Explain the importance of the character of Jane elsewhere in the novel.
In your answer, you must consider:

- how Jane is presented
- the effects Jane has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: *Jane Eyre*

Read the following extract from Chapter 8 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, Jane has told Helen Burns about her cruel treatment by Mrs Reed and Helen replies calmly.

"She has been unkind to you, no doubt; because you see, she dislikes your cast of character, as Miss Scatcherd does mine; but how minutely you remember all she has done and said to you! What a singularly deep impression her injustice seems to have made on your heart! No ill-usage so brands its record on my feelings. Would you not be happier if you tried to forget her severity, together with the passionate emotions it excited? Life appears to me too short to be spent in nursing animosity or registering wrongs. We are, and must be, one and all, burdened with faults in this world: but the time will soon come when, I trust, we shall put them off in putting off our corruptible bodies; when debasement and sin will fall from us with this cumbrous frame of flesh, and only the spark of the spirit will remain,, the impalpable principle of light and thought, pure as when it left the Creator to inspire the creature: whence it came it will return; perhaps again to be communicated to some being higher than man, perhaps to pass through gradations of glory, from the pale human soul to brighten to the seraph! Surely it will never, on the contrary, be suffered to degenerate from man to fiend?

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Helen Burns in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Helen explains her faith in forgiveness and her hope for something beyond this life.

Explain the importance of religion and forgiveness elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how religion and forgiveness is presented
- the effects religion and forgiveness has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre

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(a) Explore how Brontë presents religion and forgiveness in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

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(b) In this extract, Helen explains her faith in forgiveness and her hope for something beyond this life.

Explain the importance of the character of Helen Burns elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Helen Burns is presented
- the effects Helen Burns has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre

Read the following extract from Chapter 38 of *Jane Eyre* and then answer both parts of the question.

At this point in the novel, which is the closing chapter, Jane is describing her life with Rochester ten years after their marriage.

I have now been married ten years. I know what it is to live entirely for and with what I love best on earth. I hold myself supremely blest, blest beyond what language can express; because I am my husband's life as fully as he is mine. No woman was ever nearer to her mate than I am: ever more absolutely bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh. I know no weariness of my Edward's society: he knows none of mine, any more than we each do of the pulsation of the heart that beats in our separate bosoms; consequently, we are ever together. To be together is for us to be at once as free as in solitude, as gay as in company. We talk, I believe, all day long: to talk to each other is but a more animated and an audible thinking. All my confidence is bestowed on him, all his confidence is devoted to me; we are precisely suited in character, perfect concord is the result.

(a) Explore how Brontë presents the character of Jane in this extract.
Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Jane describes her happy marriage in which she and Rochester are equal partners.

Explain the importance of love and happiness elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how love and happiness is presented
- the effects love and happiness has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)

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Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

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Explain the importance of the character of Jane elsewhere in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- how Jane is presented
- the effects Jane has within the novel

(20)

(Total for this question = 40 marks)