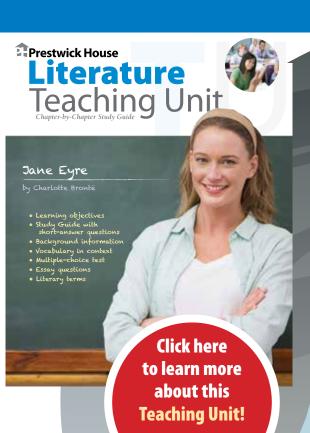


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# Literature Teaching Unit Chapter-by-Chapter Study Guide



# Prestwick House

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Item No: 300560

Jane Eyre TEACHING UNIT

### Jane Eyre

### **Objectives**

By the end of this unit, the student will be able to

- 1. recognize the three different ways the author uses first-person narration:
  - Jane is the narrator using "I" to tell the story.
  - Jane as the narrator seems to speak directly to the reader.
  - Rochester, a temporary narrator, takes over, still in first person, to relate a past event from his experience.
- 2. point out and give examples of how the descriptions of nature mirror the changes in Jane's life.
- 3. refer to the story to support or refute the following: "Above all, the novel *Jane Eyre* is a love story in which the heroine searches for an earthly love that is acceptable to God."
- 4. point out the ways in which Jane's quest makes this a "coming of age" story.
- 5. point out where and when the following themes emerge:
  - One must endure life's hardships while striving to follow God's teaching.
  - Despite earthly temptations, the laws of God must be obeyed.
- 6. discuss how and where the following topics emerge:
  - poverty
  - forgiveness
  - cruelty
- 7. support or refute the following statement of theme by referring to the novel: "To grow into healthy, mature adults, in addition to both love and discipline, we need to develop inner resources and have a purpose in life."
- 8. discuss the use of the following literary figures of speech:
  - metaphor
  - simile
  - personification
- 9. identify and point out the following literary devices:
  - allusion
  - foreshadowing
  - foil
- 10. point out how light is used as a symbol for hope and eternal life.

Jane Eyre TEACHING UNIT

## Jane Eyre

### **Questions for Essay and Discussion**

- 1. Discuss the various types of first-person narration and the reason Brontë occasionally employs more than one narrator in this novel.
- 2. The introduction states, "The narrative is compelling and moving as a work of romantic fiction. Following the classic trajectory of that form the heroine moves from isolation through trials and complications toward marriage as an ideal resolution." Trace the incidents in the story that show this is an example of romantic fiction.
- 3. Review the definition of a symbol. In Jane's dreams, what do "light," the "child," and the "chestnut-tree" symbolize?
- 4. How does the author use foreshadowing to add suspense and keep the reader's interest?
- 5. Discuss the author's use of nature to mirror Jane's life. If she is happy, the weather is great. If she is in trouble, there is a storm. Find an instance when the weather confirms to the reader that Jane has made a correct decision according to the Lord.
- 6. In the novel, how important is physical beauty for a person's ultimate happiness?
- 7. Do you think Jane's religious beliefs, which prevent her from staying with Rochester after she learns about his marriage, lead her to ultimate happiness or unnecessarily complicate her life?
- 8. Jane clearly believes in premonition, signs or dreams, and sympathetic-familiar connections. Find examples of each of these in the novel.
- 9. In what ways does the character of Miss Temple represent the "ideal" Victorian woman of Jane's class? In what ways does Bessie do the same thing for the lower class?
- 10. What lessons about life and God does Jane learn from her friend Helen?
- 11. Family connections are important to Jane. Which of the characters in the novel are her "blood" relations?
- 12. Write a character sketch of Rivers, contrasting him to Rochester. Why do you think Jane prefers Rochester?
- 13. How does Jane's artistic talent help her to find love and her long lost family?

Jane Eyre STUDENT COPY

### **Chapter IV**

### VOCABULARY

	audacious – shameless	
	capricious – impulsive, unpredictable	
	chastisement – punishment	
	congealed – thickened	
	contrived – created, invented	
	execrations – curses	
	exult – to rejoice	
	fain – willingly, eagerly	
	<b>fiendish</b> – cruel, wicked	
	habituated – accustomed	
	irksome – annoying, harassing	
	judicious – prudent, sensible	
	mandate – an instruction or command	
	parterre – an arrangement of flower beds	
	piety – religiousness	
	poltroon – a coward	
	recompense – a reward, compensation	
	ruth – compassion	
	tenantry – inhibitors, occupants	
	transitory – brief, fleeting	
	usurious – extremely high interest rates	
	vehement – forceful	
	venturesome – daring	
_		
	What does Jane say to Mrs. Reed that causes her to box Jane's ears?	

State a theme for this story based on Jane's loneliness described in this chapter.
State a theme for this story based on Jane's loneliness described in this chapter.

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Jane Eyre STUDENT COPY

	her punishment during history class?		
	<u>Chapter VI</u>		
	VOCABULARY		
	animadversions – criticisms		
•	assiduity – careful attention		
	<b>chastiser</b> – a punisher; one who disciplines		
	cumbrous – heavy, burdensome		
	disconsolate – unhappy, gloomy		
	ewers – large pitchers		
	expostulations – objections forbearance – restraint		
	impalpable – difficult to grasp or understand		
	meed – a reward		
1	<b>prerogatives</b> – privileges		
1	reverie – a daydream		
	seraph – highest rank of angels		
	skein – a small bunch of yarn		
	slatternly – not neat, untidy		
	truculent – harsh, quarrelsome		

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Find	an example of personification in the chapter.
Why	does Jane forgive Rochester in her heart?
	t reason does Rochester give for keeping his sick wife at Thornfield instead o ng her in a remote Manor?
How	does Rochester plan to be with Jane even though they cannot marry?
Why	did Mr. Rochester marry Bertha?
	t did Mr. Rochester do after he brought Bertha to Thornfield and hired Mrs. Intch her? Why do you suppose he does not divorce Bertha?