

Jane Eyre

Chapters 28–35

by Charlotte Brontë

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: austere, chimera, destitute, endowment, eschew, implacable, ingenuous, physiognomy, taciturn, venerate

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz (use after reading, or skip):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–4 · Jane's childhood at Gateshead Hall

Section 2 · Chapters 5–10 · Jane arrives at Lowood School

Section 3 · Chapters 11–20 · A governess arrives at Thornfield Hall

Section 4 · Chapters 21–27 · Jane is called away from Thornfield

Section 5 · Chapters 28–35 · Jane finds shelter at Moor House

Section 6 · Chapters 36–38 · Jane sets out to find Rochester

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com
(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

1. Her **austere** grandfather demanded silence at every meal.

- A. old and weary
- B. stern and severe
- C. proud and distant

2. She finally saw that her hope of instant wealth was a **chimera**.

- A. an impossible hope
- B. a costly mistake
- C. a clever scheme

3. By the end of the war, the once-proud family was **destitute**.

- A. lonely and friendless
- B. weak with hunger
- C. extremely poor

4. Anyone could see the **endowment** she had for music.

- A. a gift of money
- B. a natural talent
- C. a trained skill

5. Serious athletes **eschew** junk food during the season.

- A. carefully ration
- B. openly defend
- C. deliberately avoid

6. Once he felt betrayed, his resentment grew **implacable**.

- A. impossible to calm
- B. cold and silent
- C. quick to explode

7. The new student gave an **ingenuous** reply to the teacher's question.

- A. clever and inventive
- B. frank and innocent
- C. polite and formal

8. The artist studied the old sailor's **physiognomy** before painting.

- A. physical build
- B. general posture
- C. facial features

9. Even at the lively party, the old captain stayed **taciturn**.

- A. quiet and reserved
- B. stiff and formal
- C. gloomy and bored

10. People still **venerate** the doctor who served the village for fifty years.

- A. deeply respect
- B. closely study
- C. quietly envy

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

coadjutor — an assistant or helper, especially to a bishop or in a shared task

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	A
3	C
4	B
5	C
6	A
7	B
8	C
9	A
10	A

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 “I was not possessed of another shilling in the world. ... and now, I am absolutely destitute.”

As it is used in the passage, the word “destitute” most nearly suggests that Jane is...

- A. weak from hunger and travel
- B. alone and unknown to anyone
- C. without money or possessions

2 “... to induce them to vouchsafe a rest for my wanderings! As I groped out the door, and knocked at it hesitatingly, I felt that last idea to be a mere chimera.”

The passage most strongly suggests that Jane expects her plea for shelter to...

- A. anger the household
- B. be readily granted
- C. come to nothing

3 “Rather an unusual physiognomy; certainly, not indicative of vulgarity ...”

The author most likely includes St. John’s remark on Jane’s physiognomy in order to...

- A. stress how ill she appears
- B. show he reads character in faces
- C. reveal his pity for her

4 “As she patted the dog’s head, bending with native grace before his young and austere master ...”

In the passage, St. John is characterized as...

- A. stern and severe
- B. warm and easygoing
- C. timid and uncertain

5 “... but not affected; liberal-handed; innocent of the pride of wealth; ingenuous ...”

Which statement about Rosamond is best supported by the passage?

- A. She is frank and unspoiled.
- B. She is sly and scheming.
- C. She is proud of her wealth.

6 “He appeared a taciturn, and perhaps a proud personage ...”

In the passage, Mr. Oliver is characterized as...

- A. reserved and silent
- B. talkative and warm
- C. anxious and restless

7 “Well may he eschew the calm of domestic life; it is not his element ...”

The information in the excerpt primarily functions to...

- A. show his love of comfort
- B. explain why he shuns home life
- C. reveal his longing for rest

8 “God and nature intended you for a missionary’s wife. It is not personal, but mental endowments they have given you: you are formed for labour, not for love.”

The passage most strongly suggests that St. John values Jane for...

- A. her wealth and standing
- B. her gifts of mind
- C. her personal devotion

9 “... what severe punishment a good yet stern, a conscientious yet implacable man can inflict on one who has offended ...”

It can reasonably be inferred that St. John, once he has been offended,...

- A. forgives readily
- B. seeks open revenge
- C. cannot be appeased

10 “I deeply venerated my cousin’s talent and principle.”

In context, the word “venerated” emphasizes...

- A. Jane’s deep respect for him
- B. Jane’s envy of his gifts
- C. Jane’s fear of his anger

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary in Context

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	C	
2	C	
3	B	Character comprehension.
4	A	
5	A	Often confused with 'ingenious'; here it means frank and guileless, not clever.
6	A	
7	B	
8	B	'Endowments' here means natural gifts of mind, not a financial endowment.
9	C	Character comprehension. St. John punishes through cold estrangement, not open hostility.
10	A	

Teacher Context: Chapters 28–35

Penniless and homeless after fleeing Thornfield, Jane nearly starves before the Rivers siblings -- St. John, Diana, and Mary -- take her in at Moor House. She builds an independent life as a village schoolteacher, comes into an unexpected inheritance, learns the Rivers are her own cousins, and must withstand St. John's pressure to marry him and join his missionary work. The section ends at a decisive moment, just before her final choice.