

Literature insight 1 *Jane Eyre* – Charlotte Brontë

WB p.84-85

BEFORE YOU READ

- 1 Read about Charlotte Brontë. In which literary works did the Brontë sisters create imaginary worlds?
- 2 Read the background to the story on page 85. Why is Jane afraid of being locked in the red room?

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- 1 Read the extract on page 85. What benefit does Mr Brocklehurst think that physical punishment can have?

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2 Read the extract again. Put the events a–h in the correct order.

- a He tells the students that this seemingly ordinary girl is evil.
- b Jane is afraid that it will no longer be possible to start a new life at Lowood.
- c The girls are not allowed to speak to her that day.
- ! d Jane fears that Miss Temple's good feelings towards her will change when her true character is revealed.
- e Mrs Reed believes that Jane was having an evil influence on her children.
- f Mr Brocklehurst says that Jane is a liar.
- g Helen Burns looks at Jane and calms her feelings of anger and shame.
- h Jane is placed on a chair close to Mr Brocklehurst's nose.

3 SPEAKING Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- 1 Do you think the other girls believe Mr Brocklehurst? Why / why not?
- 2 Do you think that Jane is right to feel anger and shame? Why / why not?

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- 4** Read what happens next. Why do many of the girls become ill?

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- 5**  **3.11** Listen to the next part of the story. What does Mr Rochester think about Jane's character?

- 6**  **3.11** Listen again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- 1** Mr Rochester asks if Jane considers herself handsome.
- 2** Jane's first response is that beauty doesn't matter.
- 3** Jane asks Mr Rochester if he is good as well as intelligent.
- 4** Mr Rochester commands Jane to speak.
- 5** Mr Rochester made good decisions when he was younger.
- 6** Mr Rochester feels that he can confide in Jane.

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7 SPEAKING Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- 1 In this scene Mr Rochester and Jane discuss beauty and goodness. Which do you think is more important? Why?
- 2 What do you think happened to Mr Rochester when he was twenty-one years old?
- 3 Who do you tell your problems and secrets to? Can you keep a secret? Why / why not?

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