Worksheet 1

WARM UP

Perhaps you have already read the novel or watched the film *Jane Eyre*. Remember, *Jane Eyre* is the story of a young, orphaned girl who lives with her aunt and cousins, the Reeds, at Gateshead Hall. Like all nineteenth-century orphans, her situation is not good. She is an isolated ten-year-old, living with a family that dislikes her. She grows in strength, excels at school and eventually becomes a governess in Edward Rochester’s country house.

Jane and Rochester have fascinating conversations in the evenings and everything seems to be going really well… until Rochester invites some of his rich friends to stay at Thornfield, including the beautiful Blanche Ingram. Rochester lets Blanche flirt with him constantly in front of Jane to make her jealous, and encourages rumours that he’s engaged to Blanche. He lets Jane think for a little longer that he’s going to marry Blanche; he seems to enjoy teasing Jane…

How does Jane react? Let’s discover it… These are some words you are going to find along the text. Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a- h next to the numbers 1–8

1.……automaton a) a small piece or amount of anything, specially food
2.……flesh b) ordinary
3.……bear c) the body, esp. as distinguished from the spirit or soul
4.……wealth d) the same or alike in quantity, degree, value, etc.
5.……addresses e) a small mechanical figure built to act and move as if by its own power
6.……morsel f) a great deal of money, property, or possessions
7.……plain g) directs a speech or statement to
8.……equal h) hold or support
Worsheet 2

READING COMPREHENSION I

Read the following text carefully. It’s the original version, so maybe you will find some words or expressions you have never heard or read before. But be patient, and try to decipher their meaning through the context.

Then do the exercises. They are going to help you understand the text.

"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!" (Jane Eyre, Chapter XXIII)

1: Let’s analyse the three rhetorical questions Jane asks Mr Rochester:

a) “Do you think I can stay to become nothing to you?”

Which words or expressions from below come to your mind when you read “to become nothing to you”?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>disregard</th>
<th>love</th>
<th>ignore</th>
<th>give no consideration</th>
<th>be indifferent to</th>
<th>prize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

b) 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?”

Read the underlined words carefully. Can you guess the meaning of “snatched” and “dashed”? Do these actions imply violence or kindness?

c) “Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, I am soulless and heartless?”
Which words does Jane use to describe herself?

**Worksheet 3**

**GRAMMAR: FORMING ADJECTIVES**

1) Underline the adjectives you find in this sentence. Can you find a pattern in any of them?

*Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, I am soulless and heartless?*

**Notice:**

Soul (noun) + -less = **soulless** / heart (noun) + -less = **heartless**

Can you figure out the meaning of these adjectives? If a person is soulless and heartless, is s/he kind, friendly, nice, sweet?

Some adjectives can be identified by their endings. One of typical adjective endings is –less, which means that adding –less to a noun you can form an adjective, adding a new meaning to the primitive noun.

Which is this new meaning? ............................................................

Now form adjectives adding –less to these nouns, and consider the added meaning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>noun</th>
<th>adjective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>wire</td>
<td>speech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>home</td>
<td>job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pain</td>
<td>hope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>harm</td>
<td>power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>life</td>
<td>use</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complete these sentences with the adjectives you have formed above:

- Due to the earthquake, many families are still ...................... and exposed to the cold and the rain.
- It is now possible to have ..................... connections between lots of different devices in your home.
- Don’t worry, this test is .........................
- The refugees were devastated and .........................
Examples of discriminatory language are references to a woman as docile, weak or …………………………….

This pen is ………………… because it’s out of ink.

This dog looks ……………………………

When he told me truth I got ……………………………

His …………………………… body was later discovered at a park outside the city of London.

It is better to subsidise companies and jobs than to subsidise the ………………………………, said the Prime Minister.

**Compare these two words and their meanings: USELESS – USEFUL**

Use + -less = useless      Use + -ful= useful

The two meanings are quite the opposite. Adding –ful to a noun is another way to form adjectives.

How many adjectives do you already know finished in –ful?

**USE OF LANGUAGE: Practising with adjectives**

1) There are several adaptations of *Jane Eyre*. If you go to [http://popplet.com/app/#/3605981](http://popplet.com/app/#/3605981) you will find some pictures of different actresses that have played Jane Austen. Leave at least a comment using two adjectives to describe Jane. You can comment on more than one picture if you want.
We are going to analyse the second part of the text

Let’s do the exercises. They are going to help you understand the text

"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!" (Jane Eyre, Chapter XXIII)

1: “You think wrong!”, Jane says to Mr Rochester. And now she makes a statement:

“I have as much soul as you and full as much heart”

So what does Jane think?
- She is better than Mr Rochester
- She is worse than Mr Rochester
- They are equals

2: Try to find another way to say “if God had gifted me with some beauty and much wealth”, and complete the sentence:

................................................................., I should have made it as hard for you to leave me, as it is now for me to leave you.

Now choose the proper ending for the sentence, according to Jane’s original words:
“And if God had gifted me with some beauty and much wealth…
- ...you would have fallen in love with me, as I am in love with you now.
- ...you would have let me go.
- ...you would have had an affair with me

2: Try to find another way to say “passed through the grave”

“just as if both had ……………………………, and we stood at God's feet, equal, as we are!”

6: Could these words define Jane’s speech? Note Jane’s last words.

   self-esteem                     self-respect                     pride in oneself

WRITING

1: Write a short sentence to resume Jane’s speech and post a tweet with the hashtag #dignity_for_women

........................................................................................................................................................................

GRAMMAR: Third conditional (optional)

Read carefully this sentence:

   If I had been beautiful and rich, you would have fallen in love with me

Now compare it with this other one:

   If I was beautiful and rich you would fall in love with me

One of them describes an IMPROBABLE situation, and the other one describes an UNREAL one.

Which of them describes something UNREAL? ............................................

Third conditional structures describe things that didn’t happen in the past and their imaginary results. In other words, as they didn’t happen in the past, you are only able to imagine the consequences:

   If I had gone to bed early, I would have caught the train.
   If we had arrived earlier, we would have seen John.
   If they had had enough money, they would have taken a taxi.

1) Can you figure out the structure of the third conditional? Try to complete these sentences:

   If I .................................. (study)   I .........................(pass) the exam
Jane Eyre. An unconventional heroine

Roser de Antonio mantonio@xtec.cat

If he .................................(go) to an Art school he .......................... (become) a painter
If I .................................(listen) to my mother I .......................... (save) some money

Worksheet 5

WARM UP: Food for though

Jane Eyre was written by Charlotte Bronte and was first published in 1847. During this period, women were expected to stay at home and their time was to be spent taking care of household duties and their children. Females were regarded as properties rather than as humans: they either belonged to their fathers or their husbands. As they were thought to be incapable of surviving on their own, they had no independence. Permission was required for almost everything and they were expected to abide by the rules set out by their owners.

Men were considered to be very much superior to women and they were to be treated with respect by the latter, whether they agreed with their views or not.

Although Jane Eyre was written during this period, Brontë portrays her character in a very unconventional way. Apart from the text you have read, here you have some quotes from the novel. Guess who says that!

“I am not an angel and I will not be one till I die: I will be myself”

“I can live alone, if self-respect and circumstances require me so to do. I don’t need to sell my soul to buy bliss”.

"I am no bird; and no net ensnares me; I am a free human being, with an independent will; which I now exert to leave you.”

“I do not think, sir, you have any right to command me, merely because you are older than I, or because you have seen more of the world than I have.”

In 1897 publishing was not easy for female writers...
Jane Eyre was originally written under a male pen name. Charlotte Bronte published her works under the name Currer Bell. This name represented the male identity necessary to be taken seriously in an era when authoresses were looked on with severe prejudice. Jane Eyre is regarded as one of the most influential works of literature in history and is now published under Charlotte Bronte’s true name.

What about today? Things seem to not have changed…

Do you know the popular series Harry Potter? Its author, Joanne Rowling, submitted the work to her publishers under her real name "Joanne Rowling". Her publishers urged her to use only initials for the publication with fear that the target audience of young boys would not read something written by a woman. The "K" as the second initial of Rowling’s pen name is completely fabricated. It is impossible to say whether Harry Potter would have achieved the immense fame that it has if written under Rowling’s true name.

**FINAL TASK: WRITING**

You work for a publisher. Your boss has told you to write a short text (about 50 words) for the back cover of Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone, telling readers some facts and your opinion about its authoress. Use some adjectives to describe her, as well as her career… Look up some vocabulary on the Internet if necessary, and, above all, do not to use discriminatory language!
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Roser de Antonio mantonio@xtec.cat

**Brief description of a writer’s career 1:** *Jane Eyre* is a famous novel written by Charlotte Brontë. She was an English novelist and poet, whose novels have become classics of English literature. She first published her works under the penname Currer Bell. She was a brave authoress whose views of the world challenged the ideals and socials norms of her time.

**Brief description of a writer’s career 2:** *Jane Eyre* is a book very famous. I have watched the film. Charlotte Brontë is the writer. She lived in the XIX century. She has a sister. She has black hair and green eyes. She is not beautiful, she is from Britain. She has written a novel *Jane Eyre*. This book is very good.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completion, Organization &amp; Effort</th>
<th>EXCELLENT!</th>
<th>GOOD!</th>
<th>IT NEEDS REVISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- The writer exceeds or fulfils the requirements by writing fully detailed sentences. (2 points)</td>
<td>- The writer included somewhat detailed sentences. (1 point)</td>
<td>- The writer has included some or a few detailed sentences. (0.5 points)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- S/he has put care and effort into the process. (1 point)</td>
<td>- Writing is generally logical. (0.5 points)</td>
<td>- Paragraph is somewhat unorganized. (0.5 points)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The text is organized and topic is discussed properly. (2 points)</td>
<td>- Most information on topic is included. (1 point)</td>
<td>- There is some irrelevant information (0 points)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comprehensibility</th>
<th>EXCELLENT!</th>
<th>GOOD!</th>
<th>IT NEEDS REVISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- The reader can always understand what the writer is trying to communicate. (1 point)</td>
<td>- The reader can understand most of what the writer is trying to communicate. (0.5 points)</td>
<td>- The reader can understand less than half of what writer is trying to communicate and must rely on interpretation. (0 points)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- English vocabulary is used correctly. (1 point)</td>
<td>- Mostly correct use of English vocabulary. (0.5 points)</td>
<td>- Incorrect use of vocabulary (0 points)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- No interpretation on part of the reader is necessary. (1 point)</td>
<td>- Minimal interpretation on the part of reader is required. (0.5 points)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Accuracy</th>
<th>EXCELLENT!</th>
<th>GOOD!</th>
<th>IT NEEDS REVISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The writer stays in English language throughout and uses correct word order, verbal forms, spelling and punctuation. (1 point)</td>
<td>The writer usually uses correct word order, verbal forms spelling and punctuation. (0.5 points)</td>
<td>The writer makes frequent mistakes with word order, verbal forms, spelling and punctuation. (0 points)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective Order</th>
<th>EXCELLENT!</th>
<th>GOOD!</th>
<th>IT NEEDS REVISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO ERRORS in adjective order! (1 point)</td>
<td>Adjective order is incorrect once or twice. (0.5 points)</td>
<td>The writer makes 3 or more mistakes with adjective order. (0 points)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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