Choosing and motivating
Is this the right story for your class? Have the students heard of Jane Eyre? Motivate them with background information (see The Back Story above) and by reading aloud the first page of the story with dramatic atmosphere.

Organising
Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the Self Study section at the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading. All answers are on page 4 of this resource sheet.

Using the CD
Students can listen and follow in their books. They can listen and then read. They can read and then listen. All these activities will improve their reading speeds and skills.

Using the DVD
Select the English language option on the DVD. The story is told in four episodes and is 232 minutes long. Select key scenes to show in parallel with the class reading schedule.

Glossary
Go to ‘New Words’ at the back of the reader. Translate the words with the class or get students to find meanings at home. The Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet practises the new words in a different context.

The language of Charlotte Brontë’s time
Jane Eyre was published in 1847. This adaptation is mostly told in modern English, but keeps a flavour of the original. Read through page 6 to prepare students for the language they will come across in the reader.

Fact Files
Set these as self-study or use for whole class work. These provide background information about Charlotte Brontë, the position of women and the lives of children in Victorian England.

What did they think?
Get everyone to do a written or spoken review of Jane Eyre. Compare opinions. Will they read the original, either in English or their own language? Did you like it? Let us know at: readers@scholasticeltreaders.com.
People and places
Match these questions and answers.

a) Is Jane Eyre rich? i) A husband.
b) Where does Adèle come from? ii) No, she's poor.
c) What is Blanche Ingram looking for? iii) Three.
d) How old is Mr Rochester? iv) France.
e) How many children does Mrs Reed have? v) About forty.

Chapters 1–2
1 Tick (✓) the things that Jane likes. Cross (✗) the things she doesn't like.

a) reading ✓
b) her cousin John Reed
b) the red room
b) the idea of school
b) Gateshead

2 Are these sentences about Lowood true (T) or false (F)?

a) Girls can wear their own clothes. T
b) Girls must read the Bible for one hour before breakfast. F
b) Girls can stay inside after lessons if it is cold. T
b) All girls get a warm winter coat. F
e) Supper is a small cup of coffee and half a piece of bread. F

3 Who is speaking in these conversations, do you think?
Choose from:

Mrs Brocklehurst
Helen
Jane
Jane
Miss Brocklehurst

a) ………………………………… ‘I like pretty dresses in the latest fashions.’
b) ………………………………… ‘Me too, Mamma. Those brown dresses are horrible.’
c) ………………………………… ‘Drink this. You will feel better then.’
d) ………………………………… ‘You are very kind to me. I never had a friend before.’
e) ………………………………… ‘Is she going to die?’
f) ………………………………… ‘I'm sorry. She's very ill.’

4 Work with a partner. You are starting a new school for girls with no family or no money. What will the school be like? Write down your ideas.

Chapters 3–5
1 Circle the mistakes in these sentences.

a) Everyone at Thornfield is very angry with Jane.
b) Jane thinks she is pretty.
c) Mrs Fairfax thinks Jane is strange.
d) Jane hears a strange animal at the top of the house.
e) She loves the beautiful house and kitchens.
f) Rochester is angry when he falls from his bike.

2 Circle the correct words in italics.

a) Adèle / Jane loves presents.
b) Mr Rochester likes Jane's piano playing / drawing.
c) Something good / bad happened to Mr Rochester in the Caribbean.
d) Mr Rochester cares / doesn't care about Jane's feelings.
e) Adèle looks / doesn't look like Mr Rochester.
f) Jane wakes when she hears someone outside her door / smells the fire.

3 Tick (✓) the things that happen at the house party.

a) Adèle and Jane eat their meals with the guests.
b) Mr Rochester takes his guests out for a ride across the country.
c) Jane puts a Parisian dress and shoes on for the evening.
d) The guests drink coffee in the drawing room.
e) Jane watches Mr Rochester with his guests.
f) The Ingrams laugh about governesses.
g) Blanche plays the piano and Mr Rochester sings with her.
h) Mr Rochester doesn't speak to Jane.

4 Work with another student. You are guests at Mr Rochester's house party. Talk about the other guests, Mr Rochester and Thornfield.

Chapters 6–8
1 Put these events a–j in the right order.

a) A letter comes from Gateshead for Jane.
b) A month later, she returns to Thornfield.
c) A terrible scream wakes all Mr Rochester's guests.
d) Dr Carter takes Mr Mason to his house.
e) Jane and Mr Rochester walk in the garden.
f) Jane looks after Mr Mason and waits for Mr Rochester.
g) Jane visits her aunt.
h) Mr Rochester asks her to marry him.
i) She learns about her uncle John Eyre.
j) When the house is quiet, Mr Rochester comes to Jane's door.
VOCABULARY BUILDER

Look at the 'New Words' at the back of Jane Eyre.

1 Find words to complete these sentences.

1. After the terrible storm, the house needed a new ..................

2. When the ........................ went out, the room was very dark.

3. Suddenly the wind came up and a tree hit the window. The children ........................ and ran to their mother.

4. The rich old man must have a ........................ . Look at his big house!

5. The young girl thought she saw a ghost. Her face went very .................. and then she ........................ .

6. A ...................... man escaped from hospital and killed three people.

7. You can’t drive before you are 17. It is against the ........................ .

8. The ........................ in the newspaper said the job was exciting and fun.

9. A wheel came off the ........................ and one of the passengers fell out.

10. The old woman said she saw ........................ dancing over the water at night.

2 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

coach feelings governess ladies master
servants spirit veil

1. The ...................... had tea and played the piano in the afternoons.

2. The ...................... got up at 5.30am and lit the fires in the rooms downstairs.

3. The ...................... locked the door in the schoolroom and went down to the river.

4. The ...................... went out on his horse. He carried his gun and his dogs ran behind him.

5. The children said unkind things to their aunt and hurt her ........................ .

6. The girl put her ...................... in a cupboard after the wedding. She never wore it again.

7. The boy has a strong ...................... and always does what he wants.

8. The ...................... drove from London to Edinburgh. It took three days.

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

a) Jane likes beautiful dresses and bright colours. F

b) Jane tells her uncle about her wedding in a letter. T

c) A terrible woman pulls Jane’s veil to pieces. T

d) Jane tells Mrs Fairfax about it. F

e) Jane and Mr Rochester have a long, lazy breakfast before the wedding. T

f) Jane’s uncle comes to the church and stops the wedding. F

g) Mr Rochester is secretly married to Grace Poole. T

h) Mr Rochester is married to Mr Mason’s sister. T

3 Talk to a partner. At the moment that Mr Rochester asks Jane to marry him, a storm hits the old tree. What does this mean, do you think?

Chapters 9–11

1 Complete the sentences with names and places.

India Jane Elliott John Eyre Mr Briggs Mr Rochester
Mrs Fairfax Morton Rivers Whitcross

a) Jane gets off the coach at ......................... Whitcross.

b) She is nearly dead when she arrives at the house of the ........................ family.

c) She tells them her name is ........................ .

d) Jane starts a new school for girls in ........................ .

e) St John gets a letter from ........................ . It asks about Jane Eyre.

f) ........................ leaves Jane twenty thousand pounds.

g) St John asks Jane to go to ........................ with him.

h) Jane writes to ........................ for news about Mr Rochester.

i) Jane hears ........................ ’s voice from far away.

2 Why are these things important in Jane’s story?

• a fire
• an advertisement
• a letter to an uncle
• typhoid fever

FINAL TASKS

1 You are Mr Rochester. Write about your feelings at one of these moments in your life:

• the first time you see Jane Eyre
• when Briggs stops the wedding
• when you discover that Jane has left Thornfield
• when you hear Jane’s voice at Ferndean
• when you see your baby for the first time

2 You are Grace Poole. You look after Bertha Rochester in the attic at Thornfield. Write about an ordinary day in your life.

3 You write for the Millcote newspaper. You are at Thornfield on the night of the fire. Write a report for the next day’s newspaper.
CHARLOTTE BRONTE (pages 62–3)
Comparing lives
Writers often use events and feelings from their own lives in their novels. Students work in pairs. Give them these topics: family life, school, work, travel, illness, marrying, having children. They compare these aspects of Charlotte’s life and Jane’s life, for example: Jane had no sisters or brothers, but Charlotte had four sisters and one brother. Jane and Charlotte both lived with an aunt after their mothers died.

A letter
Charlotte Brontë was good friends with another famous writer, Mrs Gaskell. They often wrote letters. Students choose a point in Charlotte’s life from the Fact File, for example, 1848, the year that both Branwell and Emily Brontë died. They write a letter from Charlotte to Mrs Gaskell. Charlotte tells her about what has happened, how she feels now and her hopes for the future.

WOMEN IN VICTORIAN ENGLAND (pages 64–5)
Interviews
Students work in groups of five or six. Each group chooses two students to be Victorian women and one to be a modern woman. The other members of the group interview the three women about their lives for a lifestyle magazine.

CHILDREN IN VICTORIAN ENGLAND (pages 66–7)
Project
“What was life like for children in your country a hundred years ago?” Students find out about rich and poor children’s lives, presenting their information as bullet points, an article or a fact file. Research tools: parents and other family members, the internet, the library.

Children’s Charter
Society is moulded by the way its children are brought up. They are the next generation and in a few years’ time, they will be in charge! Students write a Charter for Children, listing how they think children should be brought up. They can include these topics: human rights, schooling, work, play, discipline, free time, screen time, pocket money, manners.

DVD/CD FOLLOW-UP
DVD: Meeting Bertha
Get students to write down what they think Bertha Rochester looks like. Then play the encounter between the wedding party and Bertha in the attic. Students say how the BBC’s Bertha looks like. Then play the encounter between the wedding party and Bertha in the attic.

DVD: Choosing scenes
The adaptation is nearly four hours long. Write a list of key scenes on the board. Students vote for the scenes they would most like to watch. Examples:
- Jane’s first day at Lowood
- the death of Helen Burns
- the first meeting between Jane and Mr Rochester
- Jane’s final conversation with Mrs Reed at Gateshead
- Jane hearing Mr Rochester’s voice calling to her
- Jane’s return to Thornfield
- the ending

CD: What happens next?
Choose a key moment on the CD in the section that students are going to read next. Play part of the scene, but stop it before something dramatic happens. Students note down or discuss what they think will happen next. Don’t tell them or play the next section. When they read, they will see if they were right or wrong. Check back after the class has read the next section.

ANSWER KEY
Self-Study Activities (pages 68–72)

1  a) servant  b) lawyer  c) lady  d) master/gentleman  
   e) master/gentleman  f) governess
2  a) a veil  b) a coach and a carriage  c) advertise  d) pale  
   e) fortune  f) spirit
3  a) Mr Rochester  b) Grace Poole  c) St John Rivers  
   d) Blanche Ingram  e) Jane herself  f) Lowood School
4  a) right  b) wrong  c) right  d) wrong  e) right  f) right
5  a) bad  b) thin  c) unpopular  d) unloved  e) better  f) decides to

6–8 Open answers.
9  a) People are not usually kind to Jane.  
   b) They own all the land.  c) Grace Poole.  d) It is full of life.  
   e) No, he never stays more than two weeks at a time.  
   f) Because her mother left her alone in Paris with no family and no money.
   g) Because she sees smoke and smells fire.

10–12 Open answers.
13  a) Grace Poole  b) Mr Rochester  c) Blanche Ingram  
   d) Jane, Adele  e) Lady Ingram  f) Mr Mason  g) Grace Poole

14–16 Open answers.
17  a) Because Mrs Reed is dying and wants to see her.  
   b) Because she loves him.  c) Because she did not want Jane to become rich.  
   d) She thought that he was suddenly poor.  e) A horrible woman pulls it to pieces.  
   f) They know that Mr Rochester already has a wife.  
   g) Mr Rochester’s mad wife lives on the top floor.  
   h) She looks after Mr Rochester’s wife.
   i) Jane’s uncle asked them to stop it.

18–20 Open answers.
21  The correct order is: d, f, g, a, e, b, h, c.
22  a) There was a fire and the roof fell down.  
   b) She jumped off the roof and died.  
   c) He lost an eye and a hand.
23–24 Open answers.

Resource Sheet Activities
People and places
a) ii  b) iv  c) i  d) v  e) iii

Chapters 1–2
1  a) ✓  b) X  c) ✓  d) ✓  e) X
2  a) F  b) T  c) F  d) F  e) T
3  a) Mrs Brocklehurst  b) Miss Brocklehurst  c) Helen  d) Jane
   e) Jane  f) a teacher
4  Open answers.

Chapters 3–5
1  a) angry with > kind to  b) pretty > not pretty
   c) strange > kind (or Jane > Rochester)  
   d) animal > laugh/person  e) kitchens > gardens
   f) bike > horse
2  a) Adèle  b) drawing  c) bad  d) cares  e) doesn’t look like
   f) hears someone outside her door
3  a) X  b) ✓  c) X  d) ✓  e) ✓  f) ✓  g) ✓  h) X
4  Open answers.

Chapters 6–8
1  The correct order is: c, j, i, d, e, a, g, i, b, h.
2  a) F  b) T  c) T  d) F  e) F  f) F  g) F  h) T
3  Open answers.

Chapters 9–11
1  a) Whitcross  b) Rivers  c) Jane Elliott  d) Morton  e) Mr Briggs
   f) John Eyre  g) India  h) Mrs Fairfax  i) Mr Rochester
2  Open answers.

Vocabulary Builder
1  a) roof  b) candle  c) screamed  d) fortune  e) pale, fainted
   f) 6. mad  g) 7. law  h) 8. advertisement  i) 9. carriage  j) 10. spirits
2  a) ladies  b) servants  c) governess  d) master  e) feelings
   f) 6. veil  g) 7. spirit  h) coach

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Teacher’s notes