

Sense and Sensibility

理智与情感



Jane Austen

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Upper-Intermediate

C1 Effective Operational Proficiency



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Pictures

- 1 Look at the pictures in Chapter 1.
Answer the questions.

- 1) In which country do you think the story takes place?
- 2) In which century does it take place?
- 3) Do you think the main characters are rich or poor? Why?

CHAPTER 1

Altered Circumstances

The Dashwood family had lived for many generations in Sussex. Their estate at Norland Park was large and they were a respectable family, liked by their neighbours and esteemed by their servants. Mr Henry Dashwood, the present owner of the elegant old manor house, had inherited the property from his uncle. He had one son by his first marriage, and by his second wife, three daughters. The son was well-provided for financially by the fortune of his late mother and by his own marriage to a wealthy lady, but Mr Dashwood's daughters' future was less secure. The father knew that when he died the estate had to be left to his son, for these were the conditions of the inheritance imposed by his uncle, and he was worried about his dear daughters. He therefore made his son John promise that when his father died, he would look after his half-sisters and make sure that they had everything they needed to live comfortably.

Soon after this Mr Dashwood became ill and within a year had passed away. John Dashwood remembered his solemn promise and decided to give his sisters a thousand pounds each from his considerable inheritance.

John Dashwood was a steady, respectable young man but rather selfish and cold. Perhaps if he had married a more affectionate and amiable woman, he would have become more generous, but in fact he had married a woman even more narrow-minded and selfish than himself. Mrs Fanny Dashwood did not like her husband's half-sisters or his stepmother. She was jealous of their strong affection for one another and their influence over her husband. When he explained his intentions to help the girls to his wife, she did not approve at all.

Words

2 Complete the table.

husband	
	daughter
	aunt
nephew	
brother	



She was certain these women were scheming to get some of her husband's money. Therefore, she replied that giving the three thousand pounds to his sisters would really mean taking the money from their baby son's future inheritance. Did he really believe that the Miss Dashwoods' claim to the money, as half-relations, could possibly be stronger than their dear little boy's, their only son and the apple of their eye?

Mr Dashwood was surprised at this interpretation but, being rather reluctant to part with his money, quickly began to see the reason in his wife's argument. He therefore decided to reduce the sum to five hundred pounds each – he was sure three young women would be perfectly comfortable on the interest from such a sum. But Fanny was still not content.

"If the girls marry they may end by having more money than us!" she cried. "Why not do something for their mother instead – a little sum to her will benefit them all. Four women living together can live very cheaply," she added.

Her husband agreed that she was probably right. A small yearly annuity to his stepmother of a hundred pounds would be the answer. His wife agreed but then pointed out a possible complication. His stepmother was still a strong, healthy woman and might live for another fifteen years! That could mean paying fifteen hundred pounds if they began now! Better to simply give his sisters a little present of fifty pounds now and again, she suggested, and not commit himself to the risk of any permanent arrangement. That would be more than generous; no one could expect him to do more for half-relations.

Mrs Dashwood and her daughters remained at Norland for several weeks after her husband's death. They were all very fond of the old place and leaving it would be difficult. However when Fanny, with an extreme lack of diplomacy and sympathy for their position, arrived without notice only days after her father-in-law had died and began to give the servants orders and alter the furniture, her mother-in-law began to see how she would be treated if she remained at Norland. She was therefore impatient to find another house as soon as possible. She started to make inquiries and luckily a cousin of hers wrote her a very friendly letter offering them a charming property on his estate in Devonshire for a very reasonable rent.

Only one thing now stopped Mrs Dashwood from leaving Norland immediately. Recently she had noticed a growing romantic attachment between her eldest daughter Elinor and Fanny's brother, Edward. Edward was the opposite of his sister in every respect – a serious, thoughtful young man, rather shy but well-educated and sincere. The sensible and even-tempered

Elinor also seemed to like him very much and, to Mrs Dashwood's optimistic and romantic nature, their mutual affection looked certain to end in marriage.

When Elinor, in conversation with her impulsive sister Marianne, learned of her mother's hopes, she was very embarrassed and begged Marianne to convince their mother that their departure for Devonshire should not be delayed for this reason. Edward was sweet and attentive to her but so far had not mentioned marriage, and she knew that his rich family, in particular his snobbish mother, would disapprove of any connection between their eldest son and a girl of no fortune like herself. Marianne was surprised at Elinor's calm, practical attitude to such an emotional matter, but she respected her sister's wishes and told their mother what she had said. Mrs Dashwood wrote to her cousin accepting his kind offer of Barton Cottage and soon afterwards they began to make preparations for their departure.





Altered Circumstances

Check your comprehension

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

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) The Dashwood family lives in London. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Mr Dashwood was married twice. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) John Dashwood is Mr Dashwood's son from his first marriage. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) John Dashwood and the Dashwood girls are cousins. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) Fanny Dashwood thought John should give a lot of money to the Dashwood girls. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Mrs Dashwood decided to stay at Norland with her stepson. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) Mrs Dashwood's brother offers her a house. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8) Edward is very like his sister, Fanny. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 9) Elinor is in love with Fanny's brother, Edward. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 10) Edward has asked Elinor to marry him. | ☐ | ☐ |

Words

4 Look up these words in a dictionary.

to inherit

inheritance

narrow-minded

half-sister

stepmother

to commit yourself

annuity

attachment

Characters

5 What are these people like? Write the adjectives next to the characters.

respectable jealous sensible steady calm
selfish narrow-minded cold practical optimistic
romantic even-tempered

1) John Dashwood _____

2) Mrs Dashwood _____

3) Fanny Dashwood _____

4) Elinor _____

Language

6 How would you write these examples in direct speech? Choose the correct answer.

INDIRECT SPEECH – FUTURE TENSE

She *replied* that giving the three thousand pounds... *would* mean taking the money from their baby son. Four women living together could live very cheaply, she added.

- 1) ☐ Giving three thousand pounds to your sisters *will* mean taking the money from our son.
☐ Giving three thousand pounds to your sisters *has* meant taking the money from our son.
☐ Giving three thousand pounds to your sisters *meant* taking the money from our son.
- 2) ☐ Four women living together *will* live very cheaply.
☐ Four women living together *can* live very cheaply.
☐ Four women living together *lived* very cheaply.

7 Now write these direct sentences as indirect speech.

- 1) ELINOR: We will arrive at our new home tomorrow.
2) MRS DASHWOOD: We can't stay at Norland with Fanny and John.
3) MRS DASHWOOD: I will write to my cousin in Devonshire.
4) EDWARD: My mother will not approve of my connection with Elinor.
5) MARIANNE: We can't leave Norland until Edward and Elinor are married.



Words

I Match the words to the pictures.

- 1) cottage
- 2) manor house
- 3) farmhouse

a)



b)



c)



CHAPTER 2

A New Home and New Friends

As soon as she had sent her reply to her cousin, Mrs Dashwood was able to tell her selfish daughter-in-law that she would be leaving Norland as soon as possible for a new home. John Dashwood was very surprised that she had decided on Devonshire, so far from Norland Park, but Mrs Dashwood's feelings towards him and his wife were so changed recently that she had no inclination to remain near them. Although she cordially invited them to come and visit the cottage whenever they liked, she knew they would never come. She also noticed Fanny's evident annoyance when she extended a warm and more sincere invitation to Edward Ferrars. In spite of the black look she received from her daughter-in-law, however, she was determined that Elinor's chances of happiness would not be spoiled by Edward's family's prejudice towards her beloved daughter.

The girls and their mother made plans for their new home. Mrs Dashwood and Marianne were full of ambitious projects for entertaining on a grand scale and extending the house in all directions to accommodate guests, but fortunately Elinor was more realistic and practical and eventually persuaded them to accept a more conservative plan, better suited to their reduced circumstances, with only three servants and no carriage. While they packed their things, Mrs Dashwood waited for her stepson to speak out on the delicate matter of her daughters' financial position. She knew he had promised his father to help

2 Match the opposite adjectives.

- 1) sincere
- 2) warm
- 3) practical
- 4) sensible
- 5) selfish
- 6) romantic

- a) generous
- b) false
- c) cold
- d) impractical
- e) rational
- f) silly



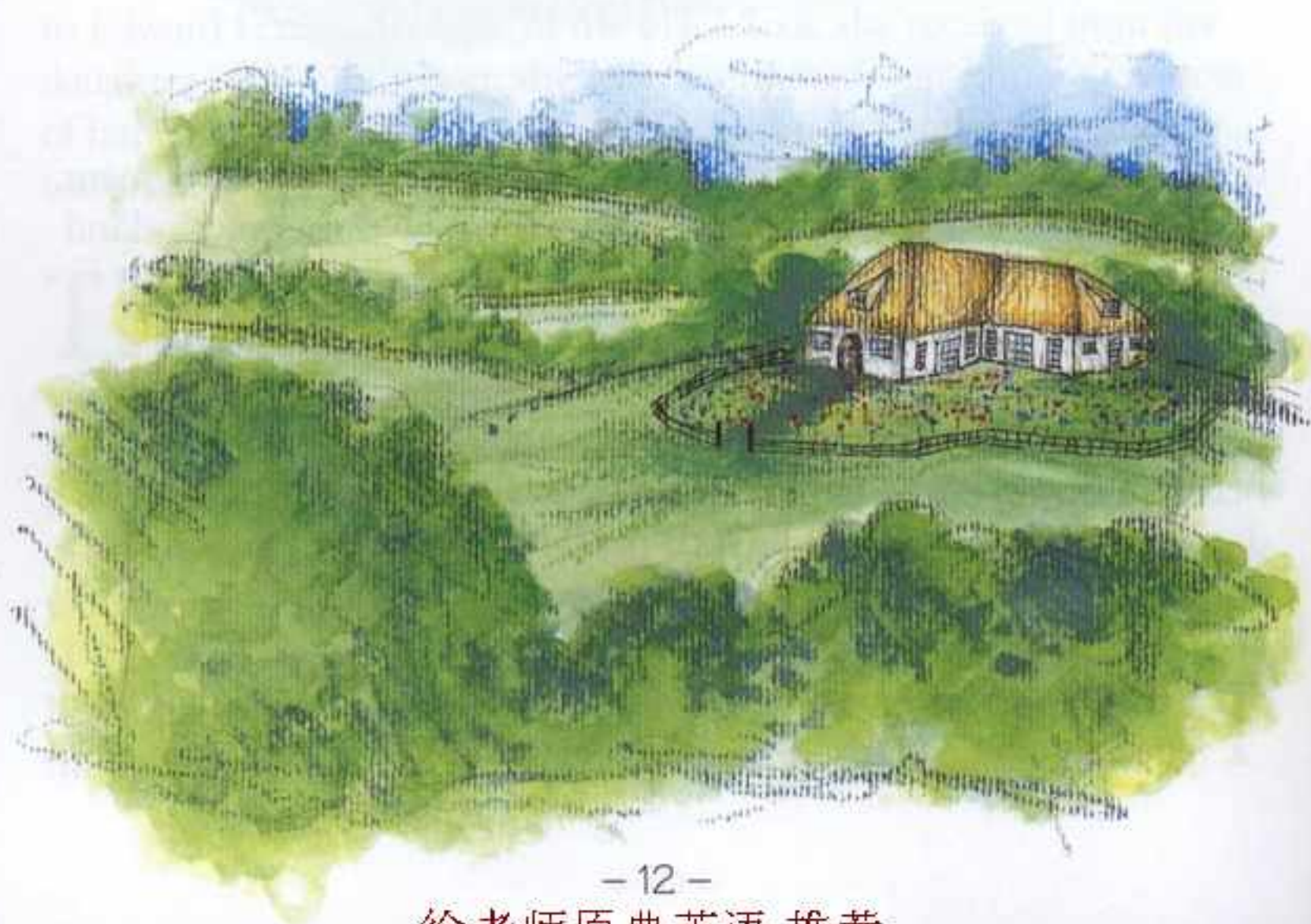
them and believed this was the ideal time to make them a settlement. Nothing at all was said on the matter by the new owner of Norland however and, apart from some assistance with the transportation of their furniture and boxes, it became obvious that he had no intention of helping them further. Mrs Dashwood was indignant, but pride and distaste at her stepson's shabby behaviour prevented her from saying anything. However, his behaviour only increased her disappointment in him and her dislike for his wife, and provided another reason for leaving their house as soon as she could.

The girls were very sad to leave their beloved Norland Park and cried many tears when their carriage finally turned west and

they left the lovely old house behind them. However, their spirits lifted a few days later when they arrived in Devonshire and saw the pretty valley which was to be their new home.

It was a fertile and pleasant spot with wooded slopes and rich pastures. The situation of the house was good with high hills behind it and lovely views from the windows over the valley. The cottage itself was small and compact but well-built. For Marianne's romantic tastes it was rather defective as a cottage because it didn't have a thatched roof, honeysuckle round the door, or green shutters. However, it was certainly comfortable and cosy and the ladies were generally pleased with it.

The next morning, after breakfast, they received their first visit from their relation and new landlord, Sir John Middleton. He was a good-looking gentleman of around forty, friendly and good-humoured. He urged them to accept his invitation to dinner to meet his wife as soon as possible and assured them that he was delighted to have such a charming family as his new neighbours. The same afternoon his kind words were followed by a generous present of fruit and vegetables from the gardens at the great house and a basket of game, which he had shot himself, for their table. In fact, from the beginning, their treatment at Barton was so different from what they had received recently at Norland that the girls began to feel happier immediately. They looked forward to meeting Lady Middleton the next day.



Barton Park was a large, handsome house where the Middletons lived in a style of elegance and hospitality.

Sir John apologised for the small size of their party – he was a fun-loving, sociable man who liked nothing better than to arrange noisy dancing parties, suppers and picnics for his young friends, and he would have liked to organise a dance in their honour.

Elinor, however, assured him that they preferred to be quiet on their first evening and thanked him for his kind invitation to dinner.

Of the guests present at the table, the girls thought Lady Middleton was rather a disappointment. She was certainly elegant and well-bred but her conversation was dull and insipid, her one interest in life being her noisy, spoiled children who annoyed the guests all night with their tricks and demands. Elinor privately wondered what

Sir John and his lady talked about when they were alone; the husband's only real passion seemed to be hunting and his wife couldn't even ride!

Also present at dinner was Lady Middleton's mother, Mrs Jennings, a jolly, middle-aged lady whose main occupation in life was to try and make matches for all the young people she knew. She was delighted to meet the pretty Dashwood girls and began teasing them immediately about the broken-hearted young men she was sure they had left behind them in Sussex.

An old friend of Sir John's, Colonel Brandon, completed the group that night. A taciturn, serious man of around thirty-five, he seemed as unsuitable to be Sir John's friend as Lady Middleton seemed to be his wife and Elinor was curious about him. He was not handsome but had a pleasant, intelligent face and a respectful, gentlemanly manner. He didn't say much, but when he spoke, what he said was sensible. His age and quietness had caused Marianne to ignore him almost completely, but later in the evening, when the others found out she was musical and invited her to play, she saw a different side to his character. While the others insisted loudly that she play something, they nevertheless talked continuously throughout her entire performance, then praised her skill without having listened to her! Colonel Brandon, on the other hand, was silent and attentive and showed a real appreciation of her talent. So, while Marianne was convinced that at his advanced age the Colonel couldn't possibly feel things as acutely and passionately as she did, she had to admit that perhaps when he was younger he had been a man of sensitivity and taste.



A New Home and New Friends

Check your comprehension

3 Choose the correct word.

- 1) Mrs Dashwood was sad / pleased / embarrassed to tell her stepson they were leaving Norland.
- 2) Elinor / Mrs Dashwood / Fanny invited Edward to come to Devonshire.
- 3) Mrs Dashwood and Marianne wanted make a lot of / some / no changes to the cottage.
- 4) John Dashwood gave the girls three thousand pounds / one hundred pounds / nothing before they left.
- 5) Their new house is in the town / in the country / in a village.
- 6) Sir John Middleton is friendly and good-humoured / cold and reserved / indifferent to the Dashwoods.
- 7) The Middletons live at Barton Cottage / Barton Park House - / Barton village.

Pictures

4 Look at the second picture in Chapter 2. Which of these things can you see in it?

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ☐ flowers | ☐ vegetables | ☐ the sea |
| ☐ mountains | ☐ a garden | ☐ hills |
| ☐ woods | ☐ busy streets | ☐ cliffs |

Characters

5 There are four new characters at the dinner at Barton Park. Match the names to their descriptions.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1) She is a jolly, middle-aged lady. | a) Sir John Middleton |
| 2) She is elegant and well-bred but dull and insipid. | b) Mrs Jennings |
| 3) He is a silent, serious man of around thirty-five. | c) Colonel Brandon |
| 4) He is a gentlemanly, good-looking man of around forty. | d) Lady Middleton |

Language

DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

Barton Park was a large, handsome house *where* the Middletons lived in a style of elegance.

He was a fun-loving, sociable man *who* liked to arrange noisy dancing parties.

Mrs Jennings was a jolly, middle-aged lady *whose* main occupation in life... was to make matches for all the young people she knew.

6 Rewrite these sentences with defining relative clauses. Use the relative pronouns below.

who which whose where

- 1) This is the book. My brother gave it to me for my birthday.
- 2) She is the woman. Her husband has been married five times.
- 3) This is the hotel. We stayed there on holiday last year.
- 4) Marcia is the student. She came first in the English exam.
- 5) The film is about a spy. His daughter betrays him to the KGB.

Story summary

7 Rewrite the text below with the correct information about Chapter 2.

The Dashwoods left Norland to sail to their new house in Sussex. Their half-brother didn't give them any money before they left and Mrs Dashwood was pleased. The new house was a large but comfortable manor house with a lovely view over the sea at Barton. Their neighbour Sir John Middleton, Mrs Dashwood's uncle, came to visit them and invited them to lunch at his house, Barton Park. They met his wife, her sister and his old friend Colonel Brandon there. Sir John was pleased they had come to Devonshire because he liked organising football matches for young people. Marianne thought the Colonel was young and good-looking, but she changed her mind when she saw how much he appreciated her music.



The story so far

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

- 1) Elinor's half-brother inherits the Norland estate.
- 2) The Dashwood girls inherit a lot of money from their father.
- 3) John Dashwood gives his sisters a thousand pounds each.
- 4) Fanny Dashwood wants her husband's family to stay with them at Norland.
- 5) Mrs Dashwood's cousin offers her a house near Norland Park.
- 6) The Dashwoods go to live in a farmhouse in Devonshire.

T	F
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

CHAPTER 3

Marianne's Rescuer

The Dashwoods were now settled in their new home and although they didn't have many visitors, the countryside around them offered many beautiful walks and they spent a lot of time outdoors.

One morning, after two days of rain had confined them to the house, Marianne and Margaret decided to walk on the nearby hills, hoping that the weather, which was still changeable, would stay fine for their short excursion.

It was windy and the sky was cloudy and sunny by turns, but the fresh air excited the two sisters, who pushed their way against the strong wind, laughing. After about twenty minutes however, it suddenly began to rain very heavily. They had reached a steep hill above their house and decided to run down as fast as possible back to the cottage. Marianne was usually faster than Margaret but now, as she was running, she caught her foot in a hole in the rough ground and fell heavily, twisting her ankle.

At that moment a young gentleman, dressed for shooting, was crossing the hill with his dogs and saw the accident happen. He rushed to help poor Marianne and offered to help her get up. Then, realising she couldn't move, picked her up in his arms without any embarrassment and carried her like a baby back to the cottage!

Words

2 Write the words under the correct heading.

sunny wood windy pasture hill
raining snowing valley river foggy

WEATHER	LANDSCAPE
sunny	



Elinor and her mother gasped in amazement when they saw Marianne arrive in the arms of this unknown gentleman. When she heard the story, Mrs Dashwood was extremely grateful to him for helping her daughter and was charmed by his courteous manners. He was young, tall and handsome, with thick, black hair, well-dressed and, from his way of speaking, obviously a gentleman. She asked him to stay for tea but he refused, saying he was dirty and wet and must go home, but he asked if he could return the next day to see how the "patient" was. His name, he told them, was Willoughby and he was in the area visiting a relative. When he had gone, Marianne's sisters teased her terribly about her gallant rescuer and, although she denied any admiration for him,



she had seen enough to know that he was as good-looking and distinguished as any of the heroes in her favourite novels. In fact, her unusual return to the cottage in his arms seemed like an episode straight from one of them! She thought about the gallant stranger all day and, fortunately, these pleasant reveries helped her to forget the pain in her ankle.

When Sir John arrived later, they told him the story, asked him if he knew Mr Willoughby and what his opinion of him was. "Willoughby? There is not a bolder rider in all of England," cried Sir John with enthusiasm.

"Is that all you can tell us?" replied Marianne, disappointed. He thought for a while, then added that Willoughby was the heir to the nearby Allenham estate, which he would inherit when his old aunt died, and that his own small property was in the county of Somerset.

"But what of his character and tastes?" demanded Marianne. Sir John, however, was the wrong man to ask such questions. He only remembered that he had once invited Willoughby to a Christmas party at Barton Park, where the young man had danced until four o'clock in the morning and then got up to go hunting the next morning at eight.

"That is what I like, that is how a young man should be!" cried Marianne with admiration. Sir John observed, laughing, that now Miss Dashwood would be "setting her cap at" the dashing Mr Willoughby without a thought for his friend Colonel Brandon, who was rumoured to be completely in love with her, if Mrs Jennings was to be believed. Marianne hotly replied that she had no intention of doing anything so vulgar and that the story about the Colonel was pure invention!

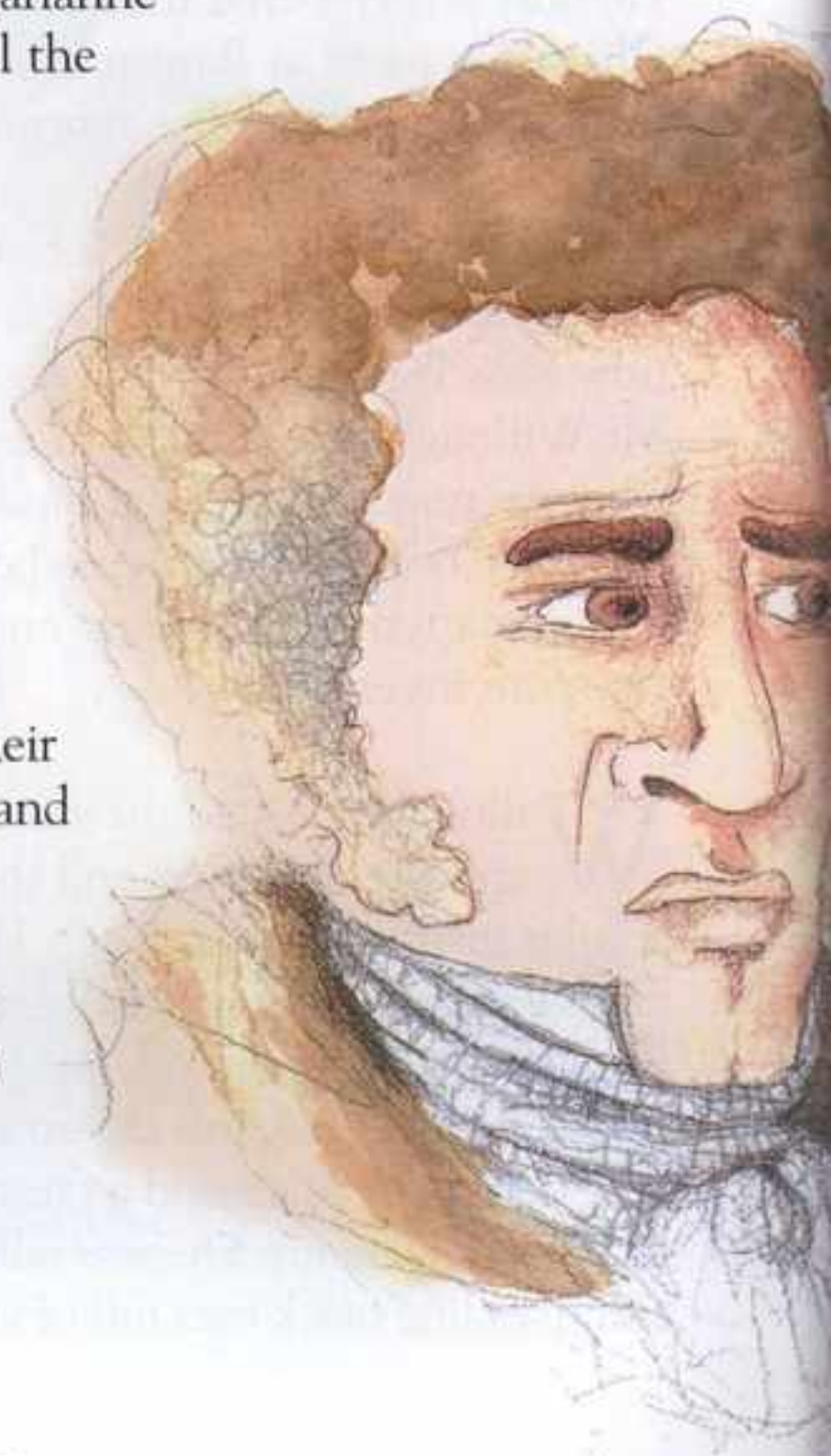
Willoughby called the next day to see how the patient was, and the day after, and the day after that. He soon became a regular visitor at the cottage. He enjoyed the lively company of the Dashwood girls, which distracted him from the boredom of life with his aunt at Allenham.

Elinor, he observed, was an attractive young woman with wavy brown hair, delicate features and a pretty figure, but Marianne was the real beauty of the family. She was tall with dark hair, a brilliant complexion and sparkling black eyes full of vivacity and enthusiasm for life.

When they got to know each other better, she and Willoughby soon found they had many tastes and preferences in common – they both loved music and dancing passionately and often sang together at the piano. Before long they were treating each other like old friends.

Mrs Dashwood was pleased with the blossoming friendship. Although in the beginning she had not thought of the possibility of a match between the two, as Willoughby's attentions to her daughter became more marked she began to congratulate herself on her good fortune in having two daughters with the prospect of such happy marriages before them; for she hadn't lost hope in Elinor's attachment to Edward Ferrars either, in spite of the fact that they had heard nothing from him since their arrival in Devonshire.

Only Elinor had any reservations. She felt that the friendship was developing too fast and that her sister was behaving rather immodestly. Willoughby and Marianne were now inseparable. He attended all the parties and excursions to which the Dashwood girls were invited and was always at Marianne's side. Even in company the two had eyes only for each other and were always so deep in intimate conversation that other people hesitated to approach them. Elinor also felt that her sister's reasons for liking the young man so much were rather superficial ones. True, they had much in common in their taste for poetry, music and landscape and Willoughby was certainly lively and amusing company, but his remarks often made fun of other people and he seemed to think more about making a sensation and being the centre of attention than about how much his comments might hurt or offend others present.



Around the same time Elinor began to notice Colonel Brandon's feelings for Marianne. At first she had not believed Mrs Jennings's gossip but now, just as the others were beginning to forget their jokes about the Colonel and turn instead to Marianne's new admirer, she began to observe the way he looked at her sister and saw a sadness in his face which revealed his feelings. Perhaps she pitied and respected him more because he was ridiculed by Marianne and Willoughby, who made fun of his age and his reserved manner. Elinor defended him when she could, underlining his kindness, consideration and good sense, but Willoughby was scathing in his reply.

"He is just the sort of man," he said, "whom everybody speaks well of but nobody cares about."

"That is exactly what I think of him!" cried Marianne, immediately agreeing with her hero. "That man has no spirit and no feelings at all!"





Marianne's Rescuer

Check your comprehension

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

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Marianne and Margaret go riding near the cottage. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) The weather is sunny and dry. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Marianne falls and hurts her arms. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) An old man is passing and comes to help her. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) He becomes friends with the Dashwood family. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Marianne and Willoughby begin to spend all their time together. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) Everyone thinks they love each other. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8) Elinor thinks Marianne's behaviour towards Willoughby is correct. | ☐ | ☐ |

Characters

4 What do they look like? Complete the sentences about the characters.

- 1) Marianne is beautiful. She has got _____ hair and _____ eyes. She is _____.
- 2) Elinor is an _____ young woman with _____ brown hair. She has got _____ features and a _____ figure.
- 3) Willoughby is young and _____. He is tall and has got _____ hair.

5 Why is Marianne attracted to Willoughby? Choose the correct answers.

- 1) Because he is young and handsome.
- 2) Because he is rich and powerful.
- 3) Because the situation in which they meet is romantic.
- 4) Because he has similar tastes to hers in music and literature.
- 5) Because she has known him for a long time.
- 6) Because he is good, kind and considerate.

Words

6 Match the words to their definitions.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1) gallant | a) to save from danger |
| 2) to rescue | b) well-mannered and attractive |
| 3) charming | c) to joke with someone |
| 4) to tease | d) audacious |
| 5) bold | e) brave and distinguished |
| 6) heir | f) the person who will inherit a property |

Language

7 Complete the sentences with the correct tense of the verbs in parentheses.

- 1) While I (have) a bath, someone (come into) the house through the window.
- 2) The sun (shine) when we (arrive) at the seaside, but it (get) cloudy again in the afternoon.
- 3) When the couple (come out) of the church, the bells (ring) and people (throw) rice.
- 4) When she (speak) like that, I (believe) her.
- 5) There (be) a sudden terrible noise and people (begin) to scream and shout.
- 6) As soon as he (say) that, I (know) he (lie).

PAST CONTINUOUS V. PAST SIMPLE

As she *was running*, she *caught* her foot in a hole.

At that moment a young gentleman... *was crossing* the hill with his dogs and *saw* the accident.

Discussion

- 8 “(Elinor) felt that the friendship was developing too fast and that her sister was behaving rather immodestly.” Why does Elinor think her sister’s behaviour towards Willoughby is not correct? How should a young lady in the early 1800s behave towards a young man she likes? Do we have the same rules today? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

Dinner at Barton Park



1 Match the words to the things or people in the picture.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1) silverware | 5) carafe of wine |
| 2) crystalware | 6) candelabra |
| 3) dried fruit | 7) paintings |
| 4) sweets | 8) servant |





Pictures

- I Look at the pictures in Chapter 4.
Answer the questions.

- 1) How does Willoughby feel about Marianne in picture 1?
- 2) How does Marianne feel in picture 2?
- 3) What do you think has happened?

CHAPTER 4

Disappointments

That week Sir John proposed a picnic to Whitwell, which everyone happily agreed to. The morning before the picnic, Marianne told Elinor she had an important piece of news to communicate. Willoughby had promised her a special present; he wanted to give her a horse! Elinor was startled at the impropriety of him giving so expensive and personal a present to her sister. However, she tried to be tactful in her objections because she didn't want to offend Marianne. She pointed out that as they had no stable at the cottage and no servant to look after the animal, and it would generate a lot of extra expense for their mother, which she could not afford. Better then to refuse Willoughby's kind gift.

Marianne was disappointed but eventually agreed that her sister was right. That evening she thanked Willoughby but told him that she could not accept his generous present. "Never mind, Marianne, it is still yours," he replied in a low voice and with a meaningful look. "I will just have to keep it for you for a little longer."

After dinner the two sat whispering together. Margaret saw Willoughby ask Marianne something. She nodded, gave him her sewing scissors and he carefully cut off a lock of her dark hair which he kissed and put into his wallet.

On seeing this, Elinor was convinced that her sister and Mr Willoughby must be secretly engaged. Surely such extravagant behaviour could only mean that. But why did they not openly announce their betrothal and free her sister from the compromising position this secrecy was causing?

Words

2 Match the adjectives to the characters they describe.

1) Marianne

2) Elinor

3) Edward

4) Willoughby

a) sensible

b) impulsive

c) dashing

d) reserved



Disappointing news came from Barton Park the next morning. Their excursion to Whitwell had had to be cancelled because Colonel Brandon, who was to be their guide, had received a letter and had then suddenly gone away on urgent business. The gossipy Mrs Jennings was extremely curious to find out what this secret business was and, in conversation with Elinor, revealed what she knew about his private life. It seemed that the Colonel was guardian to a young lady called Miss Williams, who many believed was in fact his natural daughter. Mrs Jennings was convinced that Colonel Brandon's sudden departure was connected to this fact.

The most disappointed of all to hear that the picnic would not now take place, were Marianne and Willoughby. They had been looking forward to riding together to Whitwell while the others went by carriage and now they would not have the chance to be alone. They **blamed** Colonel Brandon, most **unfairly**, for his selfishness and Willoughby insisted that he take Marianne out riding nevertheless. They stayed out all morning and, in answer to Mrs Jennings' questioning later that afternoon, Marianne finally revealed that he had taken her to see Allenham, the estate he was going to inherit. Elinor was shocked to think that her sixteen-year-old sister had gone there **uninvited** and **unchaperoned**, and **reprimanded** her about it, but the imprudent Marianne was **defiant** and replied that she had had the most enjoyable morning of her life.

More serious disappointments than the cancellation of the picnic were **in store** for Elinor's impetuous sister, however. The very next day Willoughby visited them at the cottage with an incredible piece of news. He said he must leave Devonshire at once and return to London on business.

When Mrs Dashwood, concerned for this sudden change in him, asked what type of business it was, he refused to tell them. His behaviour was very different to his usual friendly, informal manner; he was reserved and uncomfortable and obviously in a great hurry to leave them as soon as possible.

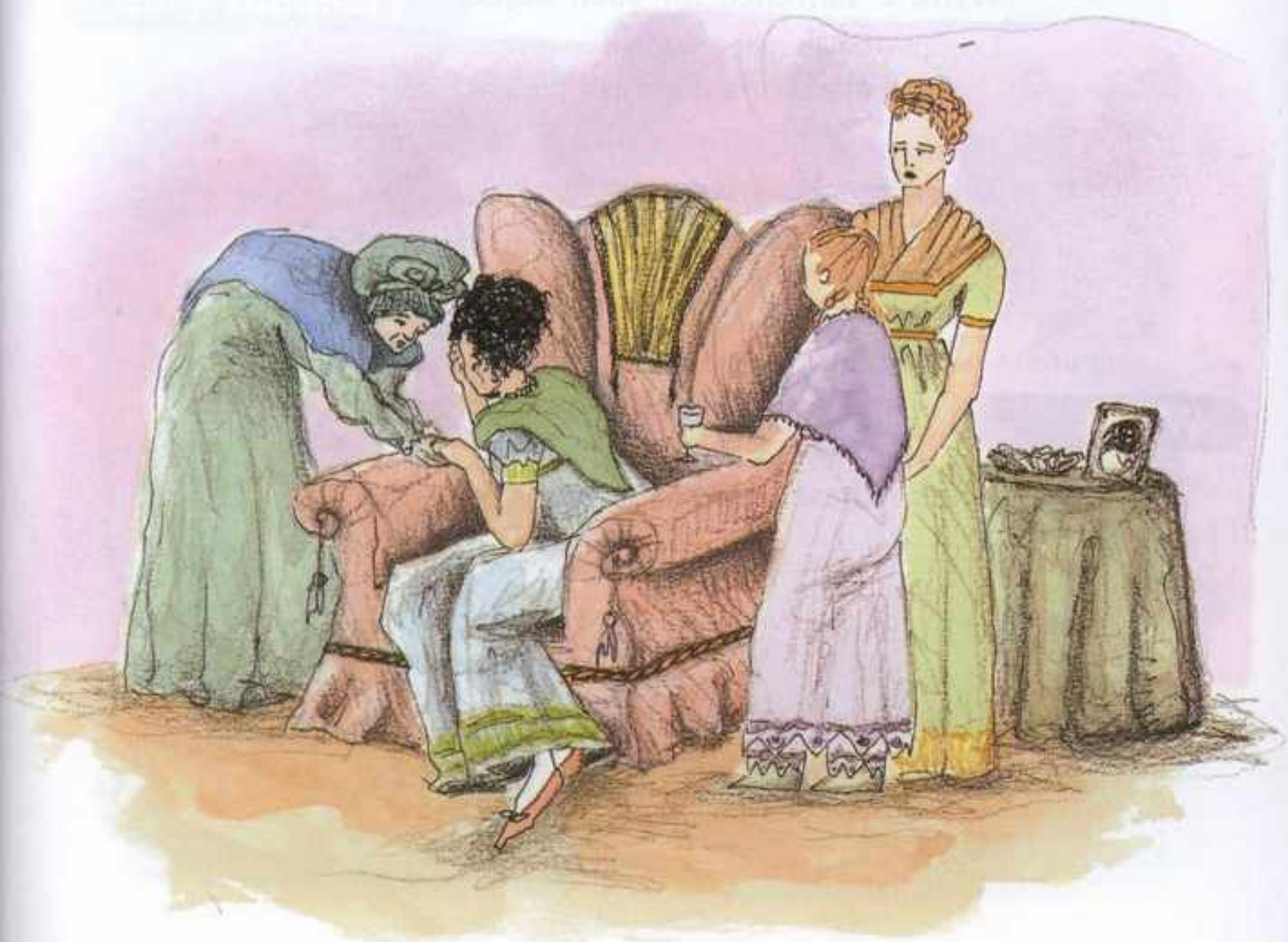
Marianne was very **distressed** and her mother, seeing this, urged Willoughby to return to them as soon as he could, as their guest at the cottage. Willoughby would not even promise that, however and after another few painful minutes, during which he would not look at Marianne, he left.

After he had gone, Mrs Dashwood talked endlessly about what this strange turn of events could possibly mean, finding all the excuses for Willoughby that she could, but Elinor had less confidence in him and felt very uncomfortable indeed. Marianne said nothing but wept continuously and would not eat or sleep. She obviously didn't know any more than the rest of them about her admirer's mysterious departure and was miserable because of his sudden abandonment of her.

Days passed and still no letter from Willoughby arrived. Then one day, as the girls sat in the parlour, they saw a figure on horseback approaching the house. Marianne immediately jumped up and rushed outside, convinced that it was Willoughby come back to her, but as the man came nearer they saw that it was Edward Ferrars!

Now it was Elinor who felt confused. She had not heard a word from Edward since leaving Norland and had not known how to explain his neglect. Her heart was beating fast but she greeted him calmly. His attitude to her seemed rather reserved after such a long separation but she tried not to be disappointed. Marianne, on the other hand, watched him closely and compared his cool behaviour towards her sister with Willoughby's ardent affection for her.

What could it mean, she wondered – did he not love her sister after all? But to Elinor, who knew him better, he seemed to have some great weight on his mind. He was not relaxed and their old, comfortable relationship was somehow altered. So she waited patiently to see if some time alone together would persuade him to reveal what was troubling him.





Disappointments

Check your comprehension

3 Choose the correct answer.

- 1) Willoughby wanted to give Marianne a house / horse / ring.
- 2) Elinor advised her sister to refuse / accept / pay for the present.
- 3) The picnic is cancelled because Colonel Brandon has to go to see his mother / his lawyer / his daughter.
- 4) Willoughby and Marianne's affectionate behaviour makes everyone think they must be secretly married / engaged / in love.
- 5) Willoughby suddenly leaves Barton because he has to visit a sick relative / some business in London / to buy a horse.
- 6) Marianne knows / doesn't know / thinks she knows why he really left.
- 7) Willoughby / Sir John / Edward Ferrars comes to visit them at the cottage a few days later.

4 Why are these things important in Chapter 4? Write a sentence for each object.

Example: Willoughby wanted to give
Marianne a horse as a present.

- 1) a horse
- 2) a lock of Marianne's hair
- 3) a letter
- 4) a man on horseback

Words

5 Match these words to their opposites.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1) tactful | a) tense |
| 2) extravagant | b) obedient |
| 3) relaxed | c) warm |
| 4) defiant | d) restrained |
| 5) impetuous | e) calm |
| 6) informal | f) sensible |
| 7) distressed | g) formal |
| 8) cold | h) tactless |

Language

6 Which of these events happened first? Mark them 1 and 2 in each sentence.

- 1) *I had met him as a young, handsome man twenty years ago, but now he was old and grey.*
- 2) *We had tried to call from the airport, but there had been nobody at home and now it was too late.*
- 3) *I asked him if he had seen the accident himself.*
- 4) *They hadn't eaten anything all day when they finally arrived at the hotel.*
- 5) *I hoped he hadn't noticed me and crossed the street quickly.*
- 6) *The police said she had died about six o'clock.*

PAST PERFECT V. PAST SIMPLE

Elinor *was* shocked to think that her sixteen-year-old sister *had gone* there uninvited and unchaperoned. After he *had gone*, Mrs Dashwood talked endlessly about... this strange turn of events.

Story summary

7 Put these events from the story in the correct order.

- ☐ Willoughby puts a piece of Marianne's hair in his wallet.
- ☐ Everyone thinks they must be secretly engaged.
- ☐ Edward comes to visit Barton cottage.
- ☐ The picnic is cancelled, so Willoughby takes Marianne to see the property he will inherit.
- ☐ Willoughby leaves Barton suddenly without any explanation.
- ☐ Willoughby and Marianne see each other every day.
- ☐ Marianne falls in love with Willoughby because he is handsome and charming.
- ☐ Willoughby doesn't write to Marianne after he leaves.
- ☐ Marianne cries all the time after Willoughby leaves.



The story so far

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

- 1) Marianne had an accident and Sir John rescued her.
- 2) Willoughby falls in love with Elinor.
- 3) Marianne is very modest and reserved with her admirer.
- 4) Everyone thinks Marianne and Willoughby are going to get married soon.
- 5) Willoughby tells Marianne why he must leave Barton so suddenly.

T F

☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐☐ ☐

CHAPTER 5

Lovers in Love

The Dashwood family were pleased that Edward had come to stay and the girls soon took up their old sisterly relationship with him. Elinor, however, could not be completely happy when her friend appeared to be troubled. His attitude to herself was also confusing; sometimes he seemed to treat her no differently from the other two sisters, yet at other moments a look or comment would imply that he believed there was a much deeper understanding between them. Marianne tried to give them many opportunities to be together, hoping that Edward would be encouraged to confess his feelings to her sister. But as soon as she left them alone, he would make some excuse and go out, leaving Elinor alone, embarrassed and puzzled.

Every morning Edward went out riding on his favourite horse. One day he returned from a long ride around Barton Valley full of praise for the pretty landscape of the area. Marianne joined in his praises with enthusiasm – being, she said, a great admirer of natural beauty herself –, and began to ask which places had particularly struck him, describing all the places she and Willoughby had admired. After a few minutes, however, Edward began to laugh and begged her not to interrogate him any more, saying, “You know I will only disappoint you, Marianne, as the reasons for my preferences are much less romantic than yours.”

Words

2 Which adjectives describe acceptable social behaviour for young ladies in the 1800s?

- ☐ passionate
- ☐ composed
- ☐ modest
- ☐ extravagant

- ☐ discreet
- ☐ polite
- ☐ impulsive
- ☐ headstrong



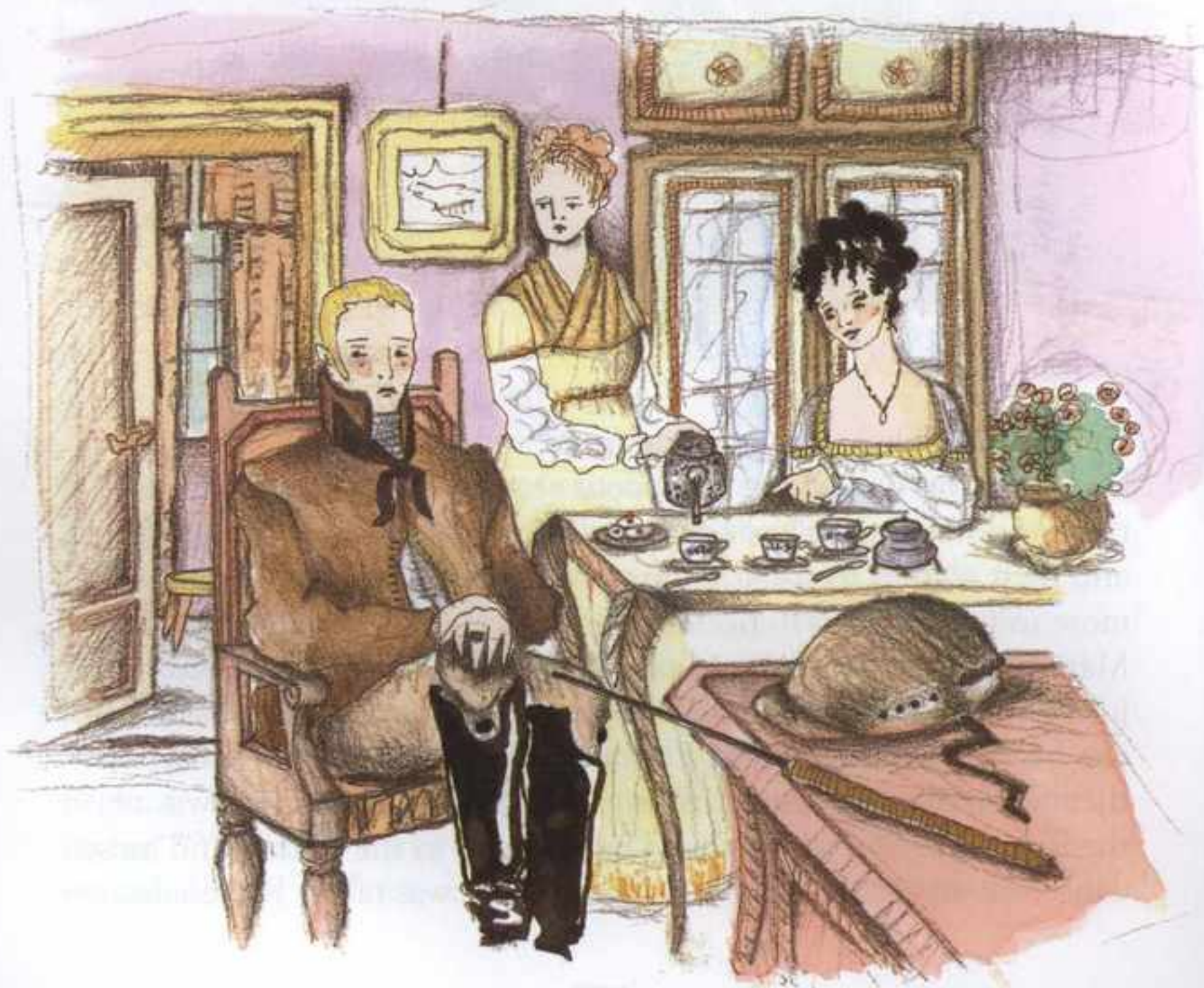
He was, he added, of a practical mind and his idea of a pretty landscape was one where the woods seemed full of useful timber, the meadows were full of cows, and the village houses looked clean and their owners well-fed. Marianne's tastes, he guessed, would be more in favour of mysterious ruined towers and wild heaths. Marianne, indignant, admitted this but challenged Edward to justify his indifference to such dramatic beauty. Seeing her sister was becoming rather angry, Elinor interrupted them and accused them both of exaggeration. Marianne's character, she said, was of the Romantic sort, which found beauty only in the wildest and most dangerous aspects of Nature, while Edward's was of the Rationalist

type, which admired only those aspects of Nature which man had tamed. She proposed an alternative view – that a measure of both attitudes was necessary to appreciate Nature properly.

Marianne accepted her sister's efforts at peace-making but privately she thought Edward was rather conservative and dull. She looked with pity at her sister; how could she have fallen in love with a man like Edward when there were vital, passionate men in the world like Willoughby?

Later that day, however, Marianne thought she had at last discovered some indication that Edward *did* have romantic feelings towards her sister. She noticed at tea that he was wearing a ring made from a lock of shiny brown hair and said innocently, "I've never noticed you wearing a ring before, Edward. Is that your sister Fanny's hair? It looks fairer than hers."

Edward blushed, looked quickly at Elinor, then replied, "Er... yes, it is my sister's hair... this light makes it look a different colour, that's all." Elinor was convinced by his reaction that the hair was in fact hers,



and was very surprised that he must have somehow acquired it secretly, as she had never given him such a token.

Edward's embarrassment lasted for a long time and he seemed strangely distracted for the rest of the day. Marianne regretted her comment and hoped that Elinor was not angry with her. Elinor, however, was secretly rather pleased. She too had been waiting for some confirmation of his feelings and now it seemed that Edward did admire her after all.

He remained another week at the cottage and they passed many pleasant days in walks, picnics and musical evenings. Then, just when he seemed to be recovering his good humour and enjoying himself most, he suddenly said he had to leave again. Although he insisted that he did not enjoy staying at Norland and hated London, nevertheless he seemed determined to go to one or other of these places. Elinor privately blamed this strange behaviour on his difficult relationship with his mother and was more ready to find excuses for his abrupt departure than she had been for Willoughby's. Never having met Mrs Ferrars, it was easy to attribute all of her son's strangeness and reserve to her influence and ambitions and to her well-known disapproval of Elinor herself.

After he had left, Marianne and Mrs Dashwood watched Elinor carefully for signs of melancholy or grief, but she occupied herself completely with her drawing and sewing and did not mention his name. Marianne thought her sister's behaviour, so exactly the opposite of her own when Willoughby had left, very unfeeling. Such self-command could surely only mean one thing: that her feelings for Edward Ferrars were not as strong as Marianne's affections for Willoughby.

Elinor, however, got through this difficult period as her own character and good sense dictated. Of course she thought continually about Edward, turning over in her mind all he had said and done, trying to understand what he really felt, but she did not give way to hysterics or melancholy. She dealt with her sadness privately and did not worry her family with her troubles. Gradually they stopped watching her so closely and when later that week new visitors arrived at Barton, they soon forgot their concern for Elinor's suffering since she didn't constantly remind them of it.



Lovers in Love

Check your comprehension

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

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Edward is especially attentive and affectionate to Elinor. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Edward tries to be alone with Elinor all the time. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Edward and Marianne have the same ideas about landscape and beauty. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Marianne thinks Edward is conservative and dull. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) Edward is wearing a bracelet made of a woman's hair. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Elinor thinks the hair must be hers. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) Elinor thinks Edward's behaviour is strange because his mother doesn't like her. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8) Elinor cries and has hysterics when Edward leaves. | ☐ | ☐ |

Pictures

4 Answer the questions about Elinor.

- 1) Why are Mrs Dashwood and Marianne watching Elinor?
- 2) How do they expect her to behave?
- 3) What does she do after Edward has gone?
- 4) How do you think she feels?
- 5) How is her behaviour different from Marianne's when Willoughby leaves?

Characters

5 What is Edward Ferrars like? Choose the appropriate adjectives.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ extravagant | ☐ affectionate |
| ☐ impetuous | ☐ rude |
| ☐ taciturn | ☐ serious |
| ☐ sincere | ☐ talkative |
| ☐ reserved | ☐ polite |

Language

6 Complete these sentences with **look**, **seem** or **appear**.

- 1) Are you feeling well?
You _____ very pale.
- 2) From the evidence it
_____ that the
murder took place around nine o'clock.
- 3) What's wrong with John? He _____ very thoughtful
today.
- 4) Is this your book? Yes, it _____ like mine. My book
is blue and red.
- 5) The man who sold me this car _____ to have left
the country.
- 6) Take your umbrella – it _____ like it's going to rain.

TO LOOK, TO SEEM, TO APPEAR

Elinor could not be completely happy when her friend *appeared* to be troubled. It *looks* fairer than hers. He *seemed* strangely distracted for the rest of the day.

Beyond the story

7 Chapter 5 contrasts the Romantic temperament with the Rationalist temperament. Which of these qualities do we associate with each of them? Write them in the correct column.

RATIONALISM	ROMANTICISM
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

imagination reason
impetuosity self-control
good manners
strong feelings sincerity
politeness equilibrium
extremes realism
fantasy intuition
learning

Discussion

8 Which of the characters in the story do you think have a Romantic temperament? Which have a Rationalist temperament? Why? Which type of temperament do you think the author prefers? Give reasons for your answer.



The story so far

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

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Marianne and Elinor are both in love. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) The sisters behave very differently towards their lovers. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Marianne loves Willoughby because he's handsome and charming. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Elinor loves Edward because he's handsome and charming. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) Marianne doesn't know why Willoughby leaves Barton suddenly. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Elinor knows why Edward leaves Barton suddenly. | ☐ | ☐ |

CHAPTER 6

Secrets

When Elinor and Marianne entered the drawing-room of Barton Park the next day, a plump, laughing lady ran towards them and began chatting animatedly, exclaiming how happy she was to meet them at last and what fun they would have together during her stay there. This was Mrs Palmer, Mrs Jennings' younger daughter. She was accompanied on her visit to her sister Lady Middleton's home by her husband, a snobbish, supercilious man who found fault with everything and was always discontent. Elinor, observing them, at first felt surprised that they had married each other as obviously the two had nothing in common. Then she reflected wisely that this was perhaps not so very strange at all – Mr Palmer was not the first man she knew to have married a pretty but frivolous woman and then become sour regretting it.

"Oh, my love!" Mrs Palmer was crying now. "You must help me to persuade the Miss Dashwoods to come to town this winter with us. What fun we shall have!"

Her love did not reply and, ignoring her completely, instead began complaining of the weather, saying that he hated to be in the country when it rained because the landscape and the company were both so dull.

Words

2 Match the verb to the emotion which causes it.

1) sad

2) happy

3) troubled

4) shocked

5) embarrassed

a) to gasp

b) to cry

c) to laugh

d) to worry

e) to blush



Later at dinner the girls saw more of Mr Palmer's charm. He contradicted everybody present, was sarcastic to his wife and rude to his mother-in-law. Mrs Jennings, however, as good-natured as her daughter, replied laughing, "You can abuse me as you please, sir, but you have taken Charlotte off my hands and now you can't give her back. So there I have the whip hand of you!" She and her daughter laughed excessively at this – indeed, Mrs Palmer seemed to find the indifference, insolence and abuse of her husband extremely diverting.

"Mr Palmer is so droll and amusing, isn't he?" she whispered confidentially to Elinor. "He is always out of humour!"

The conversation turned to common acquaintances and Mrs Palmer revealed that their house in Cleveland was not far from Willoughby's place. Elinor, hoping to discover some information that could help to justify his strange behaviour to Marianne, asked if the Palmers knew him well.

"Oh yes, extremely well," replied Mrs Palmer with enthusiasm, "not that I've ever actually spoken to him, you know, but I have seen him sometimes in town... I know why you are asking about him, dear Elinor," she continued then, smiling.

"I have heard all about it! Your sister is engaged to be married to him! Well, I am very happy for her and admire her taste, for he is very handsome. How I shall love having her for a neighbour!" Elinor was horrified that the news of Marianne's attachment seemed to be known by everyone and attempted to convince Mrs Palmer that there was no engagement, but she only laughed more and said that Sir John and her mother had talked of nothing else in their letters, so she knew it was true.

A few days later, the Palmers returned to Cleveland and Mrs Jennings went shopping in Exeter to console herself. While she was there, she met two relations who Sir John, who had accompanied her, immediately invited to Barton Park, saying that their company would be delightful for Elinor and Marianne, as they were all about the



same age. The young ladies arrived soon after and seemed, from their fashionable dress, to be smart and genteel, and from their civil manners, very polite. They said they were delighted with the house and flattered Lady Middleton about her exquisite taste in furniture and dress. They were quick to obtain her good opinion by indulging her beloved children as much as possible, and generally trying to make themselves agreeable to everyone.

Sir John told Elinor and Marianne about his new friends and eventually persuaded them to dine with them all at Barton Park. Elinor was rather disappointed when she met them, however. The eldest, Miss Anne Steele, was about thirty years old, very plain and not at all intelligent. With a vulgar lack of discretion she talked of nothing except smart "beaux", inquiring how many Marianne and Elinor had and wondering had there been more eligible men in Sussex than they had found in Devonshire!



The younger sister, Lucy, was embarrassed by her silly sister's behaviour. She was about twenty-two and quite pretty with nice manners, but she had sharp eyes and a quick, calculating mind.

Marianne felt at once she had nothing at all in common with them since they were not well-educated, read very little and had no appreciation of music, and she went to play the piano, but Elinor tried to make up for her sister's indifference by getting to know them. She attempted to turn the conversation to more neutral topics but the eldest Miss Steele was oblivious. She asked Marianne about a certain gallant young man she had heard was often at Barton Cottage and the rumours that they were secretly engaged. Marianne was mortified and soon made an excuse to leave. Elinor suspected Sir John of having told the Miss Steeles about Willoughby and now began to worry that he had said something of her own attachment to Edward, for he joked about it constantly. Sure enough, after dinner she heard him whispering loudly to Anne Steele about Miss Dashwood's secret admirer, Mr Ferrars. Elinor was surprised by her reaction, however. "Ferrars?" repeated Miss Steele. "Edward Ferrars, your sister-in-law's brother, Miss Dashwood? A very nice young man – we know him very well."

"Now, Anne," interrupted her sister immediately, frowning, "don't exaggerate. We have only met him a few times at our Uncle Pratt's in Plymouth. It is too much to pretend that we know the gentleman well."

Anne blushed in confusion.

"Ah yes, of course Lucy," she said, "we have only met him a few times."

It was obvious that she was concealing something and Elinor wondered what it could possibly be. But Lucy indicated to her sister to be quiet and immediately changed the subject.

The next day, however, while she was walking in the garden at Barton Park, Lucy Steele approached Elinor and asked her if they could talk privately. Elinor was intrigued, especially when the girl then started to ask her what she knew of Edward Ferrar's mother – what kind of a woman was she? Elinor replied truthfully that, having never met the lady, she could not really say, but Lucy

was not satisfied. She hesitated and seemed to want Elinor to persuade her to confess something. After shrewdly scrutinising Elinor's indifferent expression, however, she confessed unprompted, saying that she felt she must justify her strange question. She had a secret which she had kept hidden for four long years and which would eventually decide her future happiness. Mrs Ferrars would then become more to her than just a name – she would become her mother-in-law, in fact!

At first Elinor could not think what she meant. Then suddenly, seeing Lucy's triumphant and malicious expression, she understood. Lucy Steele was secretly engaged to her own Edward!





Secrets

Check your comprehension

3 Answer the questions.

- 1) Who is Mrs Palmer?
- 2) Why is Elinor surprised when she meets her husband?
- 3) Does Mrs Palmer know Willoughby very well?
- 4) Who are Lucy and Anne Steele?
- 5) How does a) Marianne, b) Elinor treat the Miss Steeles?
- 6) Where did Lucy meet Edward?
- 7) Why do you think Lucy tells Elinor about her engagement to Edward?

Characters

4 Match the characters to the adjectives which describe them.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Lucy Steele | a) snobbish, supercilious, sarcastic |
| 2) Anne Steele | b) pretty, frivolous, good-humoured |
| 3) Mrs Palmer | c) plain, silly, vulgar |
| 4) Mr Palmer | d) pretty, shrewd, quick |

5 Lucy Steele is not as nice as she seems. Find four sentences from the text which indicate her real character.

6 Which couples in the story do you think are well-suited? Give reasons for your choices.

Example: I think John and Fanny Dashwood are well-suited because they both love money and are very selfish.

- 1) John and Fanny Dashwood
- 2) Mr and Mrs Palmer
- 3) Marianne and Willoughby
- 4) Elinor and Edward

Words

7 Match the words to their definitions.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1) sour | a) to insult and be rude to someone |
| 2) charm | b) acid, rude, bad-tempered |
| 3) to abuse | c) to compliment someone excessively |
| 4) droll | d) unattractive, ugly |
| 5) genteel | e) attractiveness, sympathy |
| 6) to flatter | f) very embarrassed |
| 7) plain | g) your husband's mother |
| 8) mortified | h) to hide something |
| 9) to conceal | i) funny, dry humour |
| 10) mother-in-law | j) well-bred, with good manners |

Language

PARTICIPLES AS ADJECTIVES

Elinor was *horrified* that the news of Marianne's attachment should be known by everyone.

Marianne was *mortified* and soon made an excuse to leave.

8 Complete these sentences with the appropriate adjective form of the verbs below.

to shock to frighten
to annoy to please to surprise

- 1) The children were _____ by the horror film.
- 2) Alice was _____ by his negative remarks about her driving.
- 3) We were all _____ by the terrible news.
- 4) Were you _____ when your uncle came back after all these years?
- 5) I was really _____ when I passed my exams.



The story so far

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

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Elinor discovers the Miss Steeles know Edward. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Edward is worried about something which he doesn't want to tell Elinor. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Lucy and Anne Steele are invited to Barton by Mrs Jennings. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Elinor finds out Edward is engaged to Lucy Steele. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) Lucy doesn't want her sister to tell anyone about her friendship with Edward. | ☐ | ☐ |

CHAPTER 7

A Visit to London

Since her husband's death Mrs Jennings had spent every winter in London at her house in Portman Square, accompanied by her younger daughter. This year, however, Charlotte could not come and so her mother asked the two Dashwood girls if they would like to go with her instead.

Elinor didn't want to leave her mother alone at the cottage and so she politely refused the invitation but Mrs Jennings, unperturbed, laughingly replied that she thought Marianne would not object to the proposal. In fact, on hearing it, Marianne's face lit up and she immediately accepted saying, "Thank you, ma'am. It would give me much happiness to come with you!"

Elinor understood then how much her sister's longing to see Willoughby made her indifferent to everything else. Marianne did not like Mrs Jennings very much, but her longing to see Willoughby overcame all other considerations.

Mrs Dashwood, seeing how much the visit meant to Marianne, accepted the suggestion at once and so, in the first week of January, her daughters left with Mrs Jennings for London.

During the three-day journey, despite her initial enthusiasm in accepting Mrs Jennings's offer, Marianne remained closed in her own thoughts and spoke very little. Elinor, embarrassed

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in Chapter 7 then answer the questions below.

- 1) Where do you think Elinor and Marianne are going with Mrs Jennings?
- 2) Why is Marianne crying in the second picture?
- 3) Is Marianne enjoying herself in the third picture? Why/why not?



by her sister's rudeness, was very polite in compensation, and chatted with the old lady, laughing at her insensitive jokes.

The house in Portman Square was large and comfortable and the girls had a charming apartment for themselves there. Elinor immediately sat down to write to her mother of their safe arrival. She noticed that Marianne too had fetched her pen and ink.

"You don't have to write to Mother, dear. I am doing it," she told her.

Marianne blushed and replied shortly, "I am not writing to Mother."

She then wrote a short note, sealed it carefully and instructed the servant to send it immediately by the fastest two-penny post. From her sister's evasive behaviour Elinor concluded that she had written to Willoughby. They must be engaged if Marianne was writing to him already, she thought. Obviously she was expecting him to call.

Later, as the maid was serving the tea, someone knocked at the door. Marianne jumped up, her face full of happy expectation, saying to Elinor, "Oh Elinor, it is Willoughby, indeed it is!" The door opened slowly and the servant announced – Colonel Brandon!

The disappointment was too great for Marianne and with a sob, she ran from the room without greeting their guest. Elinor was disappointed too, but she was glad to see her old friend and welcomed him courteously.

The next days were torture for Marianne. Wherever they went, she was always watching for Willoughby and could think of nothing else. In Bond Street, while they were shopping, she looked continually around, paying no attention to the goods, and when they returned home later in the morning she ran upstairs as fast as possible to see if any reply to her letter had arrived.

Colonel Brandon visited them almost every day. Marianne made little attempt at conversation with him, often making excuses to go up to her room alone. He noticed her agitation and soon



guessed the cause. He too seemed worried and uneasy and Elinor felt he had something to say but could not find the right opportunity.

About a week after their arrival they found out for certain that Willoughby was also in town. When they returned home late one morning his visiting card was on the table. Marianne was frantic that he had called while they were out, but she was confident he would return again. As the hours passed, however, she became more and more impatient. When a letter was delivered by hand in the afternoon and she saw

it was addressed to Mrs Jennings she cried suddenly, "Oh how annoying!"

"Are you expecting a letter then?" asked Elinor gently.

"Yes... a little... not much..." replied Marianne, confused.

"Have you no confidence in me, Marianne? You don't tell me anything," Elinor reproached her.

"Elinor! What a thing to say!" replied her sister indignantly.

"When have you ever confided anything to me?"

"But Marianne," said Elinor, surprised, "I have nothing to tell."

"Then our situations are the same because I have nothing to tell either!" sobbed Marianne, and left the room.

Sir John and Lady Middleton had now arrived at their house in Conduit Street and were organizing a party for the next evening. They sent an invitation to Mrs Jennings and the girls to join them.

Mr and Mrs Palmer were present at the dance and about twenty other young people the sisters knew vaguely. Marianne glanced around once to see if Willoughby was there and, finding that he was not, then sat silent in a corner and would not dance with anyone. Mrs Jennings began teasing her about her long face.

"Aye, aye," she said. "We all know why you're looking so miserable, my dear! Well, it is a shame he didn't come, especially when we invited him for you..."

"He was invited?!" cried Marianne.

"Why, certainly he was. Sir John met him in the street this morning and asked him personally."

Marianne said no more but looked extremely hurt. Nobody mentioned Willoughby again and they left the party early.

The next day Colonel Brandon visited them again. Marianne had gone to bed with a headache so Elinor had tea with him alone. After a while he asked Elinor awkwardly when would he be able to congratulate her on her sister's marriage? Elinor asked him what exactly he meant. He replied that Marianne's engagement to Mr Willoughby was now well-known all over London. Elinor replied that this could

not be true since her own family did not know of it! Colonel Brandon was confused and embarrassed. For a moment he said nothing, then slowly he confessed that he had asked about the engagement in order to know if there was still any hope for himself in Marianne's affections.

Elinor felt sorry for him. He was a good man, but she knew Marianne did not have any feelings for him. She thought it best to be honest and tried to explain Marianne's strange situation, saying that, although there was no official engagement, she understood that there was a very strong mutual affection between her sister and Mr Willoughby. At this Colonel Brandon looked sadder than ever.

"Well, I hope your sister will be happy. About Willoughby I can only say that I hope one day he will deserve her," he said.





A Visit to London

Check your comprehension

3 Answer the questions below.

- 1) Why did Marianne accept Mrs Jennings's invitation so quickly?
- 2) How did she behave towards Mrs Jennings during the journey?
- 3) What did she do as soon as she arrived in London?
- 4) Why do you think Colonel Brandon visited them every day?
- 5) What is Elinor's explanation of the rumours about Marianne's engagement?

Words

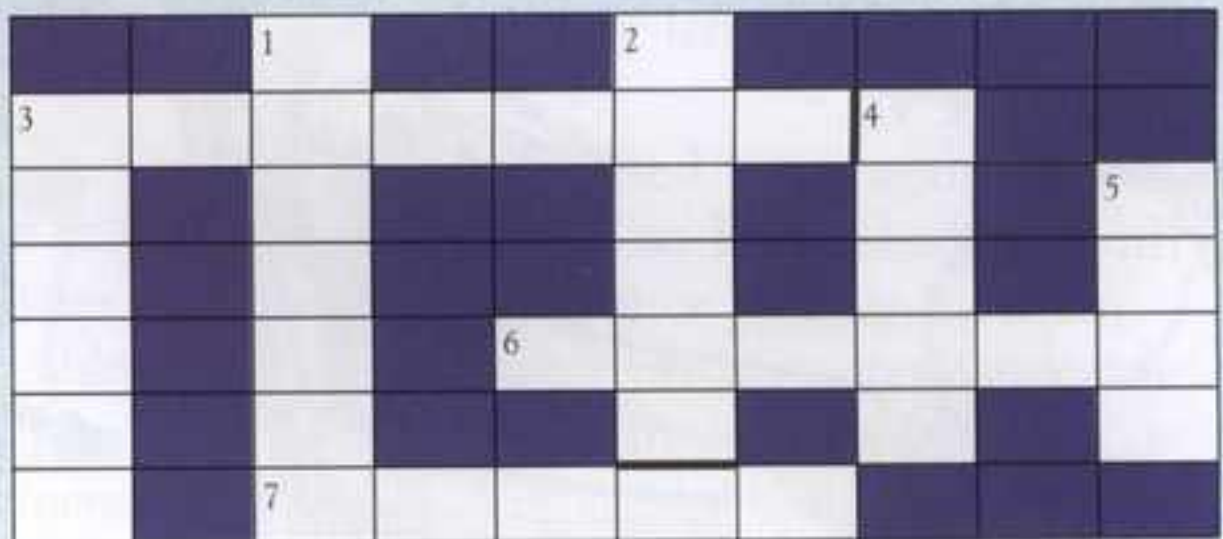
4 Complete the crossword with words from Chapter 7.

Across

- 3) Marianne wants to see Willoughby very much. She is _____ to see him.
- 6) She sends him a _____ as soon she arrives in London.
- 7) Marianne doesn't want to _____ with anyone at the party.

Down

- 1) Everyone thinks Marianne and Willoughby are secretly _____.
- 2) People used them to write with in the nineteenth century: _____ and _____.
- 3) The sisters go with Mrs Jennings to her house in _____.
- 4) The Middletons organise a _____ at their house in Conduit Street.
- 5) Willoughby calls at the house and leaves his visiting _____.



Characters

5 What is Colonel Brandon like? Choose the best description.

- 1) *An old man who is not married and has never loved anyone. Cold, reserved and unfriendly.*
- 2) *A middle-age man with a mysterious past who has never married. Shy and reserved but intelligent and kind.*
- 3) *A middle-aged man who is not married but is looking for a young wife. Cold and reserved but rich and generous.*

Language

6 Complete these sentences with the correct tense of the verbs in parentheses.

- 1) *While we (sleep), a thief (come) into our house and (steal) all our money.*
- 2) *It (rain) heavily when the accident on the motorway happened.*
- 3) *Robert (live) in Berlin for a while before he (meet) Diana and they (move) to London.*
- 4) *Birds (sing) and insects (buzz) in the hot sun as I (sit) on the terrace above the sea.*
- 5) *They (walk) down the road when suddenly a bull (escape) from the field and (start) running towards them.*
- 6) *The cat (sleep) on the sofa when I (come) in.*

PAST CONTINUOUS V. PAST SIMPLE

She was always watching for Willoughby and thought of nothing else.

While they were shopping, she continually looked around.

7 Some verbs in English cannot be used in the continuous tenses. Underline five examples in the list below.

- | | | |
|---------|------------|---------------|
| 1) walk | 5) read | 9) understand |
| 2) hear | 6) like | 10) expect |
| 3) love | 7) believe | 11) run |
| 4) say | 8) play | 12) rain |



Pictures

I Look at the first picture in this chapter.
Answer the questions.

- 1) Who do the sisters see at the ball?
- 2) Who is he with?
- 3) What is his companion like?

CHAPTER 8

Meeting Willoughby

Three days later the girls were invited to a ball given by a fashionable London hostess. Marianne had still heard nothing from Willoughby and was becoming more desperate every day. She prepared for the evening without enthusiasm, not caring which dress she wore or how she looked. Her face was thin and pale, her usual healthy glow had disappeared.

There were many fashionable, elegant people at the ball and the rooms were richly furnished with works of art, chandeliers and flowers everywhere. The girls sat near the card tables, observing the other guests. Neither of them wanted to dance. A little later, Elinor noticed with a shock that Willoughby was standing near them talking to a well-dressed young lady. Elinor turned to Marianne and saw that she had also seen him. "Good Heavens, it's him! He's here! But why does he not come to speak to me?" she cried, half-rising from her chair. "Please, Marianne, sit down – everybody is looking at you," replied Elinor. But when Willoughby turned in their direction Marianne got up impulsively, calling his name in an affectionate tone, and held out her hand. He was obliged to speak to them but addressed himself to Elinor rather than Marianne, asking her formally how long they had been in town. Elinor was speechless at his cold behaviour but Marianne blushed deeply and demanded, "Good God, Willoughby! What is the meaning of this? Haven't you received my letters? Didn't you know I was in London? Won't you even shake hands with me?"

2 Look at the second picture. What time of day do you think it is? Why? Write eight things that people ate for breakfast in the early 1900s.

1) _____

5) _____

2) _____

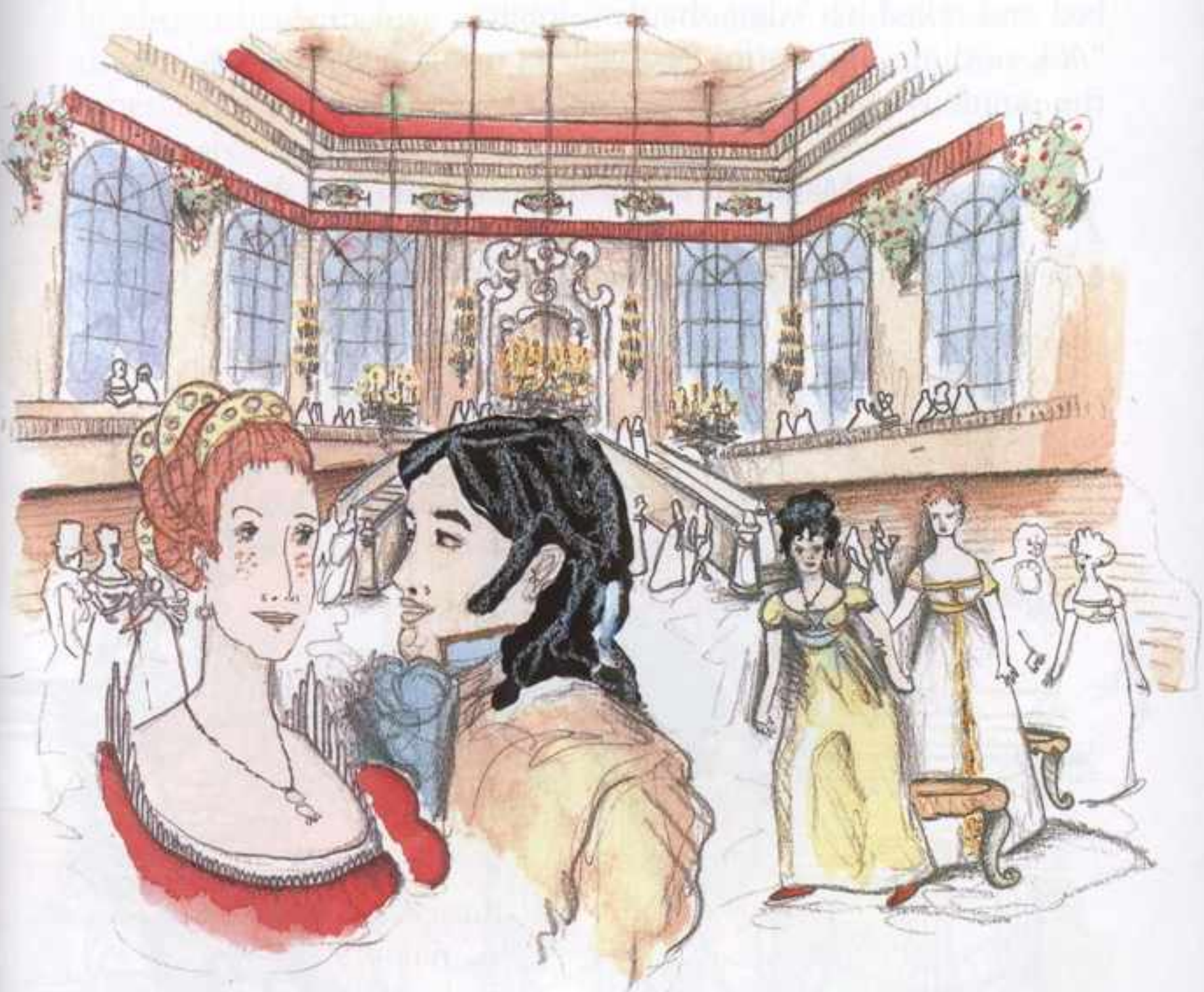
6) _____

3) _____

7) _____

4) _____

8) _____



Now it was Willoughby's turn to blush. He looked very uncomfortable as he shook her hand. Then, seeing his fashionable lady companion signalling to him from across the room, he composed himself again and replied coolly that, yes, he remembered having heard something about their arrival. He then said good evening and returned to his elegant friend.

Marianne fell back in her chair, her face white. Elinor was afraid that she was going to faint and tried to screen her from the curious eyes of the other guests while she gave her some lavender water. She begged Mrs Jennings that they should leave, saying that Marianne suddenly felt unwell. The old lady agreed and they left at once.

At dawn the next morning Marianne was kneeling by the window in their bedroom writing a letter by the grey light of the winter morning and crying inconsolably. Elinor sat up in bed and asked her what she was doing.

"Ask nothing, Elinor, for you will soon know everything," was the ominous reply.

At breakfast Marianne ate nothing and did not speak. The servant came in with a letter for her. She opened it eagerly, read its contents, turned pale and ran out of the room.



Mrs Jennings saw from the envelope that it was a letter from Willoughby and laughed at "these young people in love".

"My goodness, I never saw a girl so besotted!" she smiled.

"I hope he won't make her wait much longer – she is beginning to look quite ill with all this emotion. When are they to be married, my dear?"

Elinor repeated that as far as she knew, there was no engagement between the two, but Mrs Jennings was not convinced.

"How can you say that, Elinor? We all saw that they were head-over-heels in love at Barton this summer. Didn't I see them together every day in Devonshire with eyes only for each other? And I'm sure Marianne only agreed to come to London so that she could buy her wedding clothes."

Elinor denied it all, but Mrs Jennings only laughed more, so in the end she gave up and went to see how her sister was.



She found Marianne crying on the floor of their sitting room, a letter in her lap and three others lying near her. Marianne gave all the letters to Elinor, then covered her face with her hands and leaned her head on the sofa.

The first letter was from Willoughby. It said:

My dear madam,

... my respect for your family has always been very sincere but if there has been anything in my behaviour which has caused them to believe my affection was more particular than I intended, then I regret that behaviour and should have been more cautious. The possibility that I could have intended anything more is, you must admit, impossible given that my affections have for a long time been engaged elsewhere and that I hope in a few weeks to be married. I am therefore returning your letters and the lock of hair which you once kindly gave me.

Your most obedient servant,
John Willoughby

Elinor was shocked at the cruelty of the letter. That Willoughby would now not even admit that any special relationship or understanding had existed between them, she felt, was very ungentlemanly behaviour indeed. To comfort her sister she said, "It is better that you've discovered his true character now, Marianne, and not later. It would have been much worse if your engagement had gone on for months and then this had happened."

"Engagement? But there was no engagement, Elinor!" sobbed Marianne.

"But you told me... He said that he loved you... I thought..."

"Yes... No... Oh, I don't know. He implied it every day in a thousand different ways but he never declared it... exactly."

"But you wrote to him."

"Yes, but could that be wrong after all what had passed between us, Elinor? I believed he was sincere," replied the miserable girl.



"I *felt* that I was engaged to him just as if we had exchanged the most solemn legal vows. I thought that he felt the same."

"Apparently not," said Elinor dryly.

"But he did at first, I am sure of it. Remember his distress when he had to leave Barton. He begged me for a lock of my hair. And his look and manner towards me – there was real feeling there! Something happened later to make him change. That woman he was with at the ball – she has turned him against me!" Elinor saw that Marianne was searching for a scapegoat and did not reply.

"I must go home, Elinor – I cannot bear to stay here now," continued her sister. "Can you ask Mrs Jennings to let us go back to Barton tomorrow?"

"It would be impossible tomorrow, and we owe Mrs Jennings more courtesy than that. She has been very kind to us. Try to sleep now and I will write to Mother and ask what she thinks we should do," replied Elinor, privately longing for the peace of the cottage herself.



Meeting Willoughby

Check your comprehension

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

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Marianne was very excited about going to the ball. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Willoughby was there with a man they knew. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Willoughby didn't want to talk to Marianne. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Elinor wanted Marianne to talk to Willoughby. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) Willoughby pretended he didn't know Marianne very well. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Elinor was afraid her sister was going to vomit. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) Willoughby sent Marianne a nice letter the next day. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8) Marianne admitted she had never been officially engaged to Willoughby. | ☐ | ☐ |

Words

4 Willoughby writes Marianne a very formal letter. Match these words and expressions from the letter to their meanings.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1) my dear madam | a) I meant |
| 2) my respect for your family has always been very sincere | b) I'm in love with someone else |
| 3) I intended | c) with love from |
| 4) I regret that behaviour | d) I've always liked your family |
| 5) my affections have for a long time been engaged elsewhere | e) I'm sorry about what I did |
| 6) your most obedient servant | f) dear Marianne |

5 Match the words to their meanings.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1) well-dressed | a) self-controlled |
| 2) speechless | b) totally without any control |
| 3) composed | c) wearing expensive, tasteful clothes |
| 4) bewildered | d) vulgar, impolite, not like a gentleman |
| 5) head-over-heels | e) serious |
| 6) cautious | f) unable to think of anything to say |
| 7) ungentlemanly | g) careful, prudent |
| 8) solemn | h) completely confused |

Characters

6 Answer the questions below about Willoughby.

- 1) What was Willoughby's character like when he was at Barton?
- 2) How does his character seem to have changed now?
- 3) Did any of the characters in the story suspect that Willoughby was not what he seemed before this? Why/why not?
- 4) Who do you think the woman with him at the ball is?
- 5) Why do you think his attitude to Marianne has changed?

Language

7 Match the two halves of the sentences below to make hypothetical conditions in the past.

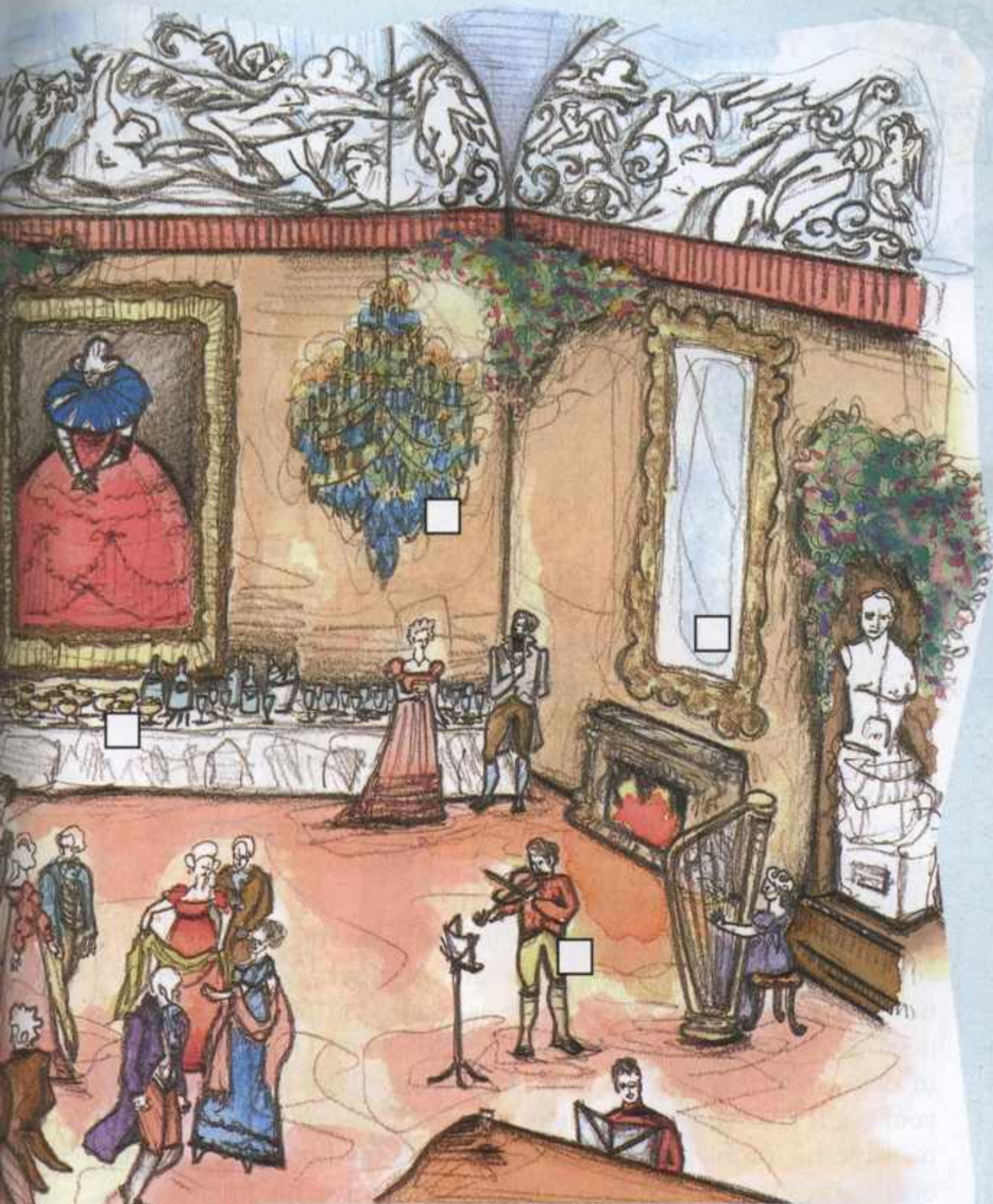
CONDITIONAL TYPE 3

It would have been much worse if your engagement had gone on for months.

- 1) If I had known you were coming...
 - 2) If we had seen him...
 - 3) If there hadn't been such terrible fog...
 - 4) If the football team had used their substitutes...
 - 5) If penicillin had been available in the nineteenth century...
-
- a) ... we wouldn't have had the accident.
 - b) ... they would have won the match.
 - c) ... I would have come to meet you.
 - d) ... many children could have been saved.
 - e) ... we would have said hello.

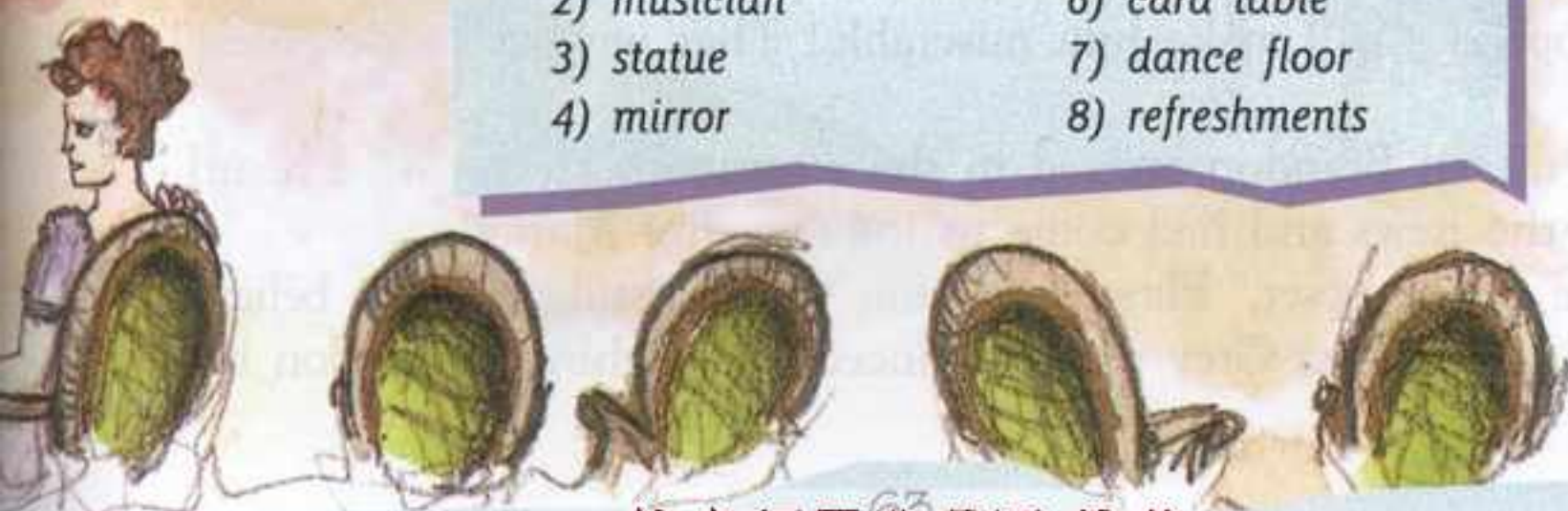
At the Ball





1 Match the words to the things or people in the picture.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1) dancers | 5) chandelier |
| 2) musician | 6) card table |
| 3) statue | 7) dance floor |
| 4) mirror | 8) refreshments |





The story so far

I Put these sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Willoughby returned all of Marianne's letters.
- ☐ Willoughby is engaged to another woman.
- ☐ Marianne wrote a letter to Willoughby after the ball.
- ☐ Willoughby was at the ball with another woman.
- ☐ Willoughby was delighted to see Marianne again.
- ☐ Willoughby didn't want to talk to Marianne and Elinor at the ball.

CHAPTER 9

The Truth Revealed

So Elinor told Mrs Jennings everything.

"Now I understand why the poor girl looks so bad," said the old lady, "and unfortunately, my dear, it seems it is true. The scoundrel is to be married, to a rich heiress, a Miss Grey. I heard of it today in town. I think he has treated your sister abominably!"

"This lady," asked Elinor, "is she rich?"

"Oh yes, my dear, very. She has at least fifty thousand pounds a year. Did you not see her at the ball? A smart, stylish girl but not pretty. But then, where there is money on one side and need for it on the other, these things happen. They say he is in debt, but I say he had no right to make love to an innocent young girl like your sister, then to run off to find a richer one to solve his problems. Why didn't he sell his horses, sack some of his servants and try to economise, to resolve his finances? No, he would not give up his selfish pleasures."

"And what about Miss Grey's character? Is she amiable?" asked Elinor.

"Not very amiable, I have heard," replied Mrs Jennings. "Well, I hope she will make him miserable! That is what he deserves!"

Colonel Brandon arrived in the afternoon. He too had heard the news and had come to inquire after Marianne.

"She is very upset," Elinor told him, "but she still prefers to believe that it was Miss Grey who convinced Willoughby to abandon her."

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in Chapter 9.
Answer the questions.

- 1) Who is the man in the second picture?
- 2) What is he doing?
- 3) Who is the girl in the second picture?
- 4) Where is she?



She refuses to accept that his character could be so bad.” Colonel Brandon said nothing at first then slowly he began to talk. “Miss Dashwood, there is something which I feel I must tell you, something which may help you to understand what sort of man Willoughby really is,” he said. “I hardly know where to begin. First I must tell you something of my own sad history.” “Please go on Colonel,” replied Elinor, intrigued.

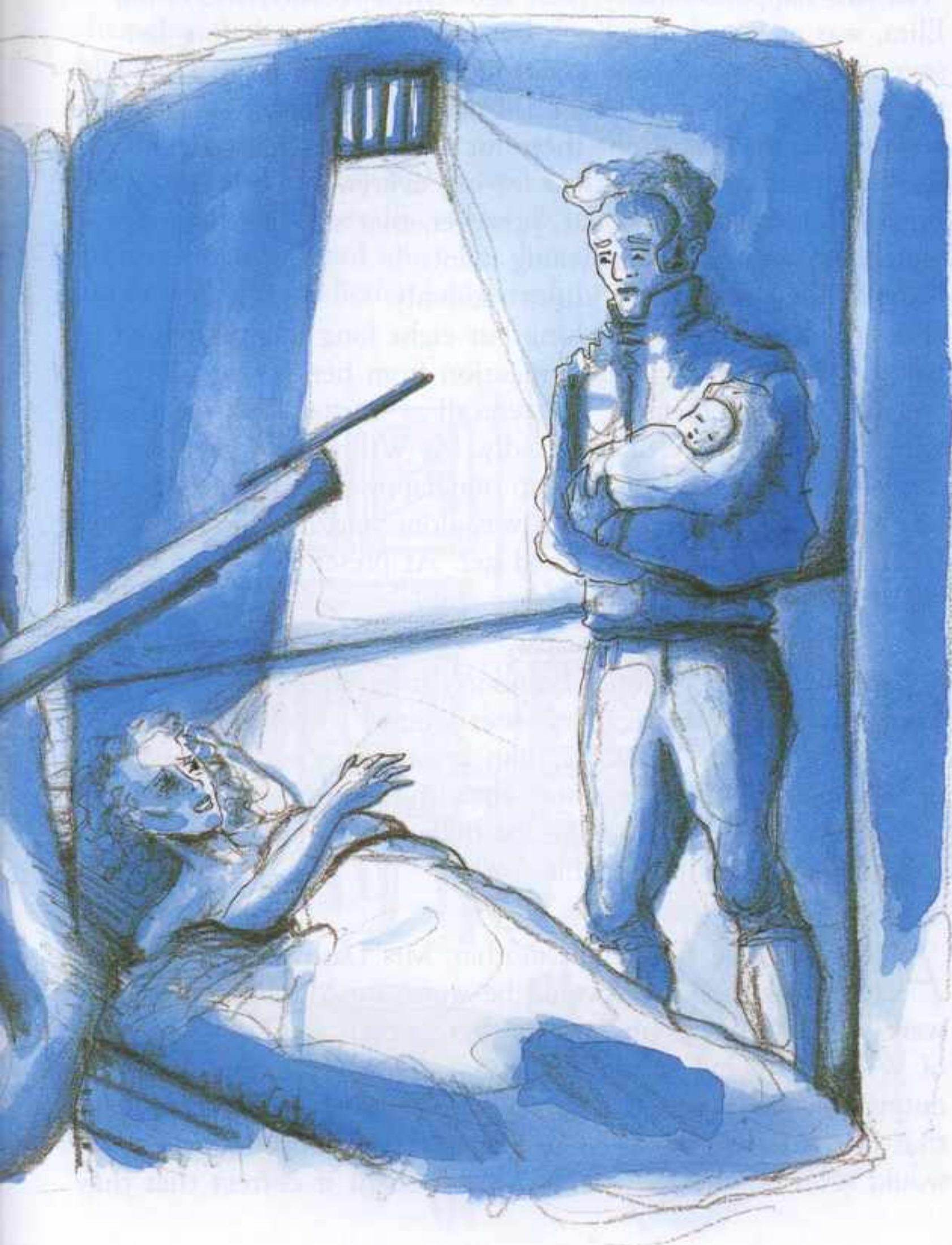
“**Y**ou may remember some time ago I mentioned a young lady who I was attached to in my youth – I said she resembled your sister.”

“Yes, I do remember.”

“This lady was an orphan who was educated by my father, her guardian. We grew up together and I cannot remember a time when I did not love her. When she was seventeen, however, it was decided that she should marry my brother. She was rich and our family’s estate needed capital. We were both heartbroken and decided to elope to Scotland, but at the last moment we were betrayed by her servant. My father was furious and banished me abroad until she was safely married. My brother was not a good man, Miss Dashwood, and he did not love her, but like many women she had no choice but to do as her family dictated. I came home, hoping that if I were near her I could help her to bear the unhappy situation, but my brother was cruel to her and she was very miserable. I couldn’t help her and eventually I went abroad again. Some time later I heard that my brother had decided to divorce her! She had been seduced by a young nobleman and had fallen in love with him. When he later abandoned her she was desperate and



ran away. No one knew where she had gone. I came back to England to try and find her but it took many years. Finally I discovered her in a debtors' prison. She was very ill with tuberculosis and had no money. I took her to a safe place and did what I could to make her last months comfortable. She died soon after."



"I am so sorry," said Elinor with tears in her eyes.

"She asked me one thing before she died, that I should take care of her only child – the illegitimate daughter of her affair. Although I knew nothing about children and was not married myself, I accepted. I have looked after the girl ever since. People believe she is my own daughter but now you know the truth." He paused for a moment then went on.

"All this happened many years ago. Until recently the child, Eliza, was at boarding school, but last spring, just before her seventeenth birthday, she asked me if she could go to Bath with the family of her school friend. I agreed, the family seemed respectable, and she went there for a month. Then suddenly she disappeared. We searched for her everywhere but she could not be found: I did find out, however, that she had often been seen there with a certain young man..."

"Not Willoughby!" cried Elinor suddenly.

"I'm afraid so. I kept searching but eight long months passed before I received any communication from her. It was in October – you remember we were all at Barton Park together when I had to leave unexpectedly. Mr Willoughby was most displeased that I had broken up our happy party. If only he had known the reason... Eliza was alone and heartbroken when I found her. He had abandoned her. At present she is in the country awaiting the birth of her child."

Elinor repeated Colonel Brandon's story later to Marianne as gently as possible. Her sister seemed to believe it but now she was more miserable than before. She felt the loss of Willoughby's character more than the loss of his affection for herself. The idea that she had fallen in love with such a callous man was unbearable for her.

A letter arrived from their mother. Mrs Dashwood felt that returning to Barton would be worse for Marianne. There were so many places and things there which would remind her of Willoughby and at this time of year there was very little entertainment in the country to distract her. She recommended that the girls stay in London. Their brother John and his wife would soon be arriving too and she thought it correct that they

should wait to see them since, despite the coldness between them, they were still family.

So the girls remained. Two weeks after Marianne had received Willoughby's last letter, Elinor heard that he was married and had gone to his estate in Somerset with his new wife. Marianne heard the news in silence and seemed calm. Elinor was relieved that there was now no danger of meeting him when they went out.

About the same time the Miss Steeles came up to London. They were staying at their cousin's house in Holborn but lost no time in presenting themselves at the Middletons' in Conduit Street and at Mrs Jennings' house in Portman Square. Elinor was not pleased to see Lucy. Her sly confidences about her engagement to Edward upset her, but she tried to seem indifferent and not let the vindictive Lucy see how much they had hurt her.





The Truth Revealed

Check your comprehension

3 Answer the questions below.

- 1) What did Mrs Jennings hear in town about Willoughby?
- 2) What sort of woman is Miss Grey?
- 3) Who did Colonel Brandon's first love marry?
- 4) Why did she marry him?
- 5) What happened to her?
- 6) Where did Colonel Brandon eventually find her?
- 7) Who is Eliza?
- 8) What happened to her in Bath?

Words

4 Match the words to their meanings.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1) intrigue | a) escape in secret |
| 2) betray | b) escape to marry in secret |
| 3) elope | c) dishonour, make love to |
| 4) banish | d) force into exile, dismiss |
| 5) neglect | e) expose, denounce |
| 6) seduce | f) look after someone |
| 7) run away | g) fascinate |
| 8) take care of | h) ignore, abandon |

Characters

5 Answer the questions about Colonel Brandon.

- 1) What was Colonel Brandon's character like when he was at Barton?
- 2) Does his story help to explain his character?
- 3) Why does he decide to tell Elinor his story?
- 4) How do you think he feels about Willoughby?

Language

- 6 Match the two halves of the sentences and complete them with a relative pronoun *who*, *which*, or *that*.

Example: The man *who* told me this refused to give his name.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1) The man... | a) <i>we made</i> woke everyone up. |
| 2) The noise... | b) <i>falls in love with</i> a prince. |
| 3) This book is about a girl... | c) <i>told me this refused to give</i> his name. |
| 4) I met someone at the party... | d) <i>I like the most</i> . |
| 5) New York is the city... | e) <i>said he knew</i> you. |
| 6) Where are the trousers... | f) <i>you want to exchange for a</i> smaller size? |

DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

I mentioned a young lady *who* I was attached to in my youth. This lady was a relation of mine, an orphan *who* was educated by my father.

Story summary

- 7 Put these sentences in the correct order to summarise Colonel Brandon's story.

- ☐ Colonel Brandon found her in a debtor's prison.
- ☐ She left her husband to run away with her lover.
- ☐ His family didn't want them to marry and made her marry his brother.
- ☐ His brother didn't love her and treated her badly.
- ☐ Colonel Brandon was in love with a young girl who was brought up by his father.
- ☐ She had a daughter.
- ☐ She died of tuberculosis.
- ☐ She asked Colonel Brandon to take care of her baby.
- ☐ His brother divorced her.
- ☐ Her lover abandoned her and she didn't have any money to pay her debts.



The story so far

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

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Colonel Brandon tells Elinor the story of his past. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Colonel Brandon was in love with a girl when he was young. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) He married the girl. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) The girl went to hospital. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) She had three children. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Colonel Brandon is her daughter Eliza's guardian. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) Eliza had a love affair with Willoughby. | ☐ | ☐ |

CHAPTER 10

Lucy's Triumph

John Dashwood came to call on his sisters at Portman Square. He brought an excuse from his wife who, he said, was too busy to accompany him and would see them another time. John himself, however, had been so curious to meet Mrs Jennings, who he had heard was very rich and disposed to be generous to his sisters, that he had come right away. He secretly hoped the old lady might leave them a legacy and free him of any further obligation to give them money. He was therefore extremely courteous to their hostess.

Colonel Brandon called at his usual hour while Mr Dashwood was there, and was soon deep in conversation with Elinor. Her brother noticed their intimacy and afterwards asked about the gentleman. Was he a man of fortune? Where was his estate? Elinor told him what she knew – that he was a gentleman with a good property in Devonshire and an income of about two thousand a year.

Her brother was pleased and told Elinor he was certain the Colonel was very interested in her and would surely propose soon. Elinor, amused, denied that her friend had any romantic intentions but her brother was not convinced.

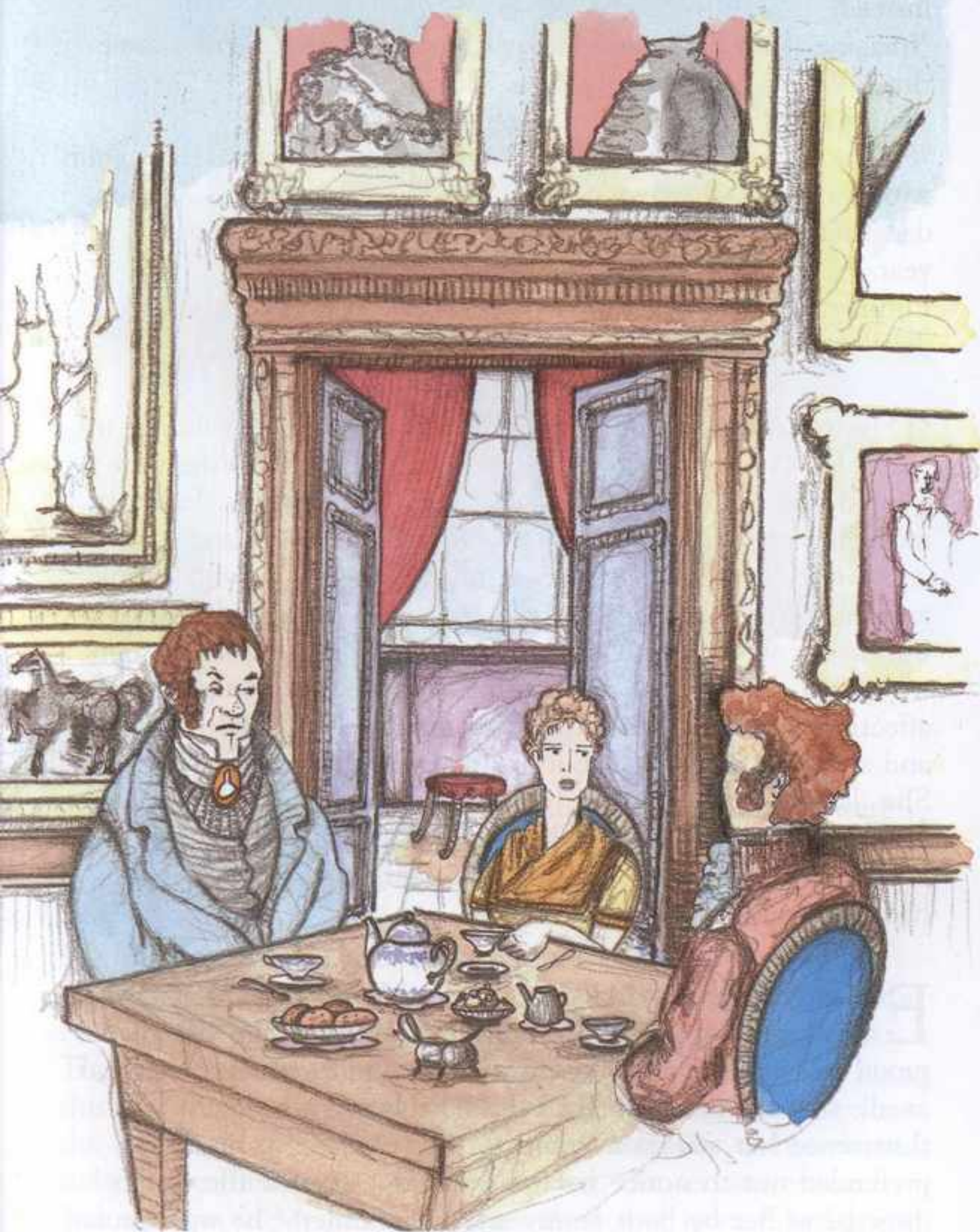
“With a little strategy on your part, Elinor, you can have him

Pictures

2 Look at the pictures in Chapter 10.

Answer the questions.

- 1) Who comes to see Elinor in the first picture?
- 2) Look at the second picture. What does Mrs Ferrars look like?
- 3) What do you think her personality is like?



and on two thousand a year you can live quite comfortably. It would be an excellent match for you and I know that Fanny and Mrs Ferrars would be most pleased. They are very keen to see you married," he said.

"How kind of them," replied Elinor dryly, knowing very well that their concern came from their fear of her stealing Edward instead!

"Imagine if my sister and Fanny's brother married at the same time! What a coincidence!" he added.

"Fanny's *brother*? Is Edward to be married then?"

"His mother is presently negotiating an excellent match for him with a distinguished young lady, the Honourable Miss Morton, daughter of *Lord* Morton, with a fortune of thirty thousand a year. A very desirable connection, you must agree."

Elinor said nothing. What would Lucy say about this latest development, she wondered?

The next week John and Fanny decided to give a dinner in order to meet the Middletons. Elinor and Marianne were invited and also Colonel Brandon and Mrs Jennings. Edward's mother, Mrs Ferrars, was also present that evening and Lucy and Anne Steele, who had ingratiated themselves with Fanny and Lady Middleton so that they too could attend the party. Elinor was worried that Edward might be there but Lucy soon whispered that he was not coming. He could not hide his affection for herself in front of his family, she confided smugly, and so would not come. Elinor was relieved he was not there. She did not want to meet him again in such circumstances. She did not tell Lucy that he had already called twice at Portman Square to see her since he had arrived but that she had been out.

Edward's mother, Mrs Ferrars, was a thin, formal woman with a sallow complexion and a sour expression. She was very proud and hardly spoke to anyone. To Elinor she did not speak at all; she was determined to dislike this girl who had threatened her ambitious plans for her eldest son. Elinor pretended not to notice her rudeness and ignored the insults directed at her by both Fanny and her mother. She was amused



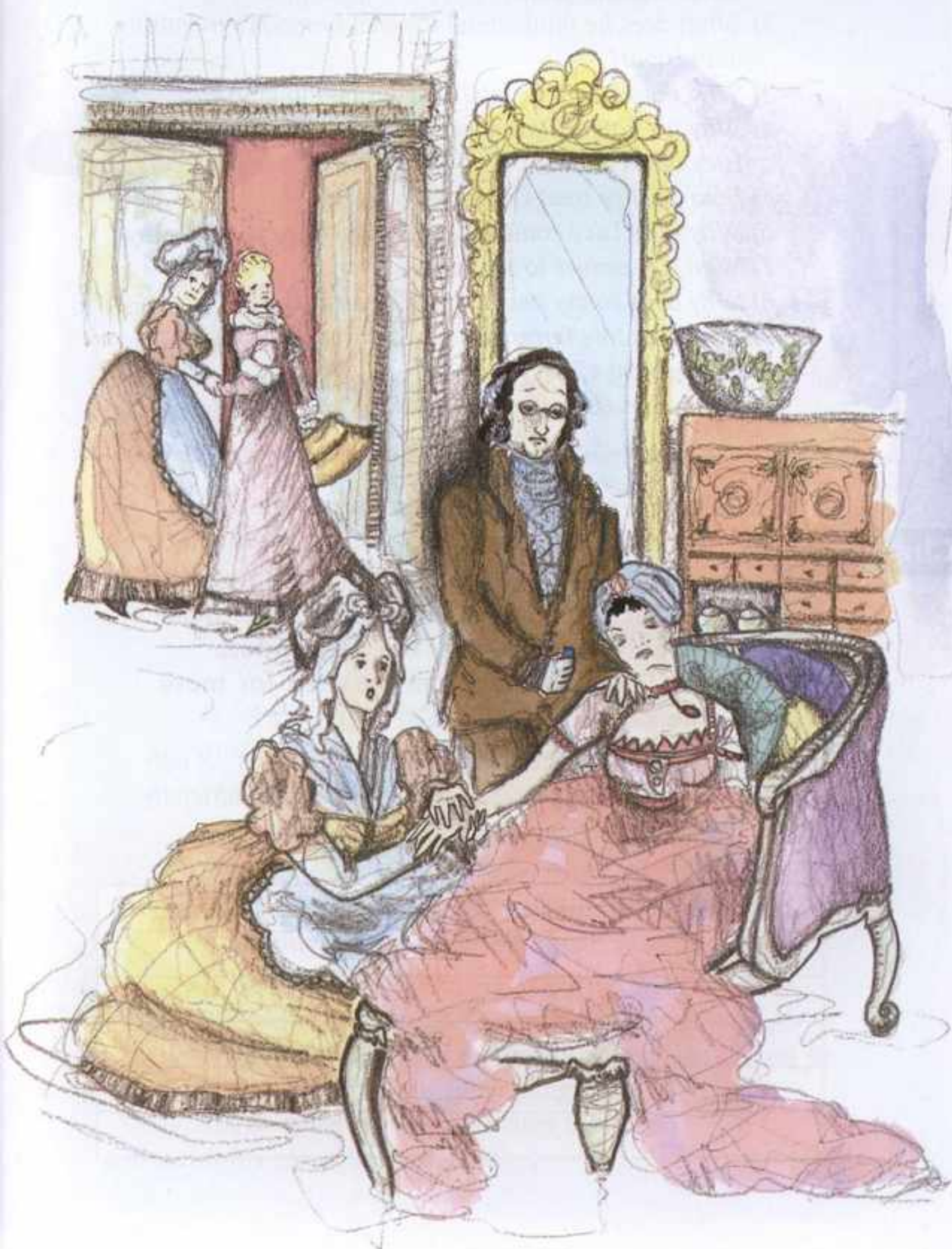
by their sweetness to the flattering Lucy. Obviously they were exaggerating a little to make her feel worse in comparison. If only Mrs Ferrars knew the truth, she thought!

Elinor's curiosity about Edward's mother was now satisfied. She realized that such a woman would have made a marriage between them very difficult and did not envy Lucy's situation. The next afternoon Lucy came to visit Elinor. She chatted about this and that but the real motive of her visit was soon obvious; she had come to gloat over Mrs Ferrars' kindness to herself and rudeness to Elinor. As they were talking, the servant entered and announced Mr Edward Ferrars. A second later, Edward was

in the room. It was a most embarrassing moment. He was obviously very uncomfortable at seeing Lucy there, and she was immediately suspicious of his visit to her rival. Only Elinor was composed enough to keep up the small talk but even she, after a while, couldn't bear the tension and went to find Marianne. Marianne rushed into the room with her usual impulsiveness, ignorant of all the undercurrents and intrigues between the group before her. She was genuinely happy to see Edward, whom she considered her brother already, and delighted for the happiness she thought Elinor must feel at his visit. She hoped that Lucy would now leave so that her sister and Edward could be alone together, but Lucy, silent and scheming, her little eyes missing nothing, was determined to stay there all night if necessary to prevent such a possibility! To Marianne's surprise, after a few torturous minutes more, it was Edward who suddenly got up, made an excuse and left.

Still more trouble was looming on the horizon for Edward. It seemed that Mrs Jennings' friend Dr Donovan had been called to examine Fanny Dashwood, who was suffering from a fit of acute hysterics. Lucy's stupid and thoughtless sister Anne, seeing how well Fanny and her mother treated Lucy and convinced that their affection for her was real, had indiscreetly revealed her sister's engagement to Edward. Now all was chaos and outrage in the Ferrars family. Lucy was immediately asked to leave the Dashwoods' house, where she had been staying for a few days at Fanny's invitation, and now everyone refused to talk to her. Mrs Ferrars, on hearing the news, had flown into a rage and had disowned Edward completely, disinheriting him of all her wealth and giving all the land and money to his younger brother Robert instead. Edward was now almost penniless and, having no professional training, was without even the prospect of a job to earn his living. He had nevertheless insisted he must do his duty and honour his commitment to Lucy, if she still wanted him now that he was poor. Lucy had replied that she would wait for him forever if necessary and so Edward had decided to enter Oxford University to study to become a clergyman.

What a drama! Mrs Jennings was quite exhausted with it all and disgusted at the behaviour of Edward's mother. After all, she said, Lucy was a sensible girl, if poor, and could probably manage a small household on a very small income. What sort of mother could disown her own son in such an unfeeling manner?





Lucy's Triumph

Check your comprehension

3 Answer the questions below.

- 1) What is John Dashwood's real reason for calling on Elinor and Marianne?
- 2) What does he think about Colonel Brandon's friendship with Elinor?
- 3) Who does Edward's mother want him to marry?
- 4) Why are Fanny Dashwood and her mother so kind to Lucy at the dinner party?
- 5) How do they treat Elinor? Why?
- 6) Why does Lucy come to visit Elinor the next day?
- 7) Who else arrives to see Elinor?
- 8) Why does Fanny have a fit of hysterics?
- 9) How does Mrs Ferrars decide to punish Edward for his engagement to Lucy?
- 10) What does Edward decide to do?

Characters

4 Which adjectives do you think describe these characters? Write them in the appropriate column. (Some of them can be used for more than one character).

proud sly snobbish shrewd jealous rich
 poor cold sour sweet friendly unfriendly
 flattering selfish superior

MRS FERRARS	FANNY DASHWOOD	LUCY STEELE

Words

5 Match the words to their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1) deceive | a) shock, horror |
| 2) disown | b) a moral obligation to someone |
| 3) disinherit | c) a promise |
| 4) outrage | d) to cancel a beneficiary from a will |
| 5) duty | e) to refuse to recognise a family relationship (legally) |
| 6) commitment | f) to lie to someone |

Language

NON-DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES

She was determined to dislike this girl *who had threatened her ambitious plans*.

She was genuinely happy to see Edward, *whom she considered her brother already*.

6 When can a relative clause be omitted from a sentence and when can it not? Write Yes or No.

- 1) Do you remember the day that we first met? _____
- 2) I decided to invite the blonde girl that I had met on the train. _____
- 3) Do you know the girl who Tom is talking to? _____
- 4) Have you found the keys that you lost? _____
- 5) The bed that I slept in was too soft. _____
- 6) An architect is a person who designs buildings. _____

7 Add a relative clause to expand these sentences without changing their basic meaning.

- 1) Peter suggested stopping at the next town.
- 2) I invited Anne to come to our party too.
- 3) She wanted Tom as a dancing partner but she got Joe.
- 4) This book is really fascinating.
- 5) The office is being decorated this week.
- 6) My son is two years old.



The story so far

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

- 1) John Dashwood thinks Colonel Brandon is in love with Lucy.
- 2) Mrs Ferrars is Fanny Dashwood's mother.
- 3) Fanny and Mrs Ferrars are very kind to Elinor.
- 4) Fanny and Mrs Ferrars are very rude to Lucy.
- 5) Lucy visits Elinor the next day to talk about the weather.
- 6) Lucy leaves when Edward arrives.

T F

☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

CHAPTER 11

Unexpected Events

Elinor now had the painful job of relating the whole story to Marianne and admitting that she had known it since Lucy's confession to her four months before. She knew that Marianne would be very shocked at Edward's deception and, not knowing him as well as Elinor did, would imagine him to be another Willoughby. Marianne was indeed horrified by the story, but more than anything she felt sorry for her poor sister. How could Elinor have borne it, she wondered? She felt most indignant at the behaviour of the sly Lucy in confiding her secret to Elinor while knowing that *she* was fond of Edward. Marianne felt very guilty that she hadn't noticed anything was wrong. She had been so lost in her own misery over Willoughby that she had depended on Elinor to comfort *her*, when her sister's pain must have been just as bad. As she confided her feelings to her sister, for the first time Elinor was able to unburden herself of all her misery and she felt relieved. She also managed to persuade Marianne that the best course of action now was to rise above the situation and behave with dignity – no one should know how much she was suffering. Her only consolation in the affair was that at least Edward and Lucy could not be married for a very long time. Years would pass before he would graduate and then find a position as a curate.

Pictures

2 Look at the pictures in Chapter 11.
Answer the questions.

- 1) What is Marianne doing in the second picture?
- 2) What is the weather like?
- 3) What is she wearing?
- 4) What happens to Marianne in the third picture?



But Fate had ironically decided that Elinor should play a role in resolving this situation too. Her trusted friend Colonel Brandon, who was indignant on hearing of Mrs Ferrars' treatment of her son and wanting to help a friend of Elinor's, informed her that the post of curate at Delaford on his estate had recently become vacant. He would like to help by offering it to Edward. Knowing nothing of Elinor's romantic attachment, he asked her if she would act as messenger and propose the job to Edward.

So it happened that Elinor herself was the one who solved Edward and Lucy's dilemma. Her last meeting with her former lover was very painful. Both of them were extremely upset when she told him of the Colonel's kind offer. They both realised that now there was no way out for Edward – he would have to pay for the foolish mistake of his youth and marry a woman he had tied himself to in a moment of weakness, whom they both knew he did not love. Their own chance of happiness seemed gone forever. Their last goodbye was almost unbearably sad.

After all these intrigues, Mrs Jennings declared that she was exhausted and told the girls that she was tired of London and wanted to return to the quiet of her country house in Cleveland, Somerset. She was very keen that they should go with her; she now depended on Elinor's cheerful company and was also very fond of Marianne. Marianne did not want to go for she knew that Cleveland was only thirty miles from Willoughby's estate, where he was now staying with his new wife. Elinor, however, felt that they *should* go. Mrs Jennings had been very good to them during all their troubles in London and she felt obliged to accompany the old lady to her home and see her comfortably settled there. And, she reminded her sister, Cleveland was only eighty miles from Barton and their own dear mother and little sister. After staying with Mrs Jennings for a short visit, they could then return home by a quicker route to Barton Cottage.

Cleveland was a large, modern house in a sunny position. It had no park but the gardens were extensive with many



pleasant walks. Marianne felt very emotional when they arrived, knowing that they were only a few miles from Willoughby's estate, and spent much of her time wandering alone in the gardens, consoling herself with the beauty of the spring landscape, while Elinor attended to Mrs Jennings and wrote letters home. After a few days, however, the weather changed and during one of her solitary excursions Marianne

was drenched in the sudden rain. Preoccupied with her sad memories, she was careless about her health and soon her slight cold worsened into severe influenza. Elinor insisted that Marianne stay in bed and hoped that by the day after she would be better, but during the night she developed a high fever and by morning she was delirious. The doctor arrived but did not offer Elinor much comfort. Her sister's condition was serious and the more medicines she tried, the worse she became. Elinor was very worried, especially when Marianne began to shout wildly for her mother and to rave incoherently. She consulted Colonel Brandon, who was waiting anxiously downstairs for news of the patient, and they both decided that her mother should be sent for. The Colonel immediately offered himself as the messenger who should fetch Mrs Dashwood and began to make the necessary preparations quickly and efficiently. Elinor felt extremely relieved to have such a practical and sensible friend in her time of need. If all went well, her mother would be there by ten o'clock that night and Elinor would not have to bear the terrible responsibility of her sister's condition alone.

Marianne's condition did not improve and the doctor was very worried. Her life was now hanging in the balance – the fever was extremely high. Elinor was desperate and sat by her sister's bed every minute watching anxiously for some sign of improvement. In the early afternoon, the more she watched her, the more she began to think that Marianne was breathing more regularly and that she was not so hot. After another hour she was certain there was some improvement and called Mrs Jennings. The old lady agreed that Marianne seemed slightly better and they called the doctor again. By the time he arrived,



Marianne was no longer flushed and her skin was cool. She opened her eyes and, though very weak, recognized her sister and smiled. The worst of the danger was past – there was now hope that she would recover.

Elinor was still too agitated to sleep but she went downstairs and sat in the drawing room exhausted, thanking God that their ordeal was over. Around eight o'clock she heard horses approaching and then the bell rang. Surely her mother and Colonel Brandon could not be here already? At that moment the servant entered and announced – Willoughby!





Unexpected Events

Check your comprehension

3 Answer the questions below.

- 1) How did Marianne feel when Elinor told her about Lucy's engagement to Edward?
- 2) Why does Elinor think Lucy and Edward will not marry for a long time?
- 3) What does Colonel Brandon do to help Edward? Why?
- 4) Who does he ask to make the offer to Edward?
- 5) Why doesn't Marianne want to accompany Mrs Jennings to Cleveland?
- 6) How does Elinor persuade her that they should go?
- 7) What happens to Marianne there?

Words

4 Match the illnesses to the symptoms.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1) cold | a) to feel hot all over |
| 2) influenza | b) a pain in the head |
| 3) fever | c) red and hot in the face |
| 4) headache | d) blocked nose, sneezing, coughing |
| 5) delirious | e) blocked nose, sneezing, fever, pain in the bones |
| 6) flushed | f) to talk incoherently, be very feverish |

Characters

5 Answer the questions about Elinor.

- 1) Why doesn't Elinor tell Marianne about Lucy and Edward's engagement before this?
- 2) Why do you think she feels relieved after she's told her sister?
- 3) Why isn't she more upset initially about the idea of Edward marrying Lucy?
- 4) How do you think she feels now that Colonel Brandon has offered Edward a job?

Language

6 Complete these sentences with more or the comparative forms of the adjectives below.

long heavy
tasty close old

- 1) The _____ you spend, the _____ you save!
- 2) The _____ I see her, the _____ I love her.
- 3) The _____ we waited, the _____ the snow fell.
- 4) The _____ you cook it, the _____ it gets.
- 5) The _____ you get to her, the _____ she looks.

**COMPARISON, PARALLEL INCREASE -
THE + COMPARATIVE...
THE + COMPARATIVE**

The more medicines he tried, the worse she became.

The more she watched her, the more she began to think that she was breathing more regularly.

Story summary

7 Complete the summary with the words below.

reason guilty disinherited country engagement
curate friend caught talk fetch problems
accompany worried alone waiting

Elinor told her sister about Lucy and Edward's _____. Marianne felt _____ that Elinor had had to bear the secret alone because she had been too preoccupied with her own _____ with Willoughby. Colonel Brandon heard that Mrs Ferrars had _____ Edward and, thinking to help a _____ of Elinor's, offered him the position of _____ on his estate. Now there was no _____ why Lucy and Edward could not marry immediately. The Dashwood sisters left London with Mrs Jennings to _____ her to her house in the _____. Marianne was melancholy there and spent a lot of time walking _____ in the garden. One day she got _____ in the rain and became dangerously ill. Elinor was very _____ and decided to send Colonel Brandon to _____ their mother. While she was _____ for them to arrive, Willoughby came to the house to _____ to her.



The story so far

I Put these sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Mrs Ferrars disinherits Edward and promises all her money to Robert.
- ☐ Elinor tells Marianne that Edward is already engaged to Lucy.
- ☐ Colonel Brandon offers Edward a job on his estate.
- ☐ Marianne catches a cold in the rain.
- ☐ Elinor and Marianne go to Cleveland with Mrs Jennings.
- ☐ Marianne is dangerously ill.

CHAPTER 12

A Confession

Elinor was not pleased to see the man who had made her sister so miserable and had indirectly caused her terrible illness. She had no desire to talk to him. Willoughby, however, begged her to listen to what he had to say. He had ridden all the way from London in the rain when he had heard of Marianne's illness. The servant had told him she was now out of danger and he begged Elinor to confirm that it was true. Elinor confirmed that she seemed better and Willoughby sighed with relief. Then he said he had come to talk to Elinor about what had happened between himself and Marianne. She was curious and hoped that there might be some comfort for Marianne in his explanation, so she agreed to listen to it.

When he had first met her family at Barton, he admitted, he had only wanted to pass some time with them to relieve the boredom of his visit to his old aunt at Allenham. Almost immediately he had been charmed by Marianne's beauty and intelligence and began to find himself much more interested in this young girl than he had intended. At first he was amused by her obvious infatuation with him (here Elinor blushed), but then he started to appreciate what a remarkable and lovely girl she was. Before long he was captivated by her and had entered into a charming, innocent flirtation without thinking of the consequences. He had known from the beginning that he could

Pictures

2 Look at the pictures in Chapter 12. Answer the questions.

- 1) Who comes to visit the girls unexpectedly?
- 2) Who composed the letter that Willoughby sent Marianne in London?
- 3) Who does Marianne eventually marry?



not marry Marianne if he wanted to keep his estate – his debts were large and he urgently needed money to pay them. But he chose to ignore the facts and enjoy himself playing the romantic hero, allowing their relationship to develop for his own gratification. “But you *were* fond of my sister, Mr Willoughby, were you not?” asked Elinor severely.

“How could I have resisted such attractions, Miss Dashwood? Such tenderness? The happiest hours of my life were those I spent

with her! The more time I was with her, the more I felt I *wanted* to act honourably and ask her to marry me, but a part of me resisted the idea, knowing it would mean the end of all my worldly ambitions."

Willoughby confessed that the same night he had begged Marianne for a lock of her hair he had decided to ask her to marry him. However, when he got home, something happened which changed his mind and altered the course of both their lives forever. News of his affair with "a certain person" – here he blushed deeply and Elinor realised he was talking about Eliza, Colonel Brandon's adopted daughter – had reached his aunt at Allenham. That virtuous lady was so deeply shocked that she had decided to disinherit him. His only way out, she said, was if he would marry the unfortunate girl, Eliza. He refused – he knew he had no feelings for Eliza and he was angry at his aunt's treatment of him – and she sent him away from Allenham forever. He came to Barton for one last visit before he fled to London, but of course was too ashamed to tell Marianne the reason for his sudden departure. He declared that he had been heartbroken to leave, but as soon as he was away from Marianne's good influence he quickly reverted to his extravagant, frivolous lifestyle. The idea of having no money began to terrify him. He convinced himself that their relationship had only been a flirtation and that she was young enough to forget him quickly. He threw himself into the season of parties and entertainments and soon found a rich heiress to court who could put an end to his financial worries.

He paused for a moment and Elinor privately reflected that, if her sister *had* married such a selfish man with such weak morals and in such difficult financial circumstances, it would surely have ended in misery. To Willoughby, however, she said, "And that cruel, unpardonable letter that you sent to my sister in London? How do you explain that, Mr Willoughby?" Willoughby laughed bitterly.

"Ah yes, the letter. Did you like my wife's work?" he asked with irony. "I thought I had forgotten Marianne after many months in London but when I received her letter assuring me

that I was as dear to her as ever, I realised what a scoundrel I had been and that I still loved her. But it was too late. My engagement to Miss Grey had just been finalised. All I could do was try to avoid seeing Marianne. I could not bear to face her and see her pain when I confessed I intended to marry another. If you can pity me at all, Miss Dashwood, think how I felt then. With my head and heart full of one woman, I had to pretend to be in love with another. At that ball where we met accidentally, I stood between the two of them, – Marianne looking so beautiful and innocent and tragic and Sophie, my wife-to-be, as jealous and spiteful as a cat...”

“But the letter, Mr Willoughby, what about that?” interrupted Elinor.

“Ah yes. When my letters were brought the next morning Sophie was visiting me. Seeing the feminine handwriting on the envelope of Marianne’s letter, she opened it and read it all. She was furious. She demanded that I cut all connections with this rival and dictated my reply. She said that if I did not do it she would end our engagement. I relied completely on her money to help me out of my debts. I was forced to give up Marianne and also all her letters to me, even the precious lock of her hair.



"I had no choice." He looked at Elinor with dark eyes full of self-pity. "You are wrong to say that you had no choice, Willoughby. The initial choice to abandon my sister was entirely yours and you had already made it. Please do not speak so bitterly of your wife – she has some claim to your respect and affection. To speak badly of her will not console Marianne," said Elinor dryly.

"Do not feel sorry for my wife – she does not deserve it. She knew I did not love her when she accepted me," replied Willoughby impatiently. "But have I explained my conduct at least a little? Will you tell your sister what I have said and assure her that, despite my unpardonable behaviour, I have never stopped loving her in my heart?"

"I understand you better now than I did before and I will tell Marianne all you have said. I pity your suffering now but I don't think there is any excuse for the misery you have caused her," replied Elinor firmly.

"Be assured that my life is quite as miserable now as you could wish, Miss Dashwood. I have got all I deserved in the wife I chose and my domestic life is all rancour and boredom. Goodbye, Miss Dashwood, and thank you. Will you at least shake hands with me?"

Elinor did so, then asked the servant to accompany him to the door. When he had gone she sat alone for a while, exhausted by all that had passed, until at last she heard a carriage approaching and knew that her mother had come.

Mrs Dashwood had feared the worst during her journey and was relieved to learn that Marianne was better. After she had assured herself that the patient was comfortable, she and Elinor sat for a long time talking. Her mother told her that Colonel Brandon, as worried as he was for Marianne, had confessed his affection for her to her mother. Mrs Dashwood was surprised but pleased. Colonel Brandon was a sincere and honourable man and his quietness and good sense were positive points after her daughter's unhappy experience with the false Willoughby. She hoped that in time Marianne could become fond of their dear friend. For now she had told him that she would do her best to promote the idea when Marianne recovered – she could not promise more.

Marianne was young and strong and recovered quickly from her illness among her loving family.

Elinor had been very apprehensive about their return to Barton, thinking that her sister would break down with so many things to remind her of Willoughby there, but Marianne showed remarkable self-control and after a few tears, resolved to put the past behind her.

One day she confessed to Elinor that the one thing which would really help her to forgive and forget the past was the knowledge that Willoughby had not been completely insincere, that she had not been absolutely deceived by his character. If she could believe he had loved her a little, it would comfort her. So Elinor told her of Willoughby's visit during her illness. She listened in silence. Afterwards she hugged her sister and said that she was sorry for her behaviour and the distress that she had caused her family. She had learned a hard lesson but she hoped she had become wiser after it.

A few days later their servant told them a piece of startling news. Mr Ferrars was married! He had seen him in town



with Miss Steele, who had informed him that her name was now Mrs Ferrars! Marianne and her mother were not prepared for the violence of Elinor's reaction. She became deathly pale and could not speak. Of course she knew that Edward and Lucy were to be married eventually but she had always secretly hoped something would happen to prevent it. She was devastated.

Elinor spent the rest of the day trying to imagine her life without the hope of Edward in it. As she walked back to the cottage later, she saw a figure on a horse approaching. Could it be Colonel Brandon? Perhaps he could explain the suddenness of Edward's marriage. How had he managed to start the job at Delaford so soon? He had not even graduated yet. As the man approached, however, she saw it was not the Colonel but Edward himself!

With a great effort, Elinor politely asked where Mrs Ferrars was. Edward, puzzled, replied that his mother was in London and told her that he had come with some news – Lucy Steele had married his brother, Robert!

By that same evening Edward was the happiest man in the country. He had been saved from marriage to Lucy without hurting anyone's feelings, and now he had won the bride that he really wanted – Elinor. He had talked frankly to her about his unhappy engagement to Lucy and how much he had regretted it, and she was satisfied that his love for herself was something much stronger and more mature.

The subject which intrigued them all at the cottage that night was how the strange union between Lucy and Robert Ferrars had come about. Edward could only suppose that Lucy's flattery had somehow found its match in Robert's love of being flattered! He had had no idea that they had been meeting or corresponding but he was too relieved to think much about Lucy's deception of himself in the affair. As for Mrs Ferrars, everyone felt that she deserved the shock which Robert's disobedience, coming so soon after the scandal with Edward, had caused her.

Elinor and Edward were married the next year and moved to the parsonage at Delaford. Her mother and sisters often visited her cosy new home, and soon Mrs Dashwood and Elinor were pleased to observe a growing attachment between Marianne

and Colonel Brandon. So Marianne, having expected to live the rest of her life without ever falling in love again, soon found herself the wife of the Colonel and the lady of the manor. Not being a girl who could love by halves, she became as devoted to her husband as she had once been to Willoughby. Her family were delighted to see how his influence on her calmed and steadied her, while hers on him cheered his spirit and helped him to forget the ghosts of his past.

Willoughby continued to live with his shrewish wife but found some consolation for his unhappy marriage in hunting and riding. He never forgot Marianne – hearing of her marriage to Colonel Brandon was one of the hardest things he ever had to face in his selfish life – and always secretly considered her his ideal of young womanhood.

Mrs Ferrars eventually forgave Edward and accepted Elinor as her daughter-in-law with as much grace as she could. Lucy also managed to procure a pardon for herself and Robert by the simple strategy of continuing humbly to beg for it!

Elinor and Edward lived the rest of their lives in happy affection near their dear friends and relations, the Brandons, and felt there was no luckier couple in all of the country than themselves.





A Confession

Check your comprehension

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

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Willoughby fell in love with Marianne because she was very young. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) He let his relationship with her develop without considering the consequences. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) He always intended to marry Marianne. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) His aunt disinherited him because she found out about his friendship with Marianne. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) When he returned to London, he went back to his previous extravagant lifestyle. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) He decided to marry Miss Grey because she was sweet and pretty. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) Miss Grey was jealous of Marianne and made Willoughby return all her letters. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8) Willoughby is now happily married. | ☐ | ☐ |

Characters

4 Answer the questions about Mrs Dashwood.

- 1) How has her attitude to Willoughby changed?
- 2) Why does she prefer Colonel Brandon now?
- 3) Do you think she acted wisely about her daughter's infatuation with Willoughby?

5 Which adjectives describe Marianne at the beginning of the story? Which ones describe her at the end?

impulsive wise headstrong passionate prudent
spontaneous modest excitable calm sensible
sensitive thoughtful thoughtless

Themes

6 Elinor and Marianne represent the sense and sensibility of the book's title. Through their different reactions to their disappointments in love, Elinor's reason and prudence are contrasted with the recklessness and extreme sensitivity of Marianne. Which of these sentences best summarises the moral message of the story?

- 1) *Sense is better than sensibility and we should try to develop it and deny the romantic aspect of ourselves.*
- 2) *Sense should harmonise with sensibility in the ideal human personality, each one moderating and influencing the other.*
- 3) *Society should change to allow more room for sensibility in our interactions with other people, as it is more natural and spontaneous.*

7 Which of these minor characters also exemplify sense and sensibility? Which represent a balance between the two extremes?

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1) Willoughby | 5) Mrs Ferrars |
| 2) Colonel Brandon | 6) John Dashwood |
| 3) Lucy Steele | 7) Mrs Dashwood |
| 4) Edward Ferrars | |

SENSE	SENSIBILITY	BALANCE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

8 Jane Austen is also famous as a satirist. These minor themes are treated through the irony and comedy in the novel. Put them in order of importance.

- ☐ *an examination of how a young, inexperienced person matures until he/she can accept social responsibility and take his/her place in adult society*
- ☐ *a satirical exposure of nineteenth-century social attitudes to money and marriage*
- ☐ *a satirical attack on the emptiness and uselessness of fashionable social life in town*

Marianne's Wedding

1 Match the words to the things or people in the picture.

1) church

2) bride's bouquet

3) vicar

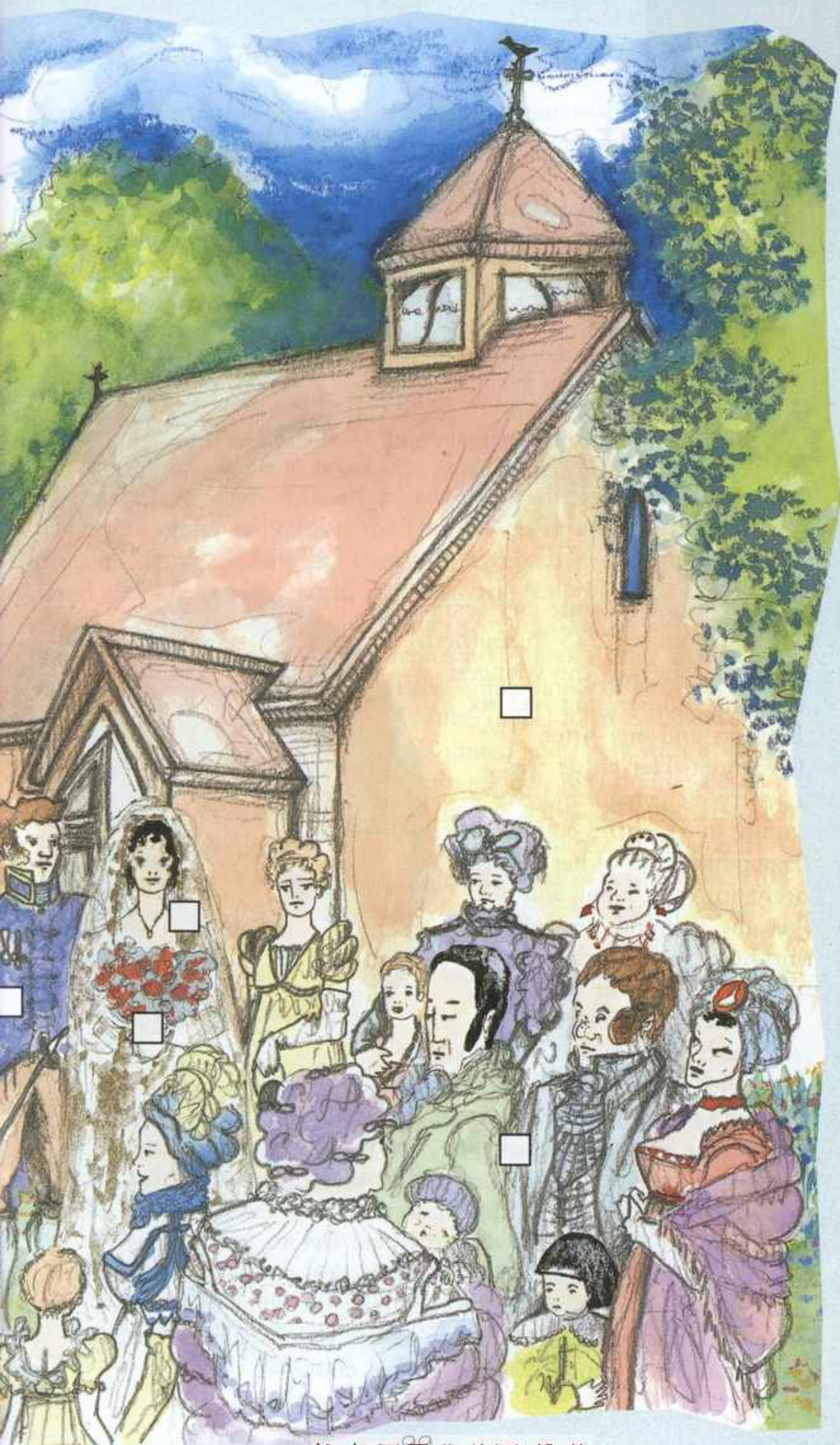
4) bride

5) bridegroom

6) wedding guests

7) churchyard

8) gravestone



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The Life of Jane Austen

1 Scan the text and find the dates when these events happened.

- a) Jane Austen died aged 41.
- b) Her first novel was published.
- c) Jane Austen was born.
- d) She went to live in Hampshire with her mother and sister.
- e) Her father died and her family moved to Bath.

The author of *Sense and Sensibility* was born in 1775 in southern England. She was the youngest of eight children and had six brothers and one sister, Cassandra. Her father was a country clergyman and the family lived in the county of Hampshire. Two of her brothers went into the Navy and became Admirals. Another brother, Henry, became a clergyman like his father. Her sister never married.

Although many events of importance happened during her lifetime, Jane Austen's novels do not draw their material from these sources. English literature itself was going through a period of transition from the eighteenth-century rationalist values of writers like Pope and Dr Johnson, to the new Romantic ideas in the works of Scott, Wordsworth and Byron. Jane Austen, however, lived most of her life outside the worlds of politics and literature in the limited environment of the small country community. Her social circle was restricted to members of her own rank, the "genteel" upper middle class.



In 1806 her father died and the family went to live in the fashionable spa town of Bath. As a young girl she attended the usual round of dinner parties, balls, tea-parties, card-parties and musical evenings there. Her observations and experiences in Bath gave her much material for the satirical scenes of city social life which she included in many of her novels, and the people she met there influenced the characters she created in her books. In 1809 she moved to Chawton Cottage on her brother's estate in Hampshire, where she lived until her death in 1817. Her first novel, *Sense and Sensibility*, was published in 1811.

Throughout her life she was very close to all of her family and had a particularly intimate relationship with her sister, Cassandra. Their relationship is probably the basis for Elinor and Marianne's in *Sense and Sensibility*. Jane and Cassandra also both lost the men they loved and suffered very much, but unlike the fictional heroines they did not find love again later in life. Elinor's loving concern for her sister and the affection between them represents Austen's belief that strong family affection can help to cure the unhappiness of personal loss. In fact her own family was probably the model for the audience Jane Austen imagined when she wrote. Cultured and lively with a strong sense of humour, they disliked affectation and pretentiousness and valued education and culture above money and social class. Her own education was directed by her father who taught the girls himself. She also acquired the requisite accomplishments of young ladies: she spoke French and Italian, could sew and embroider, and sang and played the piano. She also read extremely widely, her favourite authors being Shakespeare, Johnson, Goldsmith, Cowper and Crabbe.

2 Answer the questions.

- 1) What did Jane Austen's father do?
- 2) Did her family live in the town or the country?
- 3) What social class did the Austens belong to?
- 4) Who was Jane's closest friend and confidante?
- 5) What subjects did Jane Austen prefer to write about in her novels?
- 6) Why were the years she spent in Bath useful to her career as a writer?
- 7) What sort of "audience" did she imagine for her books?
- 8) Who were her favourite authors?

Sense and Sensibility

While Jane Austen's style derives from that of the writers of the eighteenth century, the themes in her works reflect both the ideas which influenced the eighteenth century and those which began to circulate at the start of the nineteenth century and which were eventually to evolve into the Romantic movement.

The two qualities named in the novel's title, *Sense and Sensibility*, neatly summarise the contrast between the two attitudes to life. Through the different reactions of Elinor and Marianne to the disappointments which they have to face, reason, prudence and caution are contrasted with passion, recklessness and extreme sensitivity.



The sense of *Sense and Sensibility* is related to reason, the main principle of the Rationalist thinkers, which they elevated to the level of a virtue because they believed that it is man's power to reason which separates him from the animals and allows him to understand his position in the order of God's universe. His ability to think logically controls and gives order to chaos. Sensibility, on the other hand, signifies personal sensitivity to emotions and experiences and the power of the individual imagination to transform reality.

While the criticism in the novel is often directed at the characters whose behaviour shows an excess of sensibility so that their reactions to experience become exaggerated and ridiculous, Jane Austen is more critical of those who lack completely either of the two qualities, sense or sensibility, such as Anne Steele or Mrs Ferrars. She believes some degree of spontaneity, emotional sensitivity and appreciation of beauty is necessary, as is a large helping of good sense, in order to mature and grow according to the experiences life offers us. In fact, those characters whom she approves of in the novel are those who manage to combine sense with sensibility in their attitude to life, such as Elinor, Edward and Colonel Brandon.

1 Choose the correct answer.

- 1) *The Rationalist writers of the eighteenth century influenced Jane Austen's language / themes / style.*
- 2) *In *Sense and Sensibility* Elinor and Marianne represent all young middle class women that Austen knew / the two qualities of the title / Jane Austen and her sister.*
- 3) *"Sense" means reason and caution / a feeling or intuition / to hear something.*
- 4) *"Sensibility" means sensitivity to emotions and experiences / practicality / exaggerated passion.*
- 5) *The characters in the novel which Jane Austen asks us to approve of are those who have a lot of sense but no sensibility / a lot of sensibility but no sense / a balance of both qualities in their personalities.*

The Times of Jane Austen

As we have noted, many events of great historical importance happened during Jane Austen's lifetime and even if she decided for artistic reasons to exclude them from her writing they must have influenced her own family's life. The history of this important period resulted in the map of the world being re-drawn. Spain and Holland now declined as world powers and by the end of the eighteenth century France had lost its lands in Canada, North America and India to Britain after a series of wars and treaties.

The English colonies in America declared themselves independent in 1776 and Britain was forced to turn its attention to the East to find markets for its goods. The British occupation of India marked the beginning of the nineteenth-century expansion of the famous British Empire. In 1778 the first British ships landed in Australia. This immense continent was soon to take the place of America as a dumping ground for criminals from Britain.

The French revolution of 1789 greatly influenced events in Europe, politically, philosophically and socially. The rise of Napoleon Bonaparte in France was a phenomenon which touched all of the continent as he led the victorious French forces to successfully conquer first one nation and then another, but when he invaded Russia in 1812 the tide finally began to turn. In 1815 a combined army of British, Dutch and German forces finally defeated him at Waterloo under the command of the Duke of Wellington. It became one of the most famous battles in British history.

Meanwhile in Britain itself a great many social and economic changes were happening. England was the first country to transform itself into an industrialised nation. The easy availability of coal meant that



there was power for the new machines that were changing the manufacturing of goods and soon large factories for weaving cotton and making ceramics appeared.

The social implications of the Industrial Revolution were immense. In rural areas more land was needed for the new methods of farming which were introduced to make agriculture more profitable, so landowners fenced in large areas which had previously been used as common land where the poor villagers kept their animals and grew a little food to feed themselves. In this way whole communities were forced to move to the new industrial towns in search of work. There they worked extremely long hours and were badly paid, usually living in squalid poverty in slums. Women and children were exploited as cheap labour and there were no laws to protect the workers from the dangerous new machinery they operated or to regulate the hours they were forced to work. In these terrible conditions the poorer classes became very discontent and there were soon riots against the authorities.

Politically, only men with a certain level of income were allowed to vote in Austen's time. The new industrial cities were not represented in parliament at all and the old constituencies which existed had been drawn up centuries before and did not at all reflect the distribution of the population. In 1832 the Reform Act was finally passed which divided parliamentary seats more appropriately and the number of voters increased, but women and poor people were still not allowed to vote.

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

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) England was the last European nation to become industrialised. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Most of the machinery in its factories was powered by oil. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) The first factories made cotton and ceramics. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) The poor moved from the cities to the country to find work. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) There were no laws to protect industrial workers from exploitation at that time. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Only rich men and women could vote in Britain before 1832. | ☐ | ☐ |

1 Read the definitions and find the words for these people in the glossary.

- 1) a handsome, eligible single young man _____
- 2) the chief servant in a rich man's house _____
- 3) the assistant to a priest in a Protestant church _____
- 4) the person who will inherit a property when the owner dies _____
- 5) the wife of a rich landowner _____
- 6) the owner of a rented property _____
- 7) a person who carries messages or letters for others _____
- 8) an aristocrat _____
- 9) a bad man, a villain _____
- 10) someone you don't know _____

A

abroad – _____
 abrupt – _____
 accomplishment – _____
 to acquire – _____
 to act as – _____
 affair – _____
 affectation – _____
 to afford – _____
 to agree – _____
 agreeable – _____
 amazement – _____
 ankle – _____
 to annoy – _____
 apple of your eye – _____
 to approach – _____
 argument – _____
 arrangement – _____
 ashamed, to be ashamed – _____

 at once – _____
 attachment – _____
 attentive – _____
 availability – _____
 awkwardly – _____

B

to banish – _____
 basis – _____
 basket – _____
 beaux – _____
 before – _____
 to beg – _____
 belief – _____
 beloved – _____
 besotted – _____
 to betray – _____
 betrothal – _____
 to blame – _____
 to blush – _____
 boarding school – _____
 bold – _____
 boredom – _____
 to break down – _____
 to breathe – _____
 by halves – _____

C

callous – _____
 to captivate – _____
 to care about someone – _____

careless – _____
 carriage – _____
 to carry out – _____
 to catch your foot – _____
 to challenge – _____
 changeable – _____
 to charm – _____
 charming – _____
 choice – _____
 civil – _____
 claim – _____
 clergyman – _____
 coal – _____
 cold – _____
 to come about – _____
 to complain – _____
 complexion – _____
 to conceal – _____
 concern – _____
 to conquer – _____
 consideration – _____
 constituency – _____
 cosy – _____
 to court – _____
 to cry – _____
 cultured – _____
 curate – _____
 to cut off – _____

D

dashing – _____
 daughter-in-law – _____
 to deal with – _____
 debtors' prison – _____
 to decline – _____
 to defeat – _____
 defiant – _____
 to delay – _____
 demand – _____
 to demand – _____
 to deny – _____
 to derive – _____
 to deserve – _____
 desirable – _____
 development – _____
 disappointment – _____
 to disinherit – _____

dislike – _____
 to disown – _____
 distaste – _____
 distressed – _____
 to draw – _____
 to draw up – _____
 drenched – _____
 droll – _____
 dull – _____
 dumping ground – _____

E

each other – _____
 effort – _____
 either (not either) – _____
 eligible – _____
 to elope – _____
 else – _____
 to embroider – _____
 engaged – _____
 engagement – _____
 entertaining – _____
 estate – _____
 esteemed – _____
 even (not even) – _____
 even-tempered – _____
 to evolve – _____
 exploited – _____

F

to face – _____
 to faint – _____
 Fate – _____
 to fear the worst – _____
 features – _____
 to feed – _____
 to feel sorry for someone – _____

 to feel sorry for something – _____

 feeling – _____
 to fence in – _____
 to fetch – _____
 fever – _____
 figure – _____
 to find fault – _____

2 Complete the table with the missing words (parts of speech).

NOUN	VERB	ADJECTIVE	ADVERB
<i>agreement</i>	<i>agree</i>		<i>agreeably</i>
		<i>beautiful</i>	<i>beautifully</i>
	<i>bore</i>	<i>boring/bored</i>	<i>boringly</i>
<i>change</i>	<i>change</i>		
<i>demand</i>		<i>demanding</i>	<i>demandingly</i>
	<i>engage</i>	<i>engaged</i>	<i>engagingly</i>
<i>health</i>			<i>healthily</i>
	<i>long for</i>	<i>long</i>	<i>longingly</i>

flattery – _____
 flirtation – _____
 flushed – _____
 to fly into a rage – _____
 fond, to be fond of – _____
 frantic – _____
 to frown – _____
 fun – _____
 fun-loving – _____

G

game – _____
 genteel – _____
 gentlemanly – _____
 to get to know someone – _____
 gift – _____
 to give up – _____
 to give way to – _____
 to glance – _____
 to gloat – _____
 glow – _____
 goods – _____
 to graduate – _____
 gratification – _____

to greet – _____
 to guess – _____

H

half-relations – _____
 half-rising – _____
 handsome – _____
 hanging in the balance – _____
 hard – _____
 to have the whip hand – _____
 head-over-heels (in love) – _____
 health – _____
 healthy – _____
 heartbroken – _____
 heath – _____
 heavily – _____
 heir, heiress – _____
 helping – _____
 to hold out – _____
 honeysuckle – _____
 horrified – _____
 hotly – _____

How annoying! - _____
How kind! - _____
to hug - _____
humbly - _____
hunting - _____
hurt - _____
to hurt - _____
hysterics - _____

I
if only - _____
impropriety - _____
to improve - _____
in order to - _____
in spite of - _____
in store - _____
to indulge - _____
to indulge in - _____
to ingratiate oneself - _____
ink - _____
intrigue - _____
intrigued - _____

J
to join in - _____
joke - _____
jolly - _____

K
keen - _____
to keep hidden - _____
kind - _____
kindness - _____
to kneel - _____
to knock - _____

L
labour - _____
lack - _____
lady of the manor - _____
landlord - _____
late - _____

to lean - _____
legacy - _____
to lift - _____
to light up - _____
lively - _____
lock - _____
to long for - _____
longer - _____
longing - _____
to look forward to + ing - _____
to loom on the horizon - _____
loss - _____
loudly - _____
luckily - _____

M
main - _____
to make a match - _____
to make inquiries - _____
to make up for - _____
manor house - _____
marked - _____
matter - _____
mind - _____
musical - _____

N
narrow-minded - _____
neatly - _____
neglect - _____
neither of them - _____
never mind - _____
nevertheless - _____
to nod - _____
notice - _____

O
ordeal - _____
out of humour - _____
outrage - _____

3 Solve the anagrams in column A, then match the words to their definitions in column C.

A	B	C
1) lelw-dber	well-bred	a) a single girl without an escort or partner
2) rondunechape		b) shock, horror
3) factult		c) from a good class and distinguished family
4) tysishl		d) lack of caution, thoughtlessness
5) tipesluf		e) trial, difficult experience
6) kessnesslecr		f) diplomatic
7) geparnosa		g) tendency, preference
8) tougare		h) vindictive, malicious
9) leadro		i) fashionable, well-dressed
10) clanntiniio		j) the house of a Protestant priest

to overcome – _____
to owe – _____
owner – _____

P

pain – _____
parlour – _____
parsonage – _____
to pass away – _____
pasture – _____
penniless – _____
to pick up – _____
to pity – _____
pleasure – _____
plump – _____
to point out – _____
power – _____
praise – _____
to praise – _____
prejudice – _____
to pretend – _____

pretentiousness – _____
pride – _____
profitable – _____
properly – _____
to propose (marriage) – _____
proud – _____
to push your way – _____
to put the past behind you – _____
puzzled – _____

R

rank – _____
to rave – _____
to realise – _____
reason – _____
recklessness – _____
to recover – _____
to regret – _____
relation – _____

relationship – _____
 relieved – _____
 to remind someone – _____
 rent – _____
 to reprimand – _____
 to reproach – _____
 rescuer – _____
 to resemble – _____
 reverie – _____
 to revert – _____
 to ride – _____
 to ridicule – _____
 right away – _____
 ring – _____
 riot – _____
 rise – _____
 to rise above – _____
 rough – _____
 route – _____
 rude – _____
 ruined – _____
 rumoured, was – _____
 to rush – _____

S

to sack – _____
 sallow – _____
 scapegoat – _____
 scathing – _____
 to scheme – _____
 scoundrel – _____
 to screen – _____
 to scrutinise – _____
 to seal – _____
 secrecy – _____
 self-command – _____
 self-pity – _____
 to send for – _____
 sensible – _____
 to set your cap at someone – _____

 settled (in) – _____
 settlement – _____
 to sew – _____

sewing scissors – _____
 shabby – _____
 sharp – _____
 shiny – _____
 to shoot – _____
 to shout – _____
 shrewdly – _____
 shrewish – _____
 shutter – _____
 to sigh with relief – _____

 to signal – _____
 silly – _____
 skill – _____
 slope – _____
 slums – _____
 smart – _____
 smugly – _____
 snobbish – _____
 sob – _____
 to sob – _____
 solemn – _____
 somehow – _____
 sort – _____
 sour – _____
 spa town – _____
 sparkling – _____
 speechless – _____
 spirits – _____
 spiteful – _____
 spoiled – _____
 spot – _____
 stable – _____
 to stare – _____
 startled – _____
 steady – _____
 to steady someone – _____
 steep – _____
 strained – _____
 strangeness – _____
 stranger – _____
 to strike – _____
 stylish – _____
 suddenness – _____
 suited – _____
 supercilious – _____
 supper – _____
 sure enough – _____
 sweetness – _____

T

tactful – _____
 to take off your hands – _____
 to take the place of – _____
 to take up – _____
 tamed – _____
 taste – _____
 tear – _____
 to tease – _____
 thatched – _____
 therefore – _____
 thoughtful – _____
 thoughtless – _____
 throughout – _____
 to throw oneself into something – _____

 tide – _____
 timber – _____
 token – _____
 topic – _____
 torturous – _____
 tower – _____
 treaty – _____
 trick – _____
 triumphant – _____
 to trouble – _____
 troubled – _____
 turn of events – _____
 to turn someone against something – _____

 to turn something over in your mind – _____

 to twist your ankle – _____
 two-penny post – _____

U

to unburden oneself – _____

 unchaperoned – _____

undercurrent – _____
 to underline – _____
 understanding – _____
 uneasy – _____
 unfairly – _____
 unfeeling – _____
 uninvited – _____
 unpardonable – _____
 unprompted – _____
 unsuitable – _____
 unwell – _____
 to urge – _____

V

to value – _____
 vow – _____

W

way out – _____
 weaving – _____
 to welcome – _____
 well-bred – _____
 well-educated – _____
 well-fed – _____
 well provided for – _____
 wet – _____
 to whisper – _____
 wild – _____
 wise – _____
 wisely – _____
 wish – _____
 womanhood – _____
 to wonder – _____
 wooded – _____
 worldly – _____

Y

youth – _____

人物简介

Elinor Dashwood (埃莉诺·达什伍德): 小说中达什伍德太太的长女, 美丽、贤淑、端庄、内敛, 她是作者心目中理想的女人的原型——理智又不乏热情。

Edward Ferrars (爱德华·费拉斯): 达什伍德太太儿媳的弟弟, 也很内敛, 现实而保守, 对自己的感情把握得不好, 曾经冲动地与人私订终身。

Marianne Dashwood (玛丽安·达什伍德): 达什伍德太太的次女, 埃莉诺的妹妹, 热情、浪漫、极有品位, 在音乐方面很有天分, 但经常感情用事, 招致麻烦和被人欺骗。

Willoughby (威洛比): 挥金如土的少爷形象, 但不失为一个翩翩公子, 英俊潇洒, 风流倜傥, 骑术精湛, 打猎、歌唱、文学无一不好, 但骨子里冷漠, 缺乏勇气。当现实中必须选择时, 他放弃了爱情而选择了世俗的婚姻作为自己的靠山。

Colonel Brandon (布兰登上校): 诚实、可靠、内敛而不乏深情和品位。最终和玛丽安历经劫波成为眷属。

Margaret Dashwood (玛格丽特·达什伍德): 达什伍德夫人最小的女儿。

John Dashwood (约翰·达什伍德): 冷漠、自私的年轻人, 对妻子言听计从, 因此没有兑现自己在父亲面前许下的诺言, 没能好好照顾自己同父异母的妹妹们, 让她们经历很多磨难。

Henry Dashwood (亨利·达什伍德): 玛丽安和埃莉诺的父亲, 他虽然爱女儿们却没能安排好她们的生活。

Fanny Dashwood (芬妮·达什伍德): 约翰·达什伍德自私、市侩的妻子, 她阻止丈夫对妹妹们履行作为哥哥的义务。

Mrs Dashwood (达什伍德太太): 热情、乐观、浪漫的女人, 但有点头脑简单, 她总是鼓励女儿们和男人交往, 却并不是很有见识。

John Middleton (约翰·米德尔顿): 达什伍德太太的表弟, 热情好客, 却有点多嘴好事。

Mrs Jennings (詹宁斯夫人): 约翰·米德尔顿的岳母, 总是喜欢给年轻人配对。

Lucy Steele (露西·斯蒂尔): 工于心计的时髦小姐, 以钓得金龟婿为目的, 最终也如愿嫁入有钱人家。

Mrs. Ferrars (费拉斯夫人): 自私、冷漠、市侩的太太, 儿子们的婚事在她看来是获得更大利益的筹码, 因此她阻止儿子娶没有财产的埃莉诺。

第1章 物是人非(p. 4-7)

达什伍德家族几代人都住在苏赛克斯，他们家在诺兰公园的家业很大，一家人也深得邻里的爱戴和仆人的尊敬。这幢典雅的庄园现在的主人是亨利·达什伍德，他是从叔叔那里继承了家产。第一次婚姻给他留下一子，第二次则留下三位千金。他死去的妻子给儿子留下了丰厚的抚养费，他儿子本人也娶了一位有钱的小姐，因此不愁生计。但达什伍德先生有点担心女儿们的将来。他知道，他去世时必须把房产留给儿子，因为那是叔叔让他继承庄园时就提出的条件，他自然更担心他的宝贝女儿们。因此，他让儿子答应在他这个做父亲的死后，好好照顾他同父异母的妹妹们，确保她们衣食无忧、生活舒适。

很快达什伍德先生就病了，不到一年就撒手人寰了。约翰·达什伍德想起了自己在父亲面前郑重的承诺，决定从自己可观的财产中分给每个妹妹一千英镑。

约翰·达什伍德是个踏实、体面的年轻人，但是却有点自私、冷酷。要是他娶了一个热情一点、可爱一点的女人，也许会更慷慨一点，可是他实际上娶了一个更狭隘、更自私的女人。芬妮·达什伍德太太既不喜欢她丈夫的这些妹妹，也不喜欢他的继母，因为她嫉妒她们之间强烈的亲情，以及她们对丈夫的影响。所以当丈夫向她解释自己的想法时，她一点也不同意。她断定这些女人正算计丈夫的钱。所以她对丈夫说，给这些妹妹三千英镑实际上就等于从他们小儿子将来的财产里拿钱。难道他真的觉得，相对于他们亲生的、亲爱的、唯一的、心肝宝贝似的儿子，给这些只有一半血缘关系的亲戚钱更有必要？

最开始达什伍德先生对这种解释还感到吃惊，但由于他本人也不愿意和他的钱说拜拜，他很快就看出他妻子的观点有道理了。于是他决定把钱数减半——每人只给五百英镑，他肯定对于三个年轻小姐来说，这笔钱的利息也足够她们过得舒舒服服的。可芬妮还是不同意。

她高声说：“要是小姑子们都出嫁了，结果也许她们比咱们都有钱！”

“为什么不给她们母亲点什么呢——一笔小数目就够他们四个花的了，再说，四个女人住在一起可花不了多少钱。”她补充说。

她丈夫觉得也许她是对的，这样一来，解决问题的方法就变成了给他的继母每年一小笔养老金——一百英镑。他妻子这次答应了，但她指出了一个新问题：他继母现在身强力壮，可能再活十五年！那就是说要是从现在开始付养老金，那可就是一千五百英镑啊！她是这样建议的：最好还是时不时给这些妹妹五十英镑的小礼物什么的，可不要冒险答应什么长期固定的安排。这就够慷慨的了，对于只有一半血缘关系的亲戚，人们还能指望他做什么呢？

达什伍德太太和女儿们又在诺兰庄园住了几个星期，她们都很喜欢住在老地方，离开这里会很难过。可是，芬妮在公公去世后，一点也不顾及她们的处境和礼数，几周后就招呼也不打一个，不请自来，对仆人们发号施令，对家具安排指手画脚。她婆婆很快就看出来，如果自己继续留在诺兰庄园会是什么样的待遇。所以她迫不及待地要另找住处。

她开始四处打听，很走运，她的一位表弟给她寄来一封非常友好的信，以非常合适的租金为她提供德文郡自己产业上的一处相当不错的房产。

达什伍德太太之所以没有立刻动身离开诺兰，是因为还有一件事让她放心不下。她注意到最近她的大女儿埃莉诺和芬妮的弟弟爱德华之间似乎有了浪漫的情愫。从方方面面看，爱德华都和他姐姐截然相反——他是一个严肃、有思想的青年，虽然有点腼腆但受过良好教育，待人诚恳。知书达理、性情平和的埃莉诺似乎也非常喜欢他，达什伍德太太本性乐观、浪漫，在她看来，他们两情相悦，一定能终成眷属。

埃莉诺和好冲动的妹妹玛丽安聊天时得知了她母亲对她有这样的期许，她感到很尴尬，请求玛丽安跟她们的母亲说，可不要为了这个原因推迟动身去德文郡。爱德华虽然对她温柔体贴，但到目前为止还没有谈婚论嫁，因为她知道他富裕的家庭出身，尤其是他市侩的母亲，不会同意自己的长子和像她这样没有财产的女子有任何瓜葛。姐姐对待感情如此镇静、现实的态度让玛丽安很吃惊，但她尊重姐姐的愿望，所以如实地转达给了母亲。这样，达什伍德太太就写信告诉她的表弟，接受他们好心提供的巴顿茅舍，很快她们就准备行囊要动身了。

第2章 新家新朋(p. 10-13)

答复的信一寄出，达什伍德太太就能对她自私的儿媳宣布：她要尽快离开诺兰庄园去新家了。约翰·达什伍德感到很奇怪，因为他的继母选择了离诺兰庄园那么远的德文郡，可是达什伍德太太对她这个继子和儿媳的态度最近发生了巨大的变化，她可不愿意继续住在他们家附近。虽然她诚心邀请他们在愿意的时候可以来她们的茅舍坐一坐，可是她知道他们根本不会去。她还注意到当她更诚恳地邀请芬妮的弟弟爱德华·费拉斯也到庄园做客时，芬妮表现出了明显的不耐烦。尽管遭到了儿媳的白眼，但她下决心不让爱德华家对她心爱的女儿的偏见毁掉女儿获得幸福生活的机会。

女孩子们和她们的母亲为新家订了很多计划。达什伍德太太和玛丽安野心勃勃地要把新家改装一番——四周都做延伸，这样才可以容纳更多的客人和举行大规模的娱乐活动。好在埃莉诺能够面对现实，她最终说服母亲和妹妹接受了一个更保守的计划：只要三个仆人，不备马车，这更适合她们大不如前的境况。

在准备行囊时，达什伍德太太等待继子先开口谈她女儿们的经济状况——这是个微妙的问题——她知道他已经向父亲许下诺言要帮助她们，并且认为现在是定下来的理想机会。但诺兰庄园的新主人对此只字未提，只是帮助她们付了家具和箱子的运输费，很明显他已经无意再帮忙了。达什伍德太太很愤怒，但是骄傲和对继子这种不体面行为的厌恶让她一句话也没说。然而，继子的行为令她更失望，对他妻子更嫌恶，这让她更有理由尽快离开他们的家。

离开心爱的诺兰庄园让女孩子们伤心不已，所以当马车向西边驰去，把可爱的老房子抛到后面时，她们都掉了许多“金豆子”。但几天后当她们到达德文郡，看到新家美丽的山谷，她们的情绪很快就好起来了。

那是片肥沃的土地，有森林茂密的山坡和丰饶的牧场。房子的位置也很好，依山而建，开窗就能俯瞰山谷的美景。房子小了点，局促了点，但很结实。按照玛丽安浪漫的观点，这所房子作为茅舍也是有瑕疵的，因为它既没有茅草的屋顶，

门前也没有杜鹃花，还没有绿色的百叶窗。尽管如此，它还是很舒适很温馨，还是让女士们很开心。

第二天早晨早餐之后，他们的亲戚兼新房东约翰·米德尔顿先生登门拜访，这是她们的第一位访客。他看上去还很英俊，四十岁左右，友好而风趣。他催促她们接受他的邀请，尽快到他的庄园去见见自己的太太，他还肯定地告诉她们，有她们这样有魅力一家做新邻居他非常高兴。同一天下午，他的善言就落实成了来自大房子的礼物——从他的园子里采摘的各种果蔬和满满一篮子他亲自打的猎物，用来充实她们的餐桌。事实上，与近来在诺兰庄园的待遇相比，在巴顿庄园短短几天的待遇让姑娘们很快就快乐起来了。她们都盼着第二天去见一见米德尔顿太太。

巴顿庄园是座宽敞、宏伟的宅第，优雅而好客的米德尔顿一家就住在那里。

约翰·米德尔顿先生对于宴会的规模不大表示歉意。他本来就是喜欢热闹、善于交际的人，最喜欢为年轻的朋友安排热闹的舞会、晚宴或者是野餐，他本来还要以她们的名义举办个舞会呢。然而埃莉诺在感谢他盛情邀请她们共进晚餐之后，告诉他第一晚她们还是愿意安静地度过。在座的人中，女孩子们对米德尔顿太太很失望，她当然也很优雅很有教养，但她的话单调而乏味，她的人生乐趣就在她那些吵闹不休、娇生惯养的孩子们身上，他们整晚都在向客人提各种要求或者搞恶作剧，很让人反感。埃莉诺私下里总是纳闷，约翰先生单独和他太太在一起时会谈些什么呢？老公热衷于打猎，而老婆连马都不会骑！出席晚宴的还有米德尔顿太太的母亲詹宁斯夫人，她是一个上了年纪的人，总是很开心，她人生的主要活动就给她认识的年轻人保媒，看到漂亮的达什伍德姑娘们她非常高兴，立刻就开始逗她们了，说她们离开苏塞克斯地区，准会扔下一批伤心欲绝的小伙子。

加上约翰先生的老朋友布兰登上校，他们的这次聚会就显得很圆满了。布兰登上校是个沉默寡言、不苟言笑的人，年纪在三十五岁上下。就像米德尔顿夫人似乎不适合做约翰先生的妻子那样，这位上校也不适合做他的朋友，埃莉诺对他很好奇。他不算英俊，但是看上去却很有智慧、很耐看，举止也很得体，很有绅士风度。他话不多，但是一开口，说出来的话总是很有道理。他的年龄和安静的性格让玛丽安几乎完全没注意到他；但是当傍晚人们注意到了玛丽安的音乐天分，请她表演时，她注意到了他性格的另外一面。其他人大声请她表演，却在她表演时继续交谈，继而在表演结束后还称赞她的技巧，可是她知道他们压根没听她表演！而布兰登上校呢，他一直静静地、专注地听着，表现出对她天分的真正欣赏。这样，玛丽安本来觉得以他现在的“高龄”，这位上校不可能像她那样再去敏锐而热情地感受事物，但现在她说服自己相信，他年少时一定是个敏锐且有品位的人。

第3章 英雄救美(p. 16-21)

达什伍德一家就这样在新家安顿下来，尽管访客不多，但周围的乡间有很多美丽的、可以散步的地方，很多时间她们都在户外。

连续两天的阴雨天气把她们困在了屋里，一天早晨，天终于晴了。玛丽安和玛格丽特决定到附近山上散散步，希望天气——尽管还很多变——能至少在她们出去这段时间里保持晴好。

风很大，天空阴晴不定，但空气清新，这让姑娘们很兴奋，她们顶着大风走着、笑着。可是大约二十分钟后，突然就下大雨了。此时她们正好走在茅舍上方的陡坡上，所以决定以最快的速度冲回家去。平时玛丽安跑起来比玛格丽特快，可这次快跑时，她一脚踏空，踩到了一个坑里，重重跌倒了，而且还崴了脚踝。

就在这时，一个一身打猎装束的年轻人带着他的狗路过这个山坡，看到了这起“事故”。他冲过来帮助可怜的玛丽安，想帮她站起来。很快，他意识到她根本站不起来，于是就俯身像抱婴儿那样把她抱在怀里，一点也不扭捏，直接把她抱回了茅舍！

看到玛丽安被陌生的绅士抱了回来，埃莉诺和她妈妈都感到很吃惊。听过原委后，达什伍德太太对这位绅士非常感激，而且也觉得他的谦谦君子风度很迷人。他年轻、高大、英俊而且头发乌黑浓密，衣着得体，从言谈中看他一定是位绅士。她请他留下来喝下午茶，可是他拒绝了，他说现在身上又脏又湿，一定要回家去，但他问第二天能否再来，看看他的“病人”是否见好。他告诉她们他叫威洛比，是来这个地方走亲戚的。

他走后，姐妹们拿玛丽安大寻开心，逗她说她有个骑士一般的“救美英雄”，尽管她否认欣赏他，但她当然也算见过市面，知道就算是和她读过的、喜欢的任何一本小说中描绘的英俊、高大的英雄比，他也不逊色。实际上，她在他的怀里回家这种特殊的方式根本就像是直接从那些小说里截取的情节呢！她整天都在想着这位“救命恩人”，幸运的是，这些白日梦能让她忘记脚踝的疼痛。

后来当约翰先生来的时候，她们告诉他发生了什么事，问他是否知道有个叫威洛比的人，对他的印象怎么样。

“威洛比？全英格兰再没有比他更勇敢的骑师了！”他热情地喊。

“您就知道这些吗？”玛丽安失望地问。

他想了一会儿，补充说：“他是附近艾伦海姆庄园的继承人，他姑妈死后，他就能继承了。他自己小小的产业在萨莫塞特。”

“可是，他的人品和品位怎么样呢？”玛丽安追问道。

可是拿这样的问题问约翰，显然是问错了人。

他只记得一次邀请这个年轻人来巴顿庄园参加圣诞晚会，他跳舞一直跳到凌晨四点，然后八点就起床去打猎了。

“我就喜欢这样的人，年轻人就应该是这样的！”玛丽安赞赏着喊道。约翰先生大笑起来，他察觉出这位达什伍德小姐都可能“倒追”风流倜傥的威洛比先生，一点也不考虑他的老朋友布兰登上校了。可是大家都在议论，说布兰登上校是彻底爱上她了，除非大家都觉得詹宁斯夫人的话不可靠。玛丽安情绪激动地回答她根本没想做这么低俗的事情，而且关于上校的故事完全是杜撰的！

威洛比第二天、第三天、第四天都来登门拜访，看他的病人恢复得怎么样了。他很快就成了这座茅舍的常客。他乐意有达什伍德姑娘们快乐的陪伴，这能让他从艾伦海姆庄园和姑妈的乏味生活中分分神。

他注意到埃莉诺也是位吸引人的姑娘——她棕色卷发，五官精巧，体态优美，但这一家真正的美人儿是玛丽安。她身材高挑，头发乌黑，光彩照人的面孔和闪烁的黑眼睛充满活力和对生活的热情。

当他们进一步互相了解，很快发现彼此有很多相同的品位和爱好——他们都热爱音乐和舞蹈，经常在钢琴边合唱。很快他们就像老朋友一样了。

这种即将“开花结果”的友情让达什伍德太太很高兴，尽管开始她没想到让这两个成为一对，但随着威洛比对她女儿的兴趣日渐彰显，她开始暗暗为自己感到高兴，因为她有两个女儿都有这样幸福的婚姻前景摆在面前了；因为她对埃莉诺与爱德华·费拉斯的关系还没完全丧失信心，尽管自从她们搬到德文郡后，一点也没有他的消息。

只有埃莉诺觉得应该有所保留。她觉得他们的友谊发展太快了，她妹妹应该更谨慎一点。他们很快就形影不离了，威洛比参加所有达什伍德女孩子们受邀参加的聚会和出行，而且每次都是和玛丽安在一起。即使有别人在场，他们也目光不离开对方，经常窃窃私语，别人走近他们都要犹豫再三。埃莉诺也觉得她妹妹喜欢威洛比的理由太肤浅了。是的，他们在诗歌、音乐和对景色的欣赏上品位相似，威洛比呢，也是个活泼、有趣的伙伴，但他的话经常是拿别人开心，他似乎是在哗众取宠，而不在乎自己的话会伤害、冒犯别人。

也大约在这个时候，埃莉诺注意到了布兰登上校对玛丽安的感情。起初她并不相信詹宁斯夫人的闲话，但当别人差不多忘了关于上校的玩笑，把注意力都放到了玛丽安的新崇拜者身上时，她观察到上校看她妹妹时流露出的忧伤的神情，这就说明了他的感情。也许她更同情和尊敬他，也是因为玛丽安和威洛比拿他的年龄和保守的举止讽刺他。埃莉诺总是在力所能及的时候替他说话，强调他的和善、善解人意和通情达理，可是威洛比的回答总是很刻薄。

“他就是那种人人都说好，但人人都不在乎的人。”他说。

“我也正是这么想的！”玛丽安马上迎合她的英雄，跟着喊，“那个人一点个性也没有，也不懂感情！”

第4章 失望连连(p. 26-29)

这周，约翰先生提议到威特威尔去野餐，大家都愉快地同意了。野餐的前一天，玛丽安对埃莉诺说她有重要的消息要告诉她。威洛比答应送给她一份特殊的礼物——一匹马！埃莉诺对此感到很吃惊，威洛比怎么能送给妹妹这么贵重、这么私人化的礼物呢，这多不合适啊！但是因为她不想冒犯玛丽安，所以在反对的时候非常讲究技巧。她指出她们并没有马厩，也没有仆人照料这匹马，再说那会给她们的母亲增添不少支付不起的费用。最好还是拒绝威洛比善意的馈赠吧。

玛丽安虽然很失望，但最终也认为姐姐的看法是对的。当天晚上，她谢过了威洛比，但拒绝了这样一份慷慨的礼物。

“没关系，玛丽安，它还是你的，”他低声说，表情很有深意，“我只是替你多照顾一段时间而已。”

晚饭后，两人又坐在一旁窃窃私语。玛格丽特看见威洛比问了玛丽安什么。随后她点了点头，给了他一把缝纫用的剪刀，他接过来把她的一绺黑发剪了下来放进了钱包里。

看到这一切，埃莉诺明白了她妹妹一定是和威洛比私订终身了。这样大胆的、夸张的举动只能意味着订婚。但他们为什么不公开宣布呢？那样她妹妹就不需要处于这种秘密把她引入的进退维谷的境地了。

第二天早上巴顿庄园传来让人失望的消息，他们去威特威尔野餐的计划不得不取消了，因为要作他们的向导的布兰登上校突然接到了一封信，有急事离开了。爱打听消息的詹宁斯夫人对于他离开的秘密使命特别好奇，私下和埃莉诺闲聊时透露，她知道一点他的私生活。好像布兰登上校是一个姓威廉姆斯的年轻女孩的监护人，很多人都认为她实际上正是他的亲生女儿。詹宁斯夫人断定他的突然离开一定和这件事有关系。

听说野餐取消了，最失望的是玛丽安和威洛比。他们本来期盼一同骑马去威特威尔，而其他人坐马车去，这样一来他们可以单独在一起的机会没了。最不公平的是，他们埋怨布兰登上校，说他自私。威洛比坚持无论如何他都要和玛丽安单独骑马出去。他们整个上午都在一起，下午在詹宁斯夫人的一再追问下，玛丽安才说威洛比带她去看了即将继承的艾伦海姆庄园。妹妹只有十六岁，而且在没受到邀请、也没有人陪伴的情况下独自去了那里，埃莉诺觉得很震惊，她训斥了她，可是不谦恭的玛丽安不服气，还说这是她一生中最愉快的一个上午。

对埃莉诺鲁莽的妹妹来说，比取消野餐更令人失望的消息接踵而来。第二天威洛比又来拜访，带来了令人难以置信的消息，这次他说他有事要回伦敦，必须马上离开德文郡。

出于关心，达什伍德太太询问这场突如其来的变故究竟是怎么回事，但他拒绝透露。他一改往日友好、随意的作风，表现出了保守和不安，很明显他要尽快离开她们。

玛丽安非常沮丧，她妈妈看到这样，就催促威洛比尽快回到她们的茅舍来做客，威洛比连这都不愿意承诺，而是非常尴尬地僵持了几分钟之后离开了，最后几分钟里，他连看都不看玛丽安一眼。

威洛比走后，达什伍德太太不停地谈论整个事件急转直下可能意味着什么，竭尽所能为威洛比找到所有的借口，但是埃莉诺对他缺乏信心，并且的确感到很不舒服。玛丽安沉默寡言，但是终日以泪洗面，寝食难安。显然她和其他人一样，对她的心上人神秘离开的原因一无所知，并且为他突然抛弃自己感到痛苦不堪。

时间日复一日地过去，威洛比还是音信全无。后来有一天，姑娘们在门厅坐着时，看到一个人朝她们的房子骑马过来。玛丽安立刻跳起来冲到外面，她觉得那一定是威洛比回到她身边了，可是当那人走近，竟然是爱德华·费拉斯！

这次该轮到埃莉诺感到困惑了。从离开诺兰庄园到现在，她一点爱德华的消息都没收到，也不知道怎么解释这种忽视。她心跳加速，但还是很镇静地迎接他。分开这么长时间以后，他对她的态度似乎更加保守，但她努力表现得并不怎么失望。玛丽安呢，则在一旁观察他，比较他对她姐姐冷淡的行为和威洛比对自己的大胆热辣的感情。她想知道这意味着什么——难道这意味着他一点也不爱姐姐？但对

于更了解他的埃莉诺来说,爱德华似乎心事重重。他很不放松,过去他们之间那种舒服的关系似乎全变了。所以她耐心等待着,心想两个人独处时,是不是能让他说出是什么让他如此忧心忡忡?

第5章 情人相处(p. 32-35)

达什伍德一家都很高兴爱德华能和她们同住一段时间,姑娘们很快重拾与爱德华之间兄弟姐妹一样的情分。可是埃莉诺却不能完全高兴,因为她的朋友看上去好像有心事。他对她的态度也让她很困惑,有时他对她和其他两个姑娘没什么分别,而有时似乎一个眼神或者是一句评述都表示他们之间有更深的默契。玛丽安尽量给他们创造单独在一起的机会,希望这样能鼓励爱德华向姐姐倾吐情愫。可是每次他们单独在一起时,爱德华也很快找个理由自己出去了,扔下埃莉诺一个人困惑、尴尬地待在那儿。

每天清晨爱德华都骑着他心爱的马出去兜风。回来对这山谷的风光大加赞赏,玛丽安则热情地加入这种赞赏——因为她本人也十分爱好自然美景,她开始问他哪个地方最吸引他,同时描述了她和威洛比欣赏的所有地方。可是几分钟后,爱德华就开始笑,求玛丽安不要再追问他了,他说:“玛丽安,你知道我只会让你失望,我爱好这些景色的原因可没你的那么浪漫。”

他补充说自己的想法很现实,在他看来美丽的风景是长满有用木材的森林、遍地牛群的牧场以及看上去干净整洁的房屋和里面丰衣足食的人们。他猜测,玛丽安喜欢的是神秘、荒废的城堡和渺无人烟的荒野。愤怒的玛丽安承认这一切,但是要求爱德华说出漠视这激动人心的美景的理由。埃莉诺看到妹妹相当生气,就打断他们的谈话,指责他们夸大其词。她说,玛丽安的性格是浪漫的,只会在大自然中最荒凉、最危险的地方发现美;而爱德华是理性主义者,他倾向于只欣赏人类已经征服了的那部分。她提出了第三种观点,即只有把两种观点各取一点,才更能欣赏自然的美。

玛丽安接受了姐姐息事宁人的观点,但私下里觉得爱德华保守而乏味。她很同情姐姐,世界上有那么多像威洛比那样充满活力的、热情的人,为什么姐姐偏偏爱上爱德华这样的人呢?

那天晚些时候,玛丽安觉得她最终还是发现了点爱德华确实爱上她姐姐的蛛丝马迹。喝下午茶的时候,她注意到他的手指上戴着用闪光的棕色头发做成的戒指,于是佯装单纯地问:“我从来没注意过你戴戒指呢,那是你姐姐芬妮的头发吗?好像比她的头发颜色浅啊。”

爱德华脸红了一下,迅速地瞟了埃莉诺一眼,然后说:“呃,是,是我姐姐的……是在这种灯光下看起来不一样了,仅此而已。”他的行为让埃莉诺确信头发实际上是自己的,但她非常吃惊的是自己从来没有给过他这样的表记,一定是他用什么方式偷偷收集的。

爱德华尴尬了好长时间,而且他似乎一整天都心神不定。玛丽安很后悔自己的话,希望埃莉诺不要生气。而埃莉诺呢,心里正偷偷地乐呢。她也一直希望证实他对自己的感情,现在看来爱德华毕竟还是喜欢她的。

他又在农庄里待了一周，他们一起快乐地散步、野餐、开音乐会。可是就当他似乎又回到从前那样幽默、开心的状态时，他突然宣布要离开。尽管他说他既不愿意待在诺兰也不愿意回伦敦，但是看来他一定要去这两个地方之一了。私下里埃莉诺认为他的种种古怪行为都是因为他与母亲关系紧张，她更愿意为他的突然离开找个理由开脱，而觉得威洛比的离开毫无道理。因为她从来没见过费拉斯太太，所以很容易把爱德华的古怪举动和保守都归咎于她对儿子的影响和期望，以及她对埃莉诺本人的众人皆知的不满意。

他走后，玛丽安和达什伍德太太仔细观察埃莉诺，希望看到她悲伤或者忧郁的痕迹，可是埃莉诺整天忙着画呀、绣啊，对爱德华的名字连提也不提。玛丽安觉得姐姐的行为和当初威洛比离开时自己的表现截然不同，她太冷淡了。这种强烈的自制力只能说明她对爱德华远没有自己对威洛比的感情强烈。

然而，埃莉诺的性格和理智决定了她能够度过这段艰难的时期。她当然思念爱德华，在头脑中反复想着他的一言一行，试图理解他离开的原因，但不让自己表现得歇斯底里或者黯然神伤。她独自忍受着忧伤，不让家人跟着难过。慢慢地，她们不再仔细观察她了，而且这周晚些时候巴顿农庄有了新的访客后，他们很快就忘记了埃莉诺的痛苦，反正她自己也不总是提醒她们。

第6章 闺阁秘密(p. 38-43)

第二天，埃莉诺和玛丽安一走进巴顿庄园的客厅，就有位丰腴的女士笑盈盈地走上前来热情地与她们攀谈，声称终于见到她们了，她非常开心，要是她们待在一起那会是多开心的事啊。这是帕莫太太，是詹宁斯夫人的小女儿。和她一起来访的是她世故而又目空一切的丈夫，对什么都不满意又总是不满足。看着他们，埃莉诺最初的感觉是，这样的一对怎么可能结婚，他们一点共同之处都没有。但她又明智地想，也许这一点也不奇怪，帕莫先生也不是她见到的第一个娶了美丽、肤浅的女人，然后后悔不已的男人了。

“噢，亲爱的！”只听帕莫太太大声嚷着，“你可得帮我说服达什伍德小姐们今年冬天跟我们到市里住，那会多开心啊！”

她的亲爱的没有回答，他完全没理睬她，而是开始抱怨天气，说下雨时他非常讨厌乡下，因为那时风光和陪伴的人都一样无聊。

晚饭后，姑娘们看出帕莫先生的可爱之处了。他和在座的所有人唱反调，对妻子极尽挖苦之能事，对丈母娘则很粗鲁。可是，詹宁斯夫人和她女儿一样好脾气，她笑着说：“你愿意怎么骂我就怎么骂，总之你已经把夏洛特从我手上接过去了，想还也还不了了。你拿鞭子的手可是被我攥住了，我可控制着你呢！”

对此她和她的女儿笑个不停——实际上啊，帕莫太太似乎觉得自己丈夫的冷漠、傲慢和辱没之词尤其滑稽。

“帕莫先生总是古怪滑稽，又很可笑，对不对？”她窃窃地跟埃莉诺说，“他心情总是很坏。”谈话很快就转到了熟人身上，帕莫太太说他们在克里弗兰的房子离威洛比家不远。埃莉诺希望借此探听他对玛丽安行为古怪的原因，就问帕莫太太是不是了解他。

“哦，太了解了，”帕莫太太热情地说，“倒不是我本人和他说过话，而是因为我在镇上看到过他好几次，亲爱的埃莉诺，我知道你为什么问起他了。”她微笑着接着说，“我全听说了！你妹妹就要嫁给他了！嗯，我真为她高兴，也欣赏她的品位，他的确很英俊。我真是愿意她做我的邻居啊！”埃莉诺吓坏了，似乎玛丽安和他的关系所有人都知道了，她试图告诉帕莫太太他们根本没订婚，但对方却笑得更厉害了，说约翰先生和她妈妈在信中除了这些没写别的，所以她知道这是真的了。

几天后，帕莫夫妇要回克里弗兰，詹宁斯夫人为了安慰自己要去埃克塞特购物，约翰与她同行。她在那儿遇到了两个亲戚，约翰立刻就邀请她们到巴顿庄园来做客，说有她们做伴，埃莉诺和玛丽安一定很高兴，因为她们年龄相仿。两位小姐很快就到了，从时髦的打扮看她们很聪明也很温柔；从举止看她们非常懂礼貌。她们说很高兴看到这座房子，夸奖米德尔顿夫人在挑选家具和服装上很有眼光、很细腻。很快她们就赢得了米德尔顿太太的好感，因为她们尽可能宠惯她的孩子，努力表现出对谁都好的样子。

约翰先生告诉埃莉诺和玛丽安他请了新朋友，最终说服她们一起到巴顿庄园共进晚餐。但是见到她们后，埃莉诺很失望：那个年长的安·斯蒂尔小姐大约三十岁，相貌平平，而且一点也不聪明。她言谈粗俗而不检点，除了时髦的情郎们什么也不谈。她问埃莉诺和玛丽安她们有多少情郎，苏塞克斯是不是也像她们的德文郡那样有足够多的有资格追求淑女的帅哥！

那个小妹妹露西则为自己的傻姐姐的行为感到尴尬。她大约二十二岁，容貌也属俏丽，举止也算贤淑，但是她眼神犀利，机警而有心计。

玛丽安很快就发现她跟她们没有任何共同语言，她们受教育不多，读书甚少，而且对音乐一窍不通，所以就去弹钢琴了。埃莉诺则试着接触她们，以弥补妹妹的冷淡。她想把话题转到中性一点的事情上，可是年龄最大的安似乎很不识大体。她问玛丽安认不认识一个经常到巴顿庄园来的很有骑士风度的男子，有没有听说过他已经与人私订终身的传言。很快玛丽安就觉得很失体面，找个理由走开了。埃莉诺怀疑是不是约翰先生对这两位斯蒂尔小姐说了威洛比的事，并开始担心他是不是跟她们讲了自己和爱德华彼此倾心，因为他总是拿这个开玩笑。果然，吃过晚饭，他就在那里对安·斯蒂尔“高声”耳语了，说什么达什伍德小姐的暗恋者费拉斯先生。但安的反应让埃莉诺费解。“费拉斯先生？”斯蒂尔小姐重复着，“爱德华·费拉斯先生，你表嫂的弟弟，和达什伍德小姐？他可是个非常好的年轻人，我们非常了解他！”

“安，不要夸大其词，”她妹妹立刻皱起眉头打断他们，“我们不过和他在普利茅茨的普拉特舅舅家有过几面之缘。要说我们了解他那可就有过分了。”

安感到很迷惑，脸一红。

“是啊，露西，”她说，“我们只见过几次面。”

很明显她在闪烁其词，刻意隐瞒，埃莉诺很想知道她在隐瞒什么。但露西暗示姐姐不要多说话，并很快转换了话题。

第二天，她们在花园散步，露西朝她们走来，并问埃莉诺能不能单独和她谈

谈。埃莉诺感到很好奇，尤其是当露西问起爱德华的妈妈费拉斯夫人是个什么样的人的时候。埃莉诺诚实地说，因为从来没见过这位夫人，她也实在不能说什么。可是露西并不就此罢休，她迟疑着，似乎要说服埃莉诺透露点什么。但在仔细审视了埃莉诺漠然的表情之后，她突然承认，她必须让她知道她为什么要这么问。她说她有个秘密已经藏了四年了，这个秘密将最终决定她将来的幸福。很快费拉斯太太对她来说就不再只是一个名字，而是她将来的婆婆！

开始时埃莉诺还不知道她是什么意思，但是突然看到露西胜利的、恶毒的表情时，她立刻就明白了，露西已经和她亲爱的爱德华私订终身了！

第7章 伦敦小住(p. 46-51)

自从丈夫去世，每年冬天詹宁斯夫人都在小女儿陪伴下，到伦敦波特曼广场自己的房子里小住。可是今年夏洛特不能陪她了，于是她问两位达什伍德小姐能不能和她一同前往。

埃莉诺不想把母亲一个人丢在茅舍不管，所以她礼貌地回绝了这份邀请。可是詹宁斯太太一点也没不高兴，她笑着对玛丽安说她觉得玛丽安不会拒绝她的提议吧。实际上一听到这话，玛丽安立刻就精神焕发，欣然接受了邀请，并说：“谢谢您，夫人，我非常高兴能和您一起去。”

埃莉诺明白妹妹非常渴望见到威洛比，除此之外她什么也不考虑了。玛丽安并不喜欢詹宁斯夫人，但是想见威洛比的冲动冲淡了其他考虑。

达什伍德太太看出这个邀请对玛丽安有多重要，她也立刻就应允了。于是在一月的第一周，她的女儿们就双双随詹宁斯夫人去伦敦了。

尽管玛丽安开始答应詹宁斯夫人的邀请时表现得很热情，但在三天的旅途中，她都沉浸在自己的思绪中，很少说话。埃莉诺对妹妹的无礼感到很难堪，为了弥补尽量表现得很有礼貌，和老夫人聊天，即便她的笑话很无聊、很枯燥，也只能配合着笑。

波特曼广场的房子宽敞而舒适，姑娘们有自己的房间。埃莉诺立刻坐下来给她们的母亲写信报平安。她注意到玛丽安也拿来纸和笔。

“不用你给妈妈写信，我来写吧。”埃莉诺说。

玛丽安脸红了一下，简单地答道：“我不是给妈妈写。”

她写了一封短信，然后仔细地封了口，叫仆人立刻用最快的邮资两分的快递方式寄出去。埃莉诺从妹妹躲躲闪闪的行为看出，她是在给威洛比写信。她想，如果玛丽安已经给他写了信，那么他们一定是订婚了。很明显她希望他能上门来看她。

后来，仆人们端来下午茶的时候，有人敲门了。玛丽安跳起来，满脸都是欣喜的期盼，对埃莉诺说：“哦，埃莉诺，是威洛比，真的是他！”门慢慢地开了，仆人宣布是——布兰登上校！

这种失望对玛丽安来说太沉重了，她抽泣了一下就跑上了楼，对客人连招呼也不打一个。埃莉诺也很失望，但是她很高兴见到老朋友，也很客气地欢迎他。

接下来的几天对玛丽安来说简直是一种煎熬，不论她们去哪儿，她都在寻找威洛比的身影，其他什么都不管。在邦德街购物时，她东张西望，一眼也不看那些商品。每天中午从外面回来，她就立刻跑到楼上看是不是有威洛比的回信。

布兰登上校几乎每天都来看她们，玛丽安从不试着找话题和他交谈，总是找各种借口独自上楼。他注意到了她的焦虑，也很快猜出了原因。他似乎也非常焦虑不安。埃莉诺感觉他似乎想说点什么，可总是找不到合适的机会。

大约一周后，她们确定威洛比也在城里。一天上午，她们回来后看到了桌子上的拜访卡片。她们不在的时候他来过，对此玛丽安都要急疯了，但她相信他一定会再来。随着时间一分一秒地过去，她越来越不耐烦了。当下午有人亲手送来一封信，她看到信是给詹宁斯夫人的时候，她突然哭起来，“真烦人啊！”

“你是在等信吗？”埃莉诺轻声问。

“是的……有点……不怎么着急……”她躲躲闪闪地说。

“你不相信我吗？玛丽安，你什么也不跟我说。”埃莉诺批评她说。

“埃莉诺，你说的这是什么话呀！”玛丽安生气地说，“你什么时候跟我说过贴心话吗？”

“可是，玛丽安，”埃莉诺感到很吃惊，“我没什么好说的呀。”

“那么我们情况一样，因为我也没什么好说的！”玛丽安哭着离开了房间。

约翰先生和米德尔顿太太也到了他们在康杜特街的家，并准备在第二天晚上组织个晚会。他们向詹宁斯夫人和两位姑娘发出了邀请。

帕莫先生和夫人也在舞会上，此外舞会上有大约二十个年轻人姐妹俩还算隐约认识。玛丽安扫视了一下，看威洛比是不是来了，但她没发现他的身影，就独自默默坐在一个角落里，和谁也不跳舞。詹宁斯夫人开始拿她拉长的脸开玩笑。

“啊，啊，”她说，“我们都知道为什么你看上去这么难过，亲爱的！也真是的，我们特意为你请了他呢，他还是没来。”

玛丽安大声说：“他接到邀请了？！”

“当然了，约翰先生今天在街上遇到他了，是当面请的呢。”

玛丽安不再说什么了，但看上去很受伤。没人再提威洛比了，她们早早就离开了舞会。

第二天，布兰登上校又来拜访。玛丽安因为头疼已经睡了，于是埃莉诺单独陪上校喝茶。过了一会儿，上校很为难地问什么时候能恭喜她，可以喝她妹妹的喜酒啊？埃莉诺问他这是什么意思。他回答说现在全伦敦都知道了玛丽安和威洛比订婚的事。埃莉诺说这不可能，因为她家人并不知道！上校感到迷惑不解，也很尴尬。他沉默了很长时间，但他慢慢承认他这么问只是要看自己还有没有机会赢得玛丽安的芳心。

埃莉诺很为他难过。他是个好人，但她知道玛丽安对他一点感觉也没有。她觉得最好还是诚实一点，所以试图解释了一下玛丽安目前的状况。她说虽然没有正式订婚，但她妹妹和威洛比之间确实是情深意浓。听到这些，布兰登上校更难过了。

“嗯，那么我祝令妹幸福。关于威洛比，我只能说，我希望有朝一日他能配得上她。”他说。

第8章 旧情相见(p. 54-59)

三天后，伦敦一个时髦的女主人请姑娘们去参加舞会。这几天玛丽安还是没有威洛比的任何消息，她日渐绝望了。准备参加舞会之前，她一点热情都没有，根本不在乎自己穿什么、看上去如何。她的脸瘦削而憔悴，完全失去了以往健康的容光。

舞会上有很多时髦优雅的人士，到处装点着艺术品、支形吊灯以及鲜花。两个姑娘坐在牌桌边，观察着其他客人。她们都不想跳舞。过了不久，埃莉诺吃惊地注意到威洛比正在她们不远处和一位衣着得体的女士说话。埃莉诺转头看了看玛丽安，发现她也看到他了。她半个身子已经离开了椅子，喊道：“天呐，真的是他，他也在这儿，可是他为什么不过来和我说话呢？”“玛丽安，快坐下吧，大家都在看着你呢。”但是当威洛比转向她们这边时，玛丽安条件反射一样站了起来，热情地叫着他的名字，向他伸出手。他不得不和她们说话了，但面对的却是埃莉诺，很正式地问她们来到镇上多久了。埃莉诺对他的冷酷感到震惊，一句话也说不出。玛丽安则脸色通红，说：“天呐，威洛比，你这是什么意思？你没收到我的信吗？你不知道我在伦敦吗？和我连手都不握一下吗？”

现在轮到威洛比脸红了。他看起来非常不自然地握了握玛丽安的手。然后，看到他时髦的女伴从屋子那头招手示意他过去，他镇静下来，冷静地回答说他听说她们来了。然后他说了声再见，回到了他优雅的女伴身边。

玛丽安跌坐在椅子上，脸色惨白。埃莉诺怕她昏过去，马上用身体挡住了别人好奇的目光，给她闻了闻熏衣草香水。她向詹宁斯夫人请求说她们应该尽快离开，因为玛丽安突然感到身体不适。老夫人同意了，她们立刻就离开了。

第二天黎明时分，玛丽安跪在卧室窗前借着冬天惨淡的天光写信，哭得谁也劝不了。埃莉诺从床上坐起来，问她要干什么。

“什么也不要问了，你马上就什么都知道了。”玛丽安神秘地说。

吃早餐的时候，玛丽安什么都没吃，也没有说话。仆人进来了，拿着一封给她的信。她打开信，读了内容，脸色变得煞白，跑出了房间。

詹宁斯夫人看到信封上写的是威洛比，笑着说：“这些恋爱中的年轻人啊。”“我从来没见过爱得这么痴傻的姑娘！”她微笑着说，“我希望他可不要让她等太久啊——她的感情这么强烈，看上去都快病倒了。他们什么时候结婚啊，亲爱的？”

埃莉诺反复说她知道他们没有订婚，但詹宁斯夫人就是不信。

“你怎么这么说不呢，埃莉诺，我们今年夏天在巴顿看到他们时，他们爱得神魂颠倒呢。难道我没亲眼见到他们在德文郡时眼里只有彼此吗？我敢断定玛丽安同意来伦敦就是为了买结婚礼服的。”

埃莉诺更不承认了，可是詹宁斯夫人只是笑得更欢了，最后她只能放弃，决定去看看妹妹怎么样了。

她看见玛丽安坐在起居室的地板上伤心地哭着，腿上放着一封信，地上还有三封。玛丽安把信都递给了埃莉诺，然后双手掩面靠在沙发上。

第一封信是威洛比写的，内容如下：

我亲爱的女士：

……对您的家人，我一向尊敬有嘉，但如果在下行为有失当之处——让您觉得我对您有了非我所愿的非分之情，那么我为此感到后悔，也觉得我应该更谨慎。您务必知道，即使我有非分之想，也不能为此付出，因为我早已情有所属，我已订婚，几周后就将完婚。因此我把您的墨宝寄回，连同您曾经热情赠与的秀发。

您最忠诚的仆人，

约翰·威洛比

埃莉诺对信中所表现的冷酷感到震惊。威洛比现在连他们之间关系特殊和曾经彼此相知都不愿承认，这实在是失绅士风度。为了安慰妹妹，她说：“玛丽安，现在看出他真正的品行总比以后再发现要好啊。这总比你们已经订婚几个月，才发生这样的事要好啊。”

“订婚？可是我们没订婚！埃莉诺！”玛丽安哭着说。

“可是你告诉我说……他说他爱你……我觉得……”

“是啊……不是……哦，我不知道。他每天都用上千种方法暗示，可是他就是没有……明确说啊。”

“可是是你先给他写信的啊。”

“埃莉诺，我们之间发生了那么多事，难道那都不是真的吗？我觉得他是真心的呀！”女孩难过地说。

“我觉得我和他就像交换了最庄严的誓言一样是订了婚的。我以为他也是这样想的。”

“可很明显不是啊。”埃莉诺不咸不淡地说。

“但是他也是这样的呀，还记得他离开巴顿时很沮丧吗？他求我送给他一绺我的头发。他的眼神和他对我的态度——是有真情的！是后来发生了什么事，让他改变主意了。是那个在舞会上的女人，是她让他对不起我的！”埃莉诺知道玛丽安是在找替罪羊，所以没有吭声。

“我得马上回家，我受不了在这儿待下去了。”她继续说，“你明天问问詹宁斯夫人能让我们回去吗？”

“明天是肯定不行的，难道我们对詹宁斯夫人不应该表现出更多的礼貌吗？她对我们非常好啊。现在睡觉吧，我给妈妈写封信，问问她我们该怎么做。”埃莉诺这样答复着，其实私下里她非常想念乡舍的宁静生活。

第9章 真相大白(p. 64-69)

这样埃莉诺把一切都告诉了詹宁斯夫人。

“现在我明白为什么那可怜的孩子看上去那么伤心了，”老太太说，“不幸的是，这事看起来是真的。那个混蛋要结婚了，跟一个有钱的女继承人，一个姓格雷的小姐。我今天在城里听说的。我觉得他对你妹妹太过分了。”

“这位女士，”埃莉诺问，“很有钱吗？”

“哦，是的呀，我亲爱的孩子，非常有钱，她每年至少有五万英镑的收入。舞会上你没看见她吗？她是个聪明、时髦的姑娘，尽管不是很漂亮。可是你想啊，一面有

钱，一面需要钱，所以这些事就顺理成章地发生了。他们说他负债累累，要我说呀，他和你妹妹那样单纯的女孩谈恋爱，然后又跑去找个富有的解决他的实际问题，他实在是没权这么做啊。他为什么不把马卖掉，减少点仆人，节约一点来解决自己的经济问题呢？不会的，他才不会放弃他自私的享乐呢。”

“格雷小姐人品怎么样？她很可爱吗？”埃莉诺问。

“我听说不怎么可爱。”詹宁斯夫人说，“我倒希望她让他难过，那他才是活该呢。”

布兰登上校下午来访。他也听说了这个消息，来问候玛丽安。

“她非常难过，”埃莉诺对他说，“但她仍然坚信是格雷小姐劝他抛弃她的。她不愿意相信他的人品会如此低劣。”布兰登上校开始时什么都没说，但后来慢慢开始讲了。“达什伍德小姐，有件事我觉得应该告诉你，也许这样能让你更加清楚威洛比的为人。”他说，“我都不知道从哪儿说起，我得先告诉你我自己令人伤感的过去。”“上校，请说吧。”埃莉诺回答道，感到很好奇。

“你也许还记得我对你提起过一个我年轻时候很爱慕的女孩，我说过她很像你妹妹。”“是啊，我记得呢。”“这个姑娘是个孤儿，是我父亲——她的监护人教育她。我们一起长大，我无时无刻不在爱着她。她十七岁时，他们却决定让她嫁给我弟弟。她很有钱，而我家的产业需要资金。我们伤心欲绝，决定私奔到苏格兰，但是在最后一刻她的仆人告了密。我父亲非常生气，把我驱逐到国外直到她顺利结婚。我弟弟不是个好人，达什伍德小姐，他不爱她，但是像许多女人一样她毫无办法，只能按照家里的安排行事。我回到家来，希望离她近些，和她一起承担不幸，可是我弟弟对她很残酷，她生活得很苦。我帮不上她，最后我又去了国外。过了一段时间，我听说我弟弟要和她离婚！她受到诱骗，爱上了一个年轻的贵族。后来她被抛弃，因为绝望而离家出走。谁也不知道她去了哪儿。我回到英格兰，想找到她，这花了我好几年工夫。我最后找到她时，她在欠债人监狱里，得了肺结核，病入膏肓了，身上又没钱。我把她带到安全的地方，让她舒舒服服地度过了人生最后几个月，很快她就去世了。

“我真是太替她难过了。”埃莉诺眼含热泪说。

“她死前，委托了我一件事，就是让我照顾她唯一的孩子——那是她这次爱情的私生女。虽然我对抚养孩子一无所知，自己也没结婚，我还是答应了她。从此我就开始照顾那个女孩。人们都以为那是我的亲生孩子，现在你知道真相了。”

他停顿了一下，然后继续讲下去。

“这都是好多年前的事了。直到最近，那孩子——伊丽莎一直在寄宿学校里，但就在她快过十七岁生日的时候，她问我能不能和学校的朋友一家到巴斯去。我同意了，那一家人看上去很正派，她去了那里有一个月。然后她就突然失踪了。我们找了所有的地方，都没找到她，但我确实发现，她经常跟一个年轻人在一起……”

“不会是威洛比吧！”埃莉诺突然喊。

“恐怕是他。我一直找啊找，但八个月过去了，一点消息都没有。是在十月份——你还记得我突然离开巴顿庄园吗？威洛比先生是最失望的了，要是他知道原因……我找到她时，伊丽莎痛不欲生，他抛弃了她。现在，她正在乡下待产呢。”

后来埃莉诺尽可能婉转、柔和地把布兰登上校的故事讲给玛丽安听。她妹妹

似乎相信了，可是也更难过了，她觉得威洛比人格的缺陷比他不爱她更让人难以接受。一想到自己竟然爱上了这么冷漠无情的人，她就觉得受不了。

她们的妈妈来信了，说回到巴顿农舍对玛丽安来说也许会更糟，因为那里有那么多地方和事物能让她睹物思人，而这个时候的乡下又没有什么消遣活动可以分散她的注意力。她建议姑娘们留在伦敦，而且约翰哥哥和嫂子也要到伦敦，尽管他们关系冷淡，但还是应该等着见一面的，毕竟是一家人啊。

这样姑娘们就留在了伦敦。两星期后，玛丽安接到了威洛比的最后一封信，埃莉诺听说他结婚了，已经和妻子到萨莫塞特他自己的产业上去了。玛丽安一言不发地听完了这个消息，看上去很平静。埃莉诺则觉得轻松了，因为她们再也不用担心出去可能会遇到他了。

与此同时，斯蒂尔小姐们也到伦敦来了。她们待在霍尔伯恩表亲的房子里，一点也不耽搁地来到米德尔顿在康杜特的家中和詹宁斯夫人在波特曼广场的家里。埃莉诺很不愿意见到露西。她私下透露的她和爱德华秘密订婚的消息让埃莉诺很难过，但她努力表现得很不在乎，也不愿意让记仇的露西看出自己多受伤。

第 10 章 露西的胜利(p. 72-77)

约翰·达什伍德来波特曼广场看望妹妹们。他转达了妻子的借口，说她太忙了，没时间陪他一起来，以后有时间再来看她们。

约翰自己呢，则是好奇地要来看詹宁斯夫人，他听说她非常有钱，而且对他的妹妹们很慷慨，所以就立刻过来了。他暗地里希望这位老夫人能给她们留下财产，这样他就永远没有责任再给她们钱了，因此他对女主人格外彬彬有礼。

达什伍德先生还在的时候，布兰登上校在惯常的时间到访，并很快就和埃莉诺开始深谈。她哥哥注意到了这种亲密的关系，后来就问起这个绅士。他是有钱人吗？有房产吗？埃莉诺把她所知道的都告诉了他——他是个在德文郡有很好产业的绅士，每年收入两千英镑。

她哥哥很高兴，告诉埃莉诺他肯定是对她很感兴趣，很快就会向她求婚了。埃莉诺被逗乐了，她否认她的朋友对自己有什么浪漫的动机，可是她哥哥根本不信。

“只要你这方面上点心，就能俘获他。每年两千英镑可以过得很舒服。这对你来说可是太好的姻缘了，我知道芬妮和费拉斯夫人都会非常高兴，她们可是非常愿意看到你出嫁。”他说。

“她们真是好心。”埃莉诺干巴巴地说，非常清楚她们的关心只是为了不让她偷走她们的爱德华罢了。

“想想，要是我妹妹和芬妮的兄弟同时结婚，那多巧啊！”他补充说。

“芬妮的兄弟？那么说爱德华要结婚了？”

“他妈妈正在给他和一位名门闺秀攀一门上好的婚姻，是尊贵的莫顿小姐，莫顿勋爵的女儿，每年三万英镑的财产。你得承认这是非常理想的联姻。”

埃莉诺什么也没说。她真想知道，露西要是知道了这种最新发展，会说什么呢？

接下来的一周，为了结识米德尔顿夫妇，约翰和芬妮决定举办一个晚宴。埃莉诺和玛丽安，以及布兰登上校和詹宁斯夫人都接到了邀请。爱德华的妈妈费拉斯

夫人那晚也在场。露西和安诚心取悦芬妮和米德尔顿夫人，于是也来参加晚宴了。埃莉诺很担心爱德华会来，但露西悄声说他不会来了。她得意地说，因为他在家人面前掩饰不住对她的爱意，所以不能来。埃莉诺倒是放心了，因为她不需要在这样的情形下遇到他。她没告诉露西的是，她到伦敦以后他已经两次登门拜访了，只是都赶上她出去了。

爱德华的妈妈费拉斯夫人身材瘦削，肤色灰暗，一副严肃而刻薄的样子。她根本不和埃莉诺说话，决意不喜欢这个威胁了她为儿子设计的远大计划的女孩。埃莉诺则假装没注意到她的无礼，对她们母女对她的侮辱置若罔闻。对阿谀奉承的露西，费拉斯夫人却很亲切，这让埃莉诺感到好笑。很明显她们表现得有点夸张，目的就是要把她难堪。她心想，要是费拉斯夫人知道真相会怎么样呢？

埃莉诺对爱德华妈妈的好奇心并没有得到满足。她意识到这样一个女人一定很难成全露西和爱德华的婚事，所以她并不羡慕露西的处境。第二天下午，露西来看埃莉诺，说东道西的，可是她的真正目的很快就明确了，她是来炫耀费拉斯夫人对她好而对埃莉诺不好的。她们正聊着的时候，仆人宣布爱德华·费拉斯先生来了。几秒钟后，爱德华就来到了房里。这场面可真是让人窘迫透了。看到露西在，他明显很不自在，而她也立刻就开始对他来拜访情敌起了疑心。只有埃莉诺能保持镇静，勉强谈一些琐碎的事，可很快她也忍受不了这种剑拔弩张的气氛，去找玛丽安了。玛丽安像平时那样兴冲冲地进来，对眼前这几个人之间的钩心斗角、暗流涌动却浑然不觉。她很高兴看到爱德华，已经把他当哥哥看了，而且她觉得埃莉诺也会很开心。她希望露西快点走，这样她姐姐就能和爱德华单独在一起了。可是露西呢，在一边沉默着，算计着，小眼睛不放过任何蛛丝马迹，要是有必要她能待上一整晚，也绝对不会给他们独处的机会。让玛丽安惊奇的是，令人备受折磨的几分钟过去后，倒是爱德华先站了起来，找了个理由离开了。

爱德华还要面临更大的麻烦。好像是詹宁斯夫人的朋友多娜万医生被叫去给芬妮·达什伍德看病了，她正饱受急性失心疯的折磨。听说是因为露西那愚蠢的、没脑子的姐姐看到她们对露西好，就信以为真，把露西和爱德华私订终身的事给泄露出去了。现在费拉斯家那边是一团糟，大家都非常恼怒。露西立刻被要求离开达什伍德家，她本来是受芬妮之邀来小住几日的，现在谁都不再和她说话了。费拉斯夫人听到这个消息，立刻暴跳如雷，宣布和爱德华完全断绝关系，收回了他对她财产的继承权，而把所有的土地和金钱都给了他的弟弟罗伯特。这样爱德华几乎身无分文了，而且他也没受过什么专业的训练，要想找份工作自食其力都没什么希望。但他坚持他要尽自己的义务，要完成对露西的承诺。露西呢，则说要是有必要，会永远等他，这样他就去了牛津大学学习，想当一名牧师。

这可真像演戏一样啊！詹宁斯夫人对这一切感到厌倦，并且很厌恶爱德华妈妈所做的一切。毕竟，露西也是个通情达理的姑娘，就算很穷，至少也能以很少的收入维持一所小房子。什么样的母亲会这么无情地断绝和亲生儿子的关系呢？

第11章 始料不及(p. 80-85)

埃莉诺现在要费好大劲才能把故事贯穿起来讲给玛丽安听，她承认露西四个月前就和她说了自己的秘密，她知道玛丽安一定对爱德华的欺骗行为感到很震惊，而且她不如自己了解爱德华，一定把他想成第二个威洛比了。玛丽安确实被这件事吓了一跳，但她更替姐姐感到难过。她想，埃莉诺是怎么承受的呢？她对露西的虚伪更是表示愤怒，她明知道姐姐喜欢爱德华，还故意告诉姐姐他们订婚的事。玛丽安感到很愧疚，因为她什么都没注意到，她深深地沉浸在威洛比对自己的伤害中不能自拔，还指望埃莉诺来宽慰她，实际上姐姐的痛苦和她是一样的。当她向姐姐倾诉自己的情感时，埃莉诺也第一次向她敞开了心扉，坦白了一切，埃莉诺觉得很轻松。她还劝玛丽安说现在能做的最好的就是驾驭形势，要有尊严——不要让人看出她有多么痛苦。这件事中她唯一的安慰是爱德华和露西很长一段时间内不能结婚。他毕业成为牧师可是好几年以后的事呢。

但讽刺的是，命运注定在解决这一危机时，埃莉诺也要扮演自己的角色。她信任的好朋友——布兰登上校听说费拉斯夫人那样对待儿子，感到很气愤，他决心帮一帮埃莉诺的这个朋友。他告诉她他的庄园特拉福特的一个牧师职位最近刚好有了空缺。他要把这个职位给爱德华，帮他一把。他并不知道他们之间的情分，问她可不可以帮忙传个话，把这个职位推荐给爱德华。

结果正是埃莉诺本人解决了爱德华和露西进退两难的问题。她和她的旧情人相见的过程非常痛苦。当她告诉他上校的好心帮助时，两个人都极其伤心。他们都意识到现在爱德华没有出路——他必须为年轻时犯的愚蠢错误付出代价，娶这个他因一时脆弱而要与之终身绑定的女人。他们都知道他并不爱她。他们自己的幸福机会看来是一去不返了。他们的分手时刻令人肝肠寸断。

经过这些钩心斗角之后，詹宁斯夫人宣布她对伦敦是非常厌倦了，想回到自己在萨莫塞特克里弗兰安静的乡下茅舍。她非常想让姑娘们陪着她，埃莉诺总是让她很开心，她现在离不开她了，她也非常喜欢玛丽安。玛丽安不想去克里弗兰，因为她知道那里离威洛比的房产不过三十英里，他和他的新婚妻子就住在那里。而埃莉诺却觉得她们应该去。在伦敦她们有麻烦的时候，老夫人对她们很好，她们有义务陪老太太回乡下去，应该看到她安顿下来再走。她还提醒妹妹，克里弗兰离巴顿只有八英里，离她们的妈妈和可爱的小妹妹更近。和詹宁斯夫人住几天，她们就可以从快道回巴顿乡舍了。

克里弗兰是一座宽敞的现代建筑，阳光充裕。虽然没有庄园，但花园很大，而且有很多小径。到那里后，玛丽安情绪有点激动，因为知道她们离威洛比的房产只有几英里地，所以她大部分时间都是在花园里游荡，用美景安抚自己的心灵。埃莉诺则是陪伴詹宁斯夫人，并给家里写信。几天后天气变坏，玛丽安在一次独自散步的时候淋了雨，并且因为总是沉浸在忧伤的回忆中，对自己的身体并不在意，所以很快轻度风寒就演变成了重感冒。埃莉诺坚持让她躺在床上，希望第二天她能见好，可是到了晚上，她发高烧了，早上就有点神志不清了。医生来了以后，她并没有感觉舒服点，吃的药越多，情况似乎就越糟。埃莉诺非常担心，尤其是当玛丽安大声喊妈妈并且开始断断续续地胡言乱语的时候。她和正在

楼下焦急不安地等待病人最新消息的布兰登上校交换了意见，都觉得应该写信请母亲来。上校立刻主动请缨担任信使去接达什伍德夫人，并且马上着手，迅速高效地做必要的准备。埃莉诺觉得在这种情况下有这样可靠、明智的朋友很放心。如果一切都顺利的话，她们的母亲晚上十点就能赶到，那时埃莉诺就不需要一个人承担妹妹重病这样重大的责任了。

玛丽安的病情并没有好转，医生很着急。她现在命悬一线，烧得太厉害了。埃莉诺简直要绝望了，时刻坐在床前，观察妹妹是不是有好转的迹象。下午开始的时候，她越看越觉得妹妹的呼吸逐渐平缓了，也没那么烧了。又过了一个小时，她确定她见好了，就请詹宁斯夫人上来。老太太也觉得她好些了，又叫了医生来看，到医生来的时候，玛丽安脸不红了，皮肤也凉了下來。她睁开眼睛，尽管还是很虚弱，但能认出姐姐并且微笑了。最危险的时刻过去了——现在她有希望康复了。

埃莉诺还是激动得无法入睡，筋疲力尽的她坐在楼下的起居室里，感谢上帝让她们的磨难过去了。八点的时候，她听到马车声，门铃响了。妈妈和布兰登上校不可能这么快呀？这时仆人进来了，宣布访客是——威洛比！

第12章 真情告白(p. 88-95)

埃莉诺很不愿意看到这个让自己的妹妹如此伤心绝望的人，是他间接导致了妹妹的重病。她不愿和威洛比说话。威洛比请求她听完他要说的话。当他听说玛丽安的病情，是冒雨骑马从伦敦一路赶来的。仆人们告诉他她已经脱离危险了，他请求她告诉他这是真的。埃莉诺肯定地告诉他她确实有所好转了，威洛比放心地舒了一口气。然后他告诉埃莉诺，他是来告诉她他和玛丽安之间发生了什么的。她很好奇，也很想听听他的解释能不能让玛丽安宽慰一点，于是她同意听他说说。

他承认，刚开始在巴顿遇到她们一家时，他只是想解闷，他和老姑妈在艾伦海姆的生活太乏味了。但很快他就被玛丽安的美丽与智慧迷住了，发现对这位姑娘的感情比自己想象得强烈。开始他觉得她对他的迷恋很好玩（听到这一点，埃莉诺脸红了），但是马上他就开始欣赏这个出色、可爱的姑娘了。不久他就被她俘获了，开始天真地、不计后果地谈情说爱。他从一开始就知道要是想保住自己的产业就不能娶玛丽安——他债台高筑，急需钱来还债。但是他选择不顾念那些，只是尽情地享受做英雄的浪漫感觉，为了满足自己，让他们的关系肆意发展。“但是你确实喜欢我妹妹，是不是，威洛比？”埃莉诺严厉地问。

“达什伍德小姐，我怎么能抵制得了这样的诱惑、这样的温情呢？和她在一起的那段日子是我一生中最快乐的时光！我越是和她在一起，就越想表现得尊贵一点，想让她嫁给我，可是我心里知道这不行，因为这意味着我将放弃我在这个世界上的全部理想。”

威洛比承认，恳求玛丽安给他一缕头发的当晚，他就想向她求婚。可是当他回到家，发生了一件事，让他改变了主意，也永久改变了他们两个人的命运。他和“某个人”的绯闻已经传到了艾伦海姆他姑妈的耳朵里（说到这儿，他的脸都红透

了)。埃莉诺知道，他是在说布兰登上校的养女伊丽莎。这位正派的老太太决定收回他的继承权。他唯一的出路就是和那个可怜的姑娘——伊丽莎结婚。他拒绝了，他说他对那个姑娘没有感情，姑妈对他的态度让他非常生气，姑妈把他从艾伦海姆永久地赶走了。他跑到伦敦之前到巴顿庄园去做最后的道别，当时，他太羞愧了，没法告诉玛丽安是什么原因让他突然离开。他说离开她让他伤心痛苦，但一离开玛丽安正面的影响，他就立刻恢复了挥霍无度、轻佻放荡的生活作风。一无所有的念头让他害怕。他劝自己说他们的关系不过是一次调情，她还年轻，很快就会把他给忘了。他全身投入到宴会和娱乐活动中，很快就找到了一个可以解决他财政问题的女继承人展开追求。

他停顿了一下。埃莉诺暗想，如果妹妹嫁给这样一个道德观念薄弱、自私自利，又有这么多经济困难的人，日子肯定会很苦。但是她对威洛比说：“那么，您在伦敦给我妹妹的那封冷酷而不可原谅的信又是……您解释一下，怎么回事呢，威洛比先生？”

威洛比苦笑了一下。

“啊，那封信，您喜欢我妻子的杰作吗？”他讽刺地问，“我以为在伦敦几个月以后，我已经忘了玛丽安，可是她的那封信让我确信，对她来说我一直是那么亲爱的人，我意识到我是个什么样的混蛋，我也是一直爱着她。但一切都太晚了。我刚刚和格雷小姐订婚。我能做的就是尽量避免见玛丽安。要是我本人告诉她我要另娶他人，我实在不忍心看她的脸，看到她的痛苦。如果您能同情我一点，想想我那时是什么样的感觉。我全身心地爱着一个人，却要装出和另一个人恩爱的样子。在那个舞会上，我站在她们两个中间——玛丽安如此美丽、纯洁而又忧伤——而索菲，即将成为我妻子的女子，竟显得那么嫉妒、卑劣，就像一只猫一样……”

“但是那封信，威洛比先生，那是怎么回事？”埃莉诺打断他说。

“啊，是。当我的信被拿进来的时候，索菲正好来看我，看到信封上女性的笔迹，她自己拆开信读了起来。她非常生气。她要求我和她的情敌一刀两断，而且是由她口述我写回信。她说我要是不那么做，她就要终止我们的婚约。我完全依赖她的钱偿还我的债务。我被迫放弃玛丽安并寄还她的全部信笺，连同那缕宝贵的头发。我别无选择。”他看着埃莉诺，黑眼睛中流露出自怜的神情。“您说您别无选择是不对的，开始是您自己放弃玛丽安的，而且您也这么做了。请不要这么挖苦您的妻子——她是有权要您尊重她并要求您对她付出感情的。说她的坏话并不能让玛丽安得到些许安慰。”埃莉诺平淡地说。“您不用对我的妻子表示同情，她不配。她接受我的时候就知道我不爱她。”威洛比不耐烦地回答。“但是我对我的行为不是做出了一点解释吗？您能不能告诉令妹我说的话，告诉她尽管我的行为不可原谅，但我在心里从来没有停止对她的爱呀！”

“我现在比以前更了解您了，而且我也要把您说的话告诉玛丽安。尽管我很同情您的痛苦，但我仍然觉得没什么理由可以原谅您给我妹妹带来的伤害。”埃莉诺斩钉截铁地说。

“达什伍德小姐，请您相信，我的生活绝对是难以想象的难过。我自己选择的妻子是我罪有应得，现在我的家庭生活充满怨恨和乏味。再见，达什伍德小姐，谢谢您。您能至少和我握一下手吗？”

埃莉诺和他握了握手，让仆人送他到门口。他离开后，埃莉诺坐下了，发生的一切让她疲惫不堪，直到她又听到马车声，是妈妈来了。

达什伍德夫人一路上做了最坏的打算，听说玛丽安好些了才放下心来。确定了病人感觉很舒服之后，她和埃莉诺坐下来促膝长谈。她告诉大女儿，布兰登上校非常担心玛丽安，在车上向她坦白了对玛丽安的感情。她虽然很吃惊，但也很高兴。布兰登上校很诚恳而且很高贵，在玛丽安与虚伪的威洛比之间发生了这么多不幸之后，更能显出他的安静和理智。她希望到时候玛丽安能够喜欢上她们的朋友。她答应等玛丽安康复后，尽量促成这件事——她也只能答应这么多了。

玛丽安年轻、健康，在家人的关爱下，她恢复得很快。

对回到巴顿乡舍，埃莉诺还有点顾虑，担心触景生情，会让玛丽安的精神再度崩溃。可是她妹妹表现出了很强的自制力，掉了几次眼泪之后，她就决心把过去的事情完全抛开。

有一天，她向埃莉诺敞开心扉，说真正能帮助她忘记过去的其实是她知道威洛比对她并不是没有真情，这样，她并不是完全被威洛比的人品欺骗了。只要她相信威洛比还是有点爱她的，她就感到足够宽慰了。于是埃莉诺就把她病中威洛比来访的事告诉了她，玛丽安静静地听完。然后她拥抱了姐姐，对自己的行为以及她给家人带来的难过感到愧疚。她已经接受了这个沉痛的教训，以后要聪明起来了。

几天后，仆人告诉她们一个令人震惊的消息。费拉斯先生结婚了！他在镇子里看到他和斯蒂尔小姐在一起。她告诉他她现在是费拉斯夫人了！玛丽安和母亲都没想到埃莉诺的反应如此强烈，她突然面无血色，说不出话来。当然，她知道爱德华和露西最终还是要结婚的，但她心里还是希望发生点什么事情，让他们结不成。她被痛苦吞噬了，一整天都在想着今后没有爱德华的日子。后来她走回乡舍的时候，看见一个人骑马朝她们家过来，她想，会是谁呢，是布兰登上校吗？也许他能解释为什么爱德华这么突然就结婚了。他在特拉福特的的工作开始得这么快吗？他还没有毕业呢。可是当那人走近时，她看出来，那不是上校而是爱德华本人！

埃莉诺费了好大的劲儿，才出于礼貌问费拉斯夫人在哪儿，可是爱德华似乎迷惑不解，说他妈妈在伦敦呢，然后告诉她，露西和他弟弟结婚了——是罗伯特！

当天晚上，爱德华是这里最快乐的人。他不用再和露西结婚了，不但没有伤害任何人，还赢得了自己想要的新娘——埃莉诺。他坦白地告诉她，他和露西之间令人不快的婚约让他非常后悔，她也因为他对她的爱更强烈也更理智而感到满足。

当晚所有乡舍里的人都感到好奇的是：露西和罗伯特·费拉斯的婚事是怎么促成的。爱德华只能猜测是因为露西好奉承而罗伯特偏巧爱听奉承，这样他们才成了一对儿！他根本不知道露西是怎么开始和他弟弟见面或通信的，而且他也如释重负，不愿意多想在这件事情上露西是怎么骗自己的。而对费拉斯夫人，人人都觉得她应该得到这样的报应，爱德华刚刚让她震惊不已，现在又是罗伯特公然违抗她了。

第二年，埃莉诺和爱德华结婚了，搬到了特拉福特的牧师寓所。她妈妈和妹妹们经常到他们的新安乐窝看望他们。让达什伍德夫人和埃莉诺感到欣慰的是，

她们发现玛丽安和布兰登上校关系越来越亲密了。玛丽安本来想这辈子不再恋爱的，结果很快就发现自己成了上校夫人，成了他庄园的女主人。她不是一个一心二用的人，对丈夫就像对威洛比一样是倾心爱恋。她的家人也欣喜地发现：她对她的积极影响让她逐渐变得镇静而沉稳；而她对他的影响是逐渐让他变得乐观并忘

记了过去的阴影。

威洛比继续和他泼辣的妻子住在一起，从打猎和骑马中寻找对他不幸婚姻的安慰。他从来没有忘记玛丽安——听说她和布兰登上校的婚礼，是他自私的人生中最难面对的事情——他暗地里一直认为她才是理想的女人。

费拉斯太太最终也原谅了爱德华，并慷慨而优雅地接纳了埃莉诺作为儿媳。露西最终也为她和罗伯特赢得了宽恕——靠不断的乞求！

埃莉诺和爱德华两情相悦，幸福地度过余生。能住在他们的朋友兼亲戚布兰登一家附近，他们觉得再没有比他们更幸运的一对儿了。

背景知识

简·奥斯汀生平

《理智与情感》的作者简·奥斯汀于1775年出生于英格兰南方。她是八个孩子中最小的，有六个哥哥和一个姐姐——卡桑德拉。她的父亲是位乡村牧师，全家住在汉普郡乡下。她的两个哥哥参加了海军，成了海军上将，另一个哥哥则成了和父亲一样的牧师。尽管简·奥斯汀的一生中发生了很多重大事件，她却并不从这些事件中寻找素材。当时英国文学本身也正经历着从18世纪柏蒲和约翰逊博士倡导的理性主义价值观向斯科特、华兹华斯和拜伦所倡导的浪漫主义思潮转型。然而简·奥斯汀一生大部分时间离政治和文学圈子很远，住在有限的村庄环境中。她的社交圈子只局限于她自己阶层的人——“文雅”的上流绅士阶层。

1806年，她的父亲去世，他们一家搬到时髦的温泉镇巴斯居住。年轻的简·奥斯汀参加各种晚宴、舞会、茶会、牌会以及音乐晚会。在巴斯的经历和观察为她的小说中关于城市社会生活的讽刺场景提供了素材，在她的很多小说中都有这样的场景。她遇到的人也都影响了她书中的人物性格。1809年，她搬到汉普郡肖顿乡舍，和哥哥住在一起，一直到1817年逝世。她的第一本书《理智与情感》于1811年出版。

简·奥斯汀一生都和家人关系亲密，和姐姐卡桑德拉之间的关系尤其亲近。她们的关系也许就是《理智与情感》中埃莉诺与玛丽安的原型。简和卡桑德拉也都失去了她们的爱人，都受了很多苦。但和书中的女主人公不同的是，她们最终都没有再找到爱人。埃莉诺对玛丽安的关爱以及她们之间的感情代表着奥斯汀的信念：她认为强烈的亲情能帮助治疗个人损失所带来的不幸。实际上她的家人也许就是她写作时假想的观众。他们都受过良好的教育，有强烈的幽默感，不喜欢矫揉造作也不喜欢装腔作势，认为教育和文化高于金钱与社会地位。她本人的教育就是在地父亲的亲自指导和讲授下完成的。她也学会了年轻女士必备的技艺：她能讲法语和意大利语，能缝能绣，而且能弹奏钢琴和伴唱。她也进行了广泛阅读，她最喜欢的作家是莎士比亚、约翰逊、哥德史密斯、考珀和克莱比。

《理智与情感》

简·奥斯汀的文风承袭了18世纪作家的风格，而主题思想既体现了18世纪作家的影响，也有19世纪初期开始流行的思想的印记，而后者最终演变成了浪漫主义思潮。

小说的名字《理智与情感》完整地总结了当时人们两种相反的生活态度。通过埃莉诺和玛丽安在面对失望时的不同反应，理智、谨慎以及节制与热情、冒险以及强调感官刺激形成了鲜明的对比。

《理智与情感》中的“理智”与理性相关，是理性主义思想家们提倡的主旨，他们把它上升到道德的高度，因为他们认为正是人类理性的力量才使人与动物区分开来，才使人能理解人在上帝的世界中所处的位置。是人的逻辑思辨能力掌控并

为这个混乱的世界提供秩序。而另一方面，情感则是对个人的情绪和经验的敏感度，以及可以改变现实的想象力的力量。

而小说中的批评经常是针对那些太重视感官刺激的人物的行为，所以他们对经验的反应往往有夸大成分，而且看上去滑稽可笑。而简·奥斯汀对于这两种禀赋——理智与情感——都没有的人则更是持批判态度，比如对安·斯蒂尔和费拉斯夫人。

她认为一定程度的冲动、感性以及对美的欣赏是必要的，但要成熟、成长则要在很大程度上佐以生活经验所能提供的理智。实际上，她小说中所认同的是那些在生活态度上把理智和情感结合起来的人，比如埃莉诺、爱德华以及布兰登上校。

简·奥斯汀的时代

我们知道，简·奥斯汀生活的时代发生了很多有历史意义的事件，即使出于艺术加工的需要，她没能把这些事件包括在作品里，它们也一定影响了她的家庭生活。这段时间的历史使世界的版图为之改变。西班牙和荷兰作为世界强国的地位下降，而到18世纪末，在一系列战争和条约之后，法国也把在加拿大、北美和印度的领地让给了英国。

1776年，英国在美洲的殖民地宣布独立，这样英国只有把注意力转向东方市场。英国对印度的占领标志着19世纪著名的大不列颠扩张的开始。1778年，第一批英国船队抵达了澳大利亚。这块广袤的大陆很快取代美洲成为英国犯人的倾销地。

1789年的法国大革命在政治、哲学以及社会等方面也对欧洲产生了意义深远的影响。拿破仑·波拿巴的崛起波及了整个欧洲大陆，他带领他的军队攻陷一个又一个国家，但是当他1812年入侵俄国的时候，形势终于发生了改变。1815年，由英国、荷兰和德国组成的联合部队在惠灵顿公爵的指挥下，在滑铁卢大败拿破仑的军队。这成为英国历史上最著名的战役之一。

同时，英国内部也发生了很多重大的社会经济变革。英国是最早进行工业化的国家。煤作为能源的易得性意味着机器有足够的能源改变生产商品的方式，很快纺织厂和进行陶土加工的大工厂就纷纷涌现出来。

工业革命的社会内涵是深远的。在农村地区，由于需要更多的土地以适应新型耕作方式，让农业生产更有利可图，地主们就用篱笆围起大块的正常耕地，而这些耕地以前是贫苦的农民放牧或者耕种自给自足的作物用的。这样经常是整个社区的人被迫到新兴工业城镇去找工作。他们每天工作很多个小时，但工酬很低，而且大都住在肮脏拥挤的贫民区里。妇女和儿童作为廉价劳动力受到剥削，而且他们操作的新机器一旦给他们造成伤害，没有法律保护他们的权益，也没有法律规定他们必须做工的工时。在这种可怕的情况下，贫苦的人很快就充满不满情绪，并且出现了针对权势阶层的暴乱行为。

在奥斯汀的时代，只有收入在一定水平线上的男人才有选举权。新型工业城市在议会中没有代表，选举区是几个世纪以前划分的，已经不能代表人口的分布状况了。1832年，《改革法案》在议会上获得通过，议会席位得以重新合理分配，选民数增加了，但是仍然不允许妇女和穷人参加选举。

词汇表

A

abroad *adv.* 国外
abrupt *adj.* 突然的
accomplishment *n.* 成就
to acquire *v.* 获得
to act as *v.* 作为
affair *n.* 绯闻, 爱情
affectation *n.* 矫揉造作
to afford *v.* 支付得起
to agree *v.* 同意
agreeable *adj.* 令人愉快的
amazement *n.* 惊奇
ankle *n.* 脚踝
to annoy *v.* 烦人, 令人厌恶
apple of your eye 掌上明珠, 心肝宝贝
to approach *v.* 接近
argument *n.* 争论, 论点
arrangement *n.* 安排, 计划
ashamed, to be ashamed 感到羞愧的
at once 立刻
attachment *n.* 情感, 爱慕
attentive *adj.* 专心的
availability *n.* 易得性
awkwardly *adv.* 尴尬地

B

to banish *v.* 驱逐
basis *n.* 基础
basket *n.* 篮子
beaux *n.* 情郎, 社交男子
before *prep.* 之前
to beg *v.* 请求, 乞求
belief *n.* 相信, 信念
beloved *adj.* 钟爱的
besotted *adj.* 神魂颠倒的, 痴迷的, 傻的
to betray *v.* 背叛
betrothal *n.* 订婚
to blame *v.* 批评, 埋怨

to blush *v.* 脸红
boarding school 寄宿学校
bold *adj.* 勇敢的
boredom *n.* 无聊, 乏味
to break down *v.* 崩溃
to breathe *v.* 呼吸
by halves 不是全心全意地

C

callous *adj.* 冷漠的, 无情的
to captivate *v.* 俘获, 迷住
to care about someone 在乎某人
careless *adj.* 粗心的
carriage *n.* 马车
to carry out 执行, 实施
to catch your foot 把脚伸进
to challenge *v.* 挑战
changeable *adj.* 可变的
to charm *v.* 迷住
charming *adj.* 迷人的, 有魅力的
choice *n.* 选择
civil *adj.* 有礼貌的
claim *n.* 权益
clergyman *n.* 牧师
coal *n.* 煤
cold *adj.* 冷漠的
to come about 发生
to complain *v.* 抱怨
complexion *n.* 肤色
to conceal *v.* 隐藏
concern *n.* 关心
to conquer *v.* 征服
consideration *n.* 体贴, 关心
constituency *n.* 选举区
cosy *adj.* 温馨的
to court *v.* 追求
to cry *v.* 喊, 哭
cultured *adj.* 有文化的, 有修养的

curate *n.* [古]牧师

to cut off 切断

D

dashing *adj.* 风流倜傥的, 衣着华丽的

daughter-in-law *n.* 儿媳妇

to deal with *v.* 处理

debtor's prison 负债人监狱

to decline *v.* 衰退

to defeat *v.* 打败

defiant *adj.* 不屈服的

to delay *v.* 拖延, 耽搁

demand *n.* 要求, 请求

to demand *v.* 要求, 请求

to deny *v.* 否认

to derive *v.* 派生

to deserve *v.* 值得, 应得

desirable *adj.* 理想的

development *n.* 发展

disappointment *n.* 失望

to disinherit *v.* 剥夺继承权

dislike *v.* 不喜欢

to disown *v.* 断绝关系(亲情)

distaste *n.* 嫌恶

distressed *adj.* 痛苦的, 忧伤的

to draw *v.* 汲取

to draw up 划分

drenched *adj.* 湿透了的

droll *adj.* 滑稽的

dull *adj.* 枯燥的, 乏味的

dumping ground 倾销地

E

each other 互相, 彼此

effort *n.* 努力

either (not either) *adv.* 也

eligible *adj.* 够资格的

to elope *v.* 私奔

else *adj.* 其他的

to embroider *v.* 刺绣

engaged *adj.* 订婚了的

engagement *n.* 订婚

entertaining *adj.* 娱乐的, 有趣的

estate *n.* 产业, 房产

esteemed *adj.* 受人尊敬的

even (not even) *adv.* 甚至, 连

even-tempered *adj.* 性情平和的

to evolve *v.* 演变, 发展

exploited *adj.* 受剥削的

F

to face *v.* 面对

to faint *v.* 晕倒, 昏厥

fate *n.* 命运

to fear the worst 做最坏的打算

features *n.* 五官

to feed *v.* 供养

to feel sorry for someone 可怜某人

to feel sorry for something 为某事感到遗憾

feeling *n.* 感情

to fence in 围地, 圈地

to fetch *v.* 取, 带回

fever *n.* 发烧

figure *n.* 身影

to find fault 找毛病

flattery *n.* 奉承

flirtation *n.* 调情

flushed *adj.* 脸红的

to fly into a rage 大发雷霆

fond, to be fond of 喜欢的

frantic *adj.* 疯狂的

to frown *v.* 皱眉头, 不同意

fun *n.* 好玩

fun-loving *adj.* 爱玩的

G

game *n.* 猎物

genteel *adj.* 绅士的

gentlemanly *adj.* 富有绅士风度的

to get to know someone 认识某人

gift *n.* 礼物

to give up 放弃
to give way to 让步
to glance *v.* 扫视
to gloat *v.* 炫耀, 让别人难受
glow *n.* 光彩, 神采
goods *n.* 货物
to graduate *v.* 毕业
gratification *n.* 满足
to greet *v.* 问候; 招呼
to guess *v.* 猜

H
half-relations *n.* 有一半血缘关系的
 亲戚
half-rising *adj.* 半起身的
handsome *adj.* 堂皇的, 美观的
hanging in the balance 处于危急之中;
 紧要关头
hard *adj.* 艰苦的, 困难的
to have the whip hand 控制某人
head-over-heels (in love) 神魂颠倒的,
 痴狂的
health *n.* 健康
healthy *adj.* 健康的
heartbroken *adj.* 伤心的
heath *n.* 石楠荒地
heavily *adv.* 大地
heir, heiress *n.* 继承人
helping *n.* 有帮助
to hold out *v.* 伸出
honeysuckle *n.* 杜鹃花
horrified *adj.* 吓坏了的
hotly *adv.* 激烈地; 愤怒地
How annoying! 真是烦人啊!
How kind! 真是好心啊!
to hug *v.* 拥抱
humbly *adv.* 卑微地
hunting *n.* 打猎
hurt *adj.* 受伤害的
to hurt *v.* 伤害
hysterics *n.* 癡病, 失心疯

I
if only *conj.* 要是
impropriety *n.* 不合适
to improve *v.* 改善
in order to 为了
in spite of 尽管
in store 准备着, 为某人留着
to indulge *v.* 宠惯
to indulge in 沉浸于
to ingratiate oneself 使某人喜欢自己;
 讨好, 卖乖
ink *n.* 墨水
intrigue *n.* 对...感兴趣
intrigued *adj.* 感兴趣的

J
to join in 参加
joke *n.* 玩笑, 笑话
jolly *adj.* 快乐的

K
keen *adj.* 热心的, 热衷的
to keep hidden 隐藏的, 隐瞒的
kind *n.* 种类
kindness *n.* 友好, 善良
to kneel *v.* 跪下
to knock *v.* 敲

L
labour *n.* 劳动力
lack *n.* 缺少
lady of the manor 庄主的女主人
landlord *n.* 地主
late *adj.* 去世的
to lean *v.* 倚, 靠
legacy *n.* 财产
to lift *v.* 振作
to light up 精神焕发起来
lively *adj.* 活泼的
lock *n.* 刘海儿
to long for 渴望

longer *adj.* 长一点的
longing *n.* 渴望
to look forward to + *ing* 渴望
to loom on the horizon 在前面挡住视线
loss *n.* 损失
loudly *adv.* 大声地
luckily *adv.* 幸运地

M

main *adj.* 主要的
to make a match 配对, 保媒
to make inquiries 进行询问
to make up for 补偿
manor house 庄园
marked *adj.* 显著的, 突出的
matter *n.* 事情
mind *n.* 心志, 头脑
musical *adj.* 有音乐天分的

N

narrow-minded *adj.* 狭隘的, 小气的,
没见过市面的
neatly *adv.* 整齐的, 恰好的, 完全的
neglect *n.* 忽视
neither of them 两者都没有
never mind 不必在意
nevertheless *conj.* 尽管如此
to nod *v.* 点头
notice *n.* 注意

O

ordeal *n.* 磨难
out of humour 脾气不好的, 心情不好的
outrage *n.* 愤怒
to overcome *v.* 克服, 战胜
to owe *v.* 欠
owner *n.* 主人

P

pain *n.* 疼痛
parlour *n.* 门厅

parsonage *n.* 牧师寓所
to pass away 逝世
pasture *n.* 牧场
penniless *adj.* 一无所有的
to pick up *v.* 抱起
to pity *v.* 可怜, 同情
pleasure *n.* 快乐, 舒服
plump *adj.* 丰腴的, 胖的
to point out *v.* 指出
power *n.* 权利; 力量
praise *n.* 夸奖
to praise *v.* 表扬, 夸奖
prejudice *n.* 偏见
to pretend *v.* 假装, 佯装
pretentiousness *n.* 装腔作势, 虚伪
pride *n.* 骄傲
profitable *adj.* 有利润的, 赚钱的
properly *adv.* 合适地, 适当地
to propose (marriage) *v.* 求婚
proud *adj.* 骄傲的
to push your way 费力地挤出一条路
to put the past behind you 把过去抛在
脑后
puzzled *adj.* 困惑的

R

rank *n.* 地位
to rave *v.* 胡言乱语
to realise *v.* 意识到
reason *n.* 理性
recklessness *n.* 冒险, 不计后果
to recover *v.* 康复
to regret *v.* 后悔
relation *n.* 关系
relationship *n.* 关系
relieved *adj.* 放心了的
to remind someone 提醒某人
rent *n.* 租金
to reprimand *v.* 斥责, 训斥
to reproach *v.* 批评, 训斥
rescuer *n.* 救命恩人

to resemble *v.* 像
 reverie *n.* 白日梦
 to revert *v.* 扭转
 to ride *v.* 骑马
 to ridicule *v.* 讽刺
 right away 马上
 ring *n.* 戒指
 riot *n.* 暴乱
 rise *n.* 起来; 上升
 to rise above 超越
 rough *adj.* 粗糙的; 表面不平的
 route *n.* 路线
 rude *adj.* 粗鲁的
 ruined *adj.* 毁了的
 rumoured *adj.* 传说的
 to rush *v.* 匆忙地走

S

to sack *v.* 开除; 解雇
 sallow *adj.* (脸色) 灰暗的
 scapegoat *n.* 替罪羊
 scathing *adj.* 尖酸刻薄的(言语)
 to scheme *v.* 密谋, 算计
 scoundrel *n.* 混蛋, 恶棍
 to screen *v.* 挡住
 to scrutinise *v.* 盯着看
 to seal *v.* 封(信)
 secrecy *n.* 秘密
 self-command *n.* 自控
 self-pity *n.* 自怜
 to send for 派人去请
 sensible *adj.* 知书达理的, 懂事的
 to set your cap at someone 追求某人
 settled (in) *adj.* 定居的
 settlement *n.* 定居
 to sew *v.* 缝
 sewing scissors 缝纫剪子
 shabby *adj.* 粗鄙的
 sharp *adj.* 敏锐的
 shiny *adj.* 闪光的
 to shoot *v.* 打猎

to shout *v.* 喊
 shrewdly *adv.* 精于算计的
 shrewish *adj.* 泼辣的, 泼妇一般的
 shutter *n.* 百叶窗
 to sigh with relief 放心地舒了一口气
 to signal *v.* 示意, 召唤
 silly *adj.* 愚蠢的
 skill *n.* 技巧
 slope *n.* 山坡, 坡
 slums *n.* 贫民区
 smart *adj.* 聪明的
 smugly *adv.* 洋洋得意地
 snobbish *adj.* 市侩的
 sob *v.* 抽泣
 solemn *adj.* 庄严的, 严肃的
 somehow *adv.* 不知为什么, 不论如何
 sort *n.* 种类
 sour *adj.* 令人不悦的
 spa town 温泉城市, 度假胜地
 sparkling *adj.* 闪光的
 speechless *adj.* 说不出话的
 spirits *n.* 精神
 spiteful *adj.* 记仇的, 心胸狭窄的
 spoiled *adj.* 娇生惯养的, 宠惯的
 spot *n.* 场所, 地点
 stable *n.* 马厩
 to stare *v.* 盯着看
 startled *adj.* 害怕的, 受惊吓的
 steady *adj.* 稳定的
 to steady someone 让某人沉稳起来
 steep *adj.* 陡的
 strained *adj.* 扭伤的, 有压力的
 strangeness *n.* 奇怪
 stranger *n.* 陌生人
 to strike *v.* 打击
 stylish *adj.* 时髦的, 时尚的
 suddenness *n.* 突然
 suited *adj.* 合适的
 supercilious *adj.* 傲慢的
 supper *n.* 晚饭
 sure enough *adv.* 一定, 果然

sweetness *n.* 亲切, 友善

T

tactful *adj.* 讲究策略的, 不唐突的

to take off your hands 脱手了, 不需要再管理了, 省心了

to take the place of 代替

to take up 拿起, 接受

tame *v.* 开垦

taste *n.* 品位

tear *n.* 眼泪

to tease *v.* 逗引, 逗

thatched *adj.* 用草缮顶的

therefore *conj.* 因此

thoughtful *adj.* 好思考的, 有思想的

thoughtless *adj.* 不善于思考的, 傻的

throughout *prop.* 贯穿...的始终, 全, 都

to throw oneself into something 让某人沉浸于某事

tide *n.* 潮流

timber *n.* 木材

token *n.* 表记

topic *n.* 话题

torturous *adj.* 折磨人的

tower *n.* 塔

treaty *n.* 条约

trick *n.* 把戏, 恶作剧

triumphant *adj.* 胜利的

to trouble *v.* 麻烦, 给人添麻烦

troubled *adj.* 感到麻烦的

turn of events 事态

to turn someone against something 使某人反对某事

to turn something over in your mind 思考

to twist your ankle 扭了脚脖子

two-penny post 两分邮资的快件

U

to unburden oneself 放下心理包袱, 敞开心扉

unchaperoned *adj.* 无人陪伴的

undercurrent *n.* 暗流

to underline *v.* 强调

understanding *n.* 理解

uneasy *adj.* 窘迫的, 尴尬的

unfairly *adv.* 不公平地

unfeeling *adj.* 没有感情的, 冷漠的

uninvited *adj.* 没受到邀请的

unpardonable *adj.* 不可原谅的

unprompted *adj.* 自发的

unsuitable *adj.* 不合适的, 不适当的

unwell *adj.* 有病的, 不健康的, 不舒服的

to urge *v.* 催促

V

to value *v.* 珍视, 重视

vow *n.* 誓言

W

way out 摆脱某事的办法、途径

weaving *n.* 纺织业, 纺织

to welcome *v.* 欢迎, 迎接

well-bred *adj.* 有教养的, 出身高贵的

well-educated *adj.* 受过良好教育的

well-fed *adj.* 营养好的, 吃得好的

well provided for 富裕的

wet *adj.* 湿的

to whisper *v.* 耳语

wild *adj.* 郊外的

wise *adj.* 聪明的, 明智的

wisely *adv.* 英明地, 智慧地

wish *n.* 愿望

womanhood *n.* 女性特征, 品质

to wonder *v.* 想知道, 纳闷, 好奇

wooded *adj.* 有林木的, 林木茂盛的

worldly *adj.* 尘世的

Y

youth *n.* 青春

参考答案

第1章

p. 5

2.

husband	wife
son	daughter
uncle	aunt
nephew	niece
brother	sister

p. 8

3. 1) F 2) T 3) T 4) F 5) F 6) F
7) F 8) F 9) T 10) F

p. 9

5. 1) respectable, steady, selfish,
narrow-minded, cold
2) optimistic, romantic
3) jealous, narrow-minded, cold
4) calm, sensible, practical
6. 所以她对丈夫说, 给这些姐妹上千英镑实际上就等于从他们小儿子将来的财产里拿钱。
四个女人住一起花不了多少钱。
1) 第1句 2) 第2句
7. 1) Elinor said that they would arrive at their new home the next day.
2) Mrs Dashwood said that they couldn't stay at Norland with Fanny and John.
3) Mrs Dashwood said that she would write to her cousin in Devonshire.
4) Edward said that his mother would not approve of his connection with Elinor.
5) Marianne said that they couldn't leave Norland until Edward and Elinor were married.

第2章

p. 10

1. 1) c 2) a 3) b

p. 11

2. 1) b 2) c) 3) d 4) f 5) a 6) e

p. 14

3. 1) pleased
2) Mrs Dashwood
3) a lot of
4) nothing before they left
5) in the country
6) friendly and good-humored
7) Barton Park House

4. flowers, a garden, hills, woods

5. 1) b 2) d 3) c 4) a

p. 15

6. 1) This is the book which my brother gave me for my birthday.
2) She is the woman whose husband has been married five times.
3) This is the hotel where we stayed on holiday last year.
4) Marcia is the student who came first in the English Exam.
5) The film is about a spy whose daughter betrays him to the KGB.
7. The Dashwoods left Norland in carriage to their new house in Devonshire. Their half-brother didn't give them any money before they left and Mrs Dashwood was not pleased. The new house was a small but comfortable cottage with a lovely view over the valley at Barton. Their neighbor, Mr. John Middleton, Mrs

Dashwood's cousin, came to visit them and invited them to dinner at his house, Barton Park. They met his wife, her mother and his old friend Colonel Brandon there. Sir John was pleased they had come to Devonshire because he liked organizing balls for young people. Marianne thought the Colonel was old and not handsome, but she changed her mind when she saw how much he appreciated her music.

第3章

p. 16

1. 1) T 2) F 3) F 4) F 5) F 6) F

p. 17

2.

天气	风景
sunny	pasture
raining	valley
foggy	wood
windy	hill
snowing	river

p. 22

3. 1) F 2) F 3) F 4) F 5) T 6) F
7) T 8) F

4. 1) black, black, beautiful

2) attractive, wavy, delicate, pretty

3) handsome, black

5. 1) 3) 4)

p. 23

6. 1) e) 2) a 3) b 4) c 5) d 6) f

7. 1) was having, came in

2) was shining, arrived, got

3) were coming out, rang, threw

4) was speaking, believed

5) was, began

6) said, knew, was lying

第4章

p. 27

2. 1) b 2) a 3) d 4) c

p. 30

3. 1) horse

2) refuse

3) his daughter

4) engaged

5) some business in London

6) doesn't know

7) Edward Ferrars

5. 1) h 2) d 3) a 4) b 5) f 6) g

7) e 8) c

p. 31

6. 1) 1, 2

2) 2, 1

3) 2, 1

4) 1, 2

5) 2, 1

6) 2, 1

7. 3, 4, 9, 5, 6, 2, 1, 7, 8

第5章

p. 32

1. 1) F 2) F 3) F 4) T 5) F

p. 33

2. composed, modest, discreet, polite

p. 36

3. 1) F 2) F 3) F 4) T 5) F 6) T

7) F 8) F

5. taciturn, sincere, reserved, serious, polite

p. 37

6. 1) look

2) seems

3) looks

4) looks

5) appears

6) looks

7.

理性主义	浪漫主义
reason	imagination
good manners	strong feelings
equilibrium	extremes
learning	intuition
self-control	impetuosity
politeness	sincerity
realism	fantasy

第6章

p. 38

1. 1) T 2) T 3) T 4) F 5) T 6) F

p. 39

2. 1) b 2) c 3) d 4) a 5) e

p. 44

4. 1) d 2) c 3) b 4) a

p. 45

7. 1) b 2) e 3) a 4) i 5) j 6) c
7) d 8) f 9) h 10) g

8. 1) frightened 2) annoyed
3) shocked 4) surprised
5) pleased

第7章

p. 46

1. 1) T 2) T 3) F 4) T 5) T

p. 52

4. 横向 3) longing 6) letter 7) dance
纵向 1) engaged 2) ink, pen
3) London 4) party 5) card

p. 53

5. 2)

6. 1) were sleeping, came, stole

2) was raining

3) was living, met, moved

4) were singing, were buzzing, was
sitting

5) were walking, escaped, started

6) was sleeping, came

7. hear, love, like, believe, understand

第8章

p. 60

3. 1) F 2) F 3) T 4) F 5) T 6) F
7) F 8) T

4. 1) f 2) d 3) a 4) e 5) b 6) c

p. 61

5. 1) c 2) f 3) a 4) h 5) b 6) g
7) d 8) e

7. 1) c 2) e 3) a 4) b 5) d

第9章

p. 64

1. 6-1-5-2-3-4

p. 70

4. 1) g 2) e 3) b 4) d 5) h 6) c
7) a 8) f

p. 71

6. 1) c The man who told me this
refused to give his name.

2) a The voice that we made woke
everyone up.

3) b This book is about a girl who
falls in love with a prince.

4) e I met someone at the party who
said he knew you.

5) d New York is the city I like most.

6) f Where are the trousers that you
want to exchange for a smaller
size?

7. 8, 4, 2, 3, 1, 7, 10, 9, 5, 6

第10章

p. 72

1. 1) T 2) T 3) F 4) F 5) F 6) T 7) T

p. 78

4.

Mrs Ferrars	Fanny Dashwood	Lucy Steele
proud	snobbish	jealous
shrewd	selfish	poor
sour	cold	flattering
superior	superior	shrewd
rich	jealous	sly

p. 79

5. 1) f 2) e 3) d 4) a 5) b 6) c

6. 1) Yes 2) No 3) No

4) Yes 5) No 6) No

第11章

p. 80

1. 1) T 2) T 3) F 4) F 5) F 6) F

p. 86

4. 1) d 2) e 3) a 4) b 5) f 6) c

p. 87

6. 1) more, more 2) more, more
3) longer, heavier 4) tastier, tastier
5) closer, older

7. engagement, guilty, problems,
disinherited, friend, curate, reason,
accompany, country, alone, caught,
worried, fetch, waiting, talk

第12章

p. 88

1. 1, 2, 6, 4, 3, 5

p. 96

3. 1) F 2) T 3) F 4) F 5) T 6) F

词汇表

p. 108

2.

noun

agreement

beauty

boredom

change

demand

engagement

health

longing

verb

agree

beautify

bore

change

demand

engage

heal

long for

adjective

agreeable

beautiful

boring/bored

changing/changeable

demanding

engaged

healthy

longing

adverb

agreeably

beautifully

boringly

changeably

demandingly

engagingly

healthily

longingly

7) T 8) F

p. 97

6. 2)

7.

sense	sensibility	balance
6), 2)	1), 7)	4)

8. 1, 3, 2

背景知识

p. 100

1. a) 1817 b) 1811 c) 1775
d) 1809 e) 1806

p. 103

1. 1) themes
2) the two qualities of the title
3) reason and caution
4) sensitivity to emotions and
experience
5) a balance of both qualities in their
personalities

p. 105

1. 1) F 2) F 3) T 4) F 5) T 6) F

p. 110

3.

1) well-bred, c 2) unchaperoned, a
5) spiteful, h 6) recklessness, d
9) ordeal, e 10) inclination, g

3) tactful, f

7) parsonage, j

4) stylish, i

8) outrage, b

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4	The Just So Stories 原来如此的故事	A2	■		■
5	The Haunted Boomerang 神秘回旋镖	A2		■	■
6	The Lost Mountain 消失的山脉	B1		■	
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1 The
银



5 The
博



9 The
博



13 The
篮



17 The
巴



21 Me
媒



25 Rob
罗



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BEGINNER
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ELEMENTARY
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