



Anticipation Guide for Jane



True or False? What do you think Brontë’s novel is about? After marking each of your answers, you will have a chance to discuss why you chose either true or false for each question.

True False

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|-------|-------|---|
| _____ | _____ | 1. A child would only be sent away to school for their benefit. |
| _____ | _____ | 2. A person who is punished must be wicked. |
| _____ | _____ | 3. All novels have beautiful heroines, so Jane must be beautiful. |
| _____ | _____ | 4. To be poor and loved is better than to be wealthy and despised. |
| _____ | _____ | 5. An illegitimate or orphaned child has the same right to love, affection & instruction as a legitimate child with family. |
| _____ | _____ | 6. A man who is unsocial, abrupt & at times troubled is without merit. |
| _____ | _____ | 7. It is acceptable to initially judge by appearances, as long as you take the time to get to know the person later. |
| _____ | _____ | 8. You are always free to think as you please, even if otherwise restricted. |
| _____ | _____ | 9. A gentleman always marries a lady. |
| _____ | _____ | 10. Without physical attraction, love is not possible. |
| _____ | _____ | 11. It is impossible to overcome the negative effects of one’s past. |
| _____ | _____ | 12. It is admirable & honest to honor one’s obligations and promises. |
| _____ | _____ | 13. To have the company of another is always better than to be alone. |
| _____ | _____ | 14. Better to be single than to marry without love. |
| _____ | _____ | 15. There are always two sides to every story. |
| _____ | _____ | 16. Every opportunity that presents itself is heaven sent. |



A Teacher's Anticipation Guide for *Jane Eyre*



Purpose:

The purpose of this strategy is to help students begin to make predictions about the text they will be or already have begun to read. The strategy not only helps students have fun in making predictions, but it allows them to think about their reasons for why they would support a certain prediction as being either true or false. As students discuss the reasons for their predictions, they can become open to new ideas as well as learn how to defend their arguments. And when students actually read the text, they can then measure their predictions against what Brontë has written. This will allow students to not only feel success at having “guessed” about what might be coming up in the story, but they will be able to reevaluate their answers about what might be true or false and to make further opinions connected with discussions about the text.

Rationale:

Jane Eyre's anticipation guide will be administered to students directly before beginning their reading of the book, after the class has discussed background information about Brontë and the novel. Presenting the anticipation guide can help students immediately become interested in the text, and will help to engage them in their future reading of *Jane Eyre*.

Directions:

A teacher will hand out the anticipation guide before beginning the novel *Jane Eyre*. The teacher should merely give to fill out the sheet, marking “true or false” for each question and ask students to be ready to defend their answers. After all students have completed the anticipation guide, small groups will be organized for students to discuss their “answers.” Then the entire class will discuss each answer. From the start of the anticipation guide, the teacher is deliberately having students assume that only one answer will be true for each question. In actuality, some questions have an answer that students will find during their reading of the novel...and some questions do not have an absolute answer, but will get students thinking as they read the text. Anticipating is what is important!

Steps:

1. Hand out the anticipation guide. Tell students to mark the answer to each question as “true” or “false.” Inform students that they should be thinking about why they chose each answer, allowing them to make reminder note of each answer’s defense off to the side.
2. Give students about 5 minutes to complete the anticipation guide.
3. Divide students up into groups of 2 or 3. Give each group about 7 minutes to discuss and defend their answers.
4. End the group discussion and begin a classroom discussion which has the main focus of giving students and their groups chances to defend their *anticipations*.
5. Help students realize that anticipating is good because it can get them thinking about new ideas (it can also help them to be curious about what is coming up).



Anticipation Guide for *Jane Eyre*

True or False "Answer" Sheet



1. A child would only be sent away to school for their benefit.
*This answer is false if students can find evidence that Jane is only sent away to school for Aunt Reed's benefit and for Jane's punishment. Sending Jane to school was not meant to be a kindness.
2. A person who is punished must be wicked.
*This answer is false if students find in their reading that Jane is not wicked and neither are the girls at Lowood who are punished for things such as having naturally curly hair. Mr. Rochester is not wicked either, and yet has been punished by fate.
3. All novels have beautiful heroines, so Jane must be beautiful.
*This answer is false, as students will soon discover as they begin the novel. Jane and other characters state that she is very plain and not beautiful. That, however, is one of the great things about Jane—she is an ordinary heroine that all girls can relate to.
4. To be poor and loved is better than to be wealthy and despised.
*This answer could go either way. Jane says she would rather not be poor and loved when faced with the decision of whether or not to go with her "poverty-stricken" relatives. However, Jane discovers happiness is more readily achieved when she loves and is loved.
5. An illegitimate or orphaned child has the same right to love, affection & instruction as a legitimate child with family.
*This answer is true if students read on to find Jane's response to her discovery of Adèle's illegitimacy.
6. A man who is unsocial, abrupt & at times troubled is without merit.
*This answer is false if students can find evidence of Jane's listing of Mr. Rochester's positive attributes and when the reader discovers he has valid reasons for his conduct. It is not an excuse for his churlishness, but he is not wholly without merit.
7. It is acceptable to initially judge by appearances, as long as you take the time to get to know the person later.
*This answer is true or false depending on the students' perspective. Some may say one should never judge, while others may consider Jane's initial judgment of Mr. Rochester as natural and just.
8. You are always free to think as you please, even if otherwise restricted.
*This answer is true if students can find evidence that, no matter what the situation, Jane is master of her thoughts and cultivates them to her content, just as Rochester explains his *choice* to degenerate his.
9. A gentleman always marries a lady.
*This answer is false if students come to find that Mr. Rochester desires to marry Jane, a mere governess.
10. Without physical attraction, love is not possible.
*This answer is false as students discover that love grows between the mutually unattracted Jane and Mr. Rochester. Others may argue for true, since a type of attraction develops as their love blossoms.
11. It is impossible to overcome the negative effects of one's past.
*This answer is false if students find evidence that Jane has overcome her past and shed all bitterness, just as Mr. Rochester is able to change even after his past has so heinously cursed him.
12. It is admirable & honest to honor one's obligations and promises.
*This answer may be true or false depending on students' opinions. Some may find Mr. Rochester's loyalty to Bertha honest and admirable and some may find it foolish and masochistic.
13. To have the company of another is always better than to be alone.
*This answer is false if one thinks of Jane's cruel cousins or Mr. Rochester's first marriage. It would be better to be alone than with an insane and violent wife.
14. Better to be single than to marry without love.
*This answer is much like the above—false if one thinks of Reverend St. John's proposal to Jane. She would be happier alone than trapped in a marriage without love as its foundation.
15. There are always two sides to every story.
*This answer is true as students read on to find out the whole truth behind Mr. Rochester's behavior.
16. Every opportunity that presents itself is heaven sent.
*This answer is false if students find evidence that Mr. Rochester's opportunity to marry Jane was stolen through his dishonesty and St. John's proposal, although an opportunity, was not God's will for Jane.

