

Reflections:

A Student Response Journal for...

Wuthering Heights

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Wuthering Heights

Chapter I

1. Mr. Lockwood describes Wuthering Heights as perfectly suited to his personality and solitary lifestyle. If you could live anywhere in the world, where would you choose? What location and type of home would suit your personality and lifestyle? Write a real estate advertisement for this home. Include descriptions of the location, the house and property, and the type of person to whom it would most appeal. Give your ad a creative name that expresses its character and location.
2. Make a list of the characters you meet in the first chapter and write a sentence or two for each one describing your initial impressions of him or her. Based on this first chapter and the characters you have met, write a prediction of what you think the novel is going to be about.

Chapter II

3. When Mr. Lockwood visits Wuthering Heights on his second day in the neighborhood, he receives no warmer welcome than he did the previous day. Joseph offers very little help and no encouragement, and his thick dialect requires careful thought to interpret. Re-write the following phrases in standard English. Use context clues to help you. Watch for unusual spellings of common words. You may also find it helpful to try to speak the phrases aloud several times using different speeds and accents.

What are ye for?

T' maister's down i' t' fowld.

Go round by th' end o' t' laith, if ye went to spake to him.

There's nobbut t' missis...

...shoo'll not oppen't an ye mak' yer flaysome dins till neeght.

Maister, maister, he's staling t' lanthern!

Chapter III

4. Catherine's father has died and she is now being raised by her brother and sister-in-law, the Hindleys, who are much more strict and harsher than her father. She is miserable and wishes her father could return. Reflect on a time when something in your life changed drastically and permanently. Make a list of things in your life that were different before and after the change. Then, write a paragraph in which you explain which time you preferred and why.
5. As he leafs through Catherine's books, Mr. Lockwood reads some of the diary-like entries in the margins. Write a letter to Catherine empathizing with her "awful Sunday." Express sympathy for the difficult things she mentions, and share with her a story of your own about a day when you felt as if you could do nothing right or on which you endured excessive punishment for your mistakes.
6. Mr. Lockwood falls asleep reading the notes in Catherine's books and dreams vividly all night long, bizarre dreams inspired by what he has been reading. Imagine that you have been asked to participate in a research project on dreaming by a national sleep study institute. Write a report summarizing your experience with dreams. Be sure to answer the following questions:
 - How often do you dream?
 - How often do you remember your dreams in detail?
 - To what extent are your dreams inspired by events in your life (people you know, real situations or relationships, things you've read or seen, etc.)?
 - To what extent are your dreams related to your emotions (fear, sadness, anticipation, anxiety, etc.)?
 - Have you ever had a dream predict something that eventually happened?
 - Do you have a recurring dream?
 - What is your opinion about the source(s) of dreams?

Chapter IV

7. Hoping to understand better the bizarre inhabitants of Wuthering Heights, Mr. Lockwood engages Mrs. Dean in a discussion of the family relationships, but she provides a confusing history. Make a list of all the characters she mentions and write a short explanation of their relationships to each other. Arrange the information in a graphic organizer such as a web or chart, or try your hand at making a family tree. Then, write out any questions you have about the characters' relationships to each other. Finally, suggest possible answers to your questions.

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Chapter V

8. Summarize Mr. Earnshaw's relationship with each of his children. For each child, explain Earnshaw's perception of him or her; the child's perception of Earnshaw; and their treatment of each other. Then, rank the children's relationship with their father from 1 (best relationship overall) to 3 (worst relationship overall).

9. In this oppressively dark and heavy book, even the humorous episodes have a dark side to them and often involve one or more of the characters laughing at someone else's expense or ridiculing another person. Re-write a scene from this chapter so that it is light-hearted and provides true comic relief, or write a new scene in a brighter tone and atmosphere to insert in this chapter.