



# Investigate!


## *Jane Eyre*: Volume Two

 refers to links on [www.crossref-it.info](http://www.crossref-it.info)


### ❖ Chapter 16 (Volume 2, chapter 1)


- How does this chapter help the reader to understand the novel's treatment of social class?
- Identify earlier or later scenes in the book that are also concerned with social status  
See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Themes > Class, wealth and power

### ❖ Chapter 17 (Volume 2, chapter 2)

- What is the general atmosphere in the house when the party arrives?
- What kinds of judgements does Jane make about the guests?
- What do we learn about Jane's situation from the comments of Rochester's guests about governesses?  
See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Themes > Class, wealth and power

### ❖ Chapter 18 (Volume 2, chapter 3)


- What do we learn from the party's discussion of the gypsies?  
See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Themes > Class, wealth and power
- In view of subsequent events in the novel, what is the significance of the charade acted by Rochester and Blanche?
- What strikes Jane about Mason's appearance, that is significant for the later development of the plot?

See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Narrative > Signifiers of coming events


### ❖ Chapter 19 (Volume 2, chapter 4)

- What is achieved by Mr Rochester using the disguise of a gypsy in chapter 19?
- Think why Brontë juxtaposes this scene with the appearance of Mr Mason at Thornfield?

### ❖ Chapter 20 (Volume 2, chapter 5)


- Find out what you can about the tradition of the vampire
  - How is it applicable to this situation?
- In what ways does this chapter anticipate later events in the novel?  
See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Narrative > Signifiers of coming events

### ❖ Chapter 21 (Volume 2, chapter 6)

- What are Jane's feelings on returning to Gateshead?
  - How has her relationship with her aunt and cousins changed?
- Re-read the passage beginning 'I have had more trouble with that child than anyone would believe'
  - How does Charlotte Brontë use details of:
    - Appearance
    - Ways of speaking
    - Behaviour
 in order to create a sense of character?  
See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Characterisation > Creation of characters

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### ❖ Chapter 22 (Volume 2, chapter 7)

- Re-read the passage 'As I shall not have occasion ... which she endowed with her fortune.' With this sentence Jane dismisses her Reed cousins from the narrative
  - Why do you think she deals with Georgiana and Eliza in this manner
    - From the point of view of the structure of the novel?
    - From the point of view of their personalities and behaviour?

### ❖ Chapter 23 (Volume 2, chapter 8)

- Think about the following details in this chapter and how they relate to subsequent events in the novel:
  - The reference to the ladybird and the children's rhyme associated with it
  - The destruction of the chestnut tree during the storm.



### ❖ Chapter 24 (Volume 2, chapter 8)

- How might Rochester's account of his ten years of travel modify the reader's perception of his character?
- In what ways is the poem *The truest love that ever heart* relevant to the events of the novel?

### ❖ Chapter 25 (Volume 2, chapter 9)

- Make a chart outlining the role played in the novel by the various dreams and visions experienced by characters
- When you first read this chapter did you believe that Jane and Rochester would be married the next day?
  - What were the reasons for your belief?

### ❖ Chapter 26 (Volume 2, chapter 10)

- Note how Brontë builds - then releases - tension, at various points in this chapter
- This chapter contains many quotations from and allusions to the Bible
  - What is their function? See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Imagery, metaphor and symbolism > Biblical, mythological and literary references
- How does Rochester's account of his marriage to Bertha Mason contribute to the novel's representation of the West Indies? See  Texts in detail > *Jane Eyre* > Critical approaches > Post-colonialism.