

Jane Eyre: (e) Mood and atmosphere

🔗 refers to links on www.crossref-it.info

- ❖ **Lesson focus:** To explore how Brontë creates mood and atmosphere in the novel.
- ❖ **Opening exercise:** Allocate the following chapters around the group: 6, 9, 16, 18, 19, 24, 26, and 30.
 - Give the students five minutes, and then ask them to report back on what atmosphere is created in the opening paragraph of their chapter, and how appropriate this is to what follows in the chapter.
 - As they report back, draw up a list of the methods Brontë uses to create atmosphere.
(🔗 *Jane Eyre* > The context of the novel > Literary context > Charlotte Brontë and the novel)
- ❖ **Discussion ideas:** In groups, imagine you are the designers of a stage version of the novel.
 - Discuss what
 - Lighting
 - Sound
 - Scenery
 effects you would use to convey the mood and atmosphere that Brontë creates in the chapters you looked at.
(🔗 *Jane Eyre* > Imagery, metaphor and symbolism in *Jane Eyre* > Nature)
- ❖ **Textual examination:** Give out **Worksheet (e)i**, 'Atmosphere and setting' to students.
 - Allocate
 - Thornfield (Ch 11)
 - Whitcross and area (Ch 28)
 - Ferndean (Ch 37)
 - Lowood (Ch 5, 6) could be added if it has not already been covered.
 - Students should find appropriate quotations to fit into the boxes.
 - Note that some headings may be difficult for some locations (this may tell its own story).
 - Discussion can follow, or simply photocopy the results and distribute around the group.
(🔗 *Jane Eyre* > Structure > Structure by setting)
- ❖ **Recreative task:** Imagine that Jane has just moved into your house or area.
 - How might she describe it?
 - Try to maintain the style used in the novel.
- ❖ **Critical task:** Examine Brontë's use of description to create mood and atmosphere in the novel.
 - Refer to at least two specific passages in your answer.
- ❖ **Extension idea:** Why do you think that description plays such a significant part in this novel?
 - Is there any link to the character of Jane Eyre?
 - Or can we connect this technique to Charlotte Brontë in particular?
 - Some research into her life might be appropriate here.
(🔗 *Jane Eyre* > Authors > Charlotte Brontë)
(🔗 *Jane Eyre* > Imagery, metaphor and symbolism in *Jane Eyre* > Paintings and drawings)