

Jane Eyre: (b) Jane at Lowood School

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

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- ❖ **Lesson focus:** To explore the picture given of Victorian education in this novel.
 - ❖ **Opening exercise:** Read out the genuine advice given to nineteenth century teachers on this web page:
(http://www.lgfl.net/lgfl/leas/harin_gey/accounts/staff/haram/web/Key%20Stage%203%20English%20Resources/Year%209%20Schemes%20of%20Work/1.cp.some%20suggestions.doc?verb=view)
 - ❖ **Discussion ideas:** Would these punishments be effective nowadays?! (☞ *Jane Eyre* > The context of *Jane Eyre* > Education in Victorian England)
 - ❖ **Textual examination:** Skim through Chapters 5-10 (or search as you first read these chapters).
 - Find quotations which show Jane's feelings towards:
 - Lowood
 - Helen Burns
 - Miss Temple
 - Mr Brocklehurst
 - The other teachers.
 - You could discuss how Brontë shows us characters *only* through Jane's eyes.
(☞ *Jane Eyre* > Critical approaches to *Jane Eyre* > Analysing a passage)
 - What is the effect of this?
 - ❖ **Recreative task:** Find local newspaper advertisements for school or college open days.
 - Let students look at these and then design something similar for Lowood School.
- Lies must not be told, but the truth can be stretched!
 - Try to use as much information from the novel as possible.
 - If there is time, a Lowood School Prospectus could be produced instead, modelled on your own school prospectus.
- ❖ **Critical task:** How far do you detect Charlotte Brontë's own views in the portrayal of Lowood School?
 - What do you think she might be trying to say?
 - Be precise as well as giving an overall view
 - Students could do some research into the Brontë sisters' own experiences of education.
(☞ *Jane Eyre* > Authors > Charlotte Brontë)
(☞ *Jane Eyre* > The context of *Jane Eyre* > Education in Victorian England > Charlotte Brontë's education)
- ❖ **Extension idea:** Each student should research two facts about 19C education, and two about 19C medicine.
 - Findings could be:
 - Discussed
 - Combined and presented as a poster.
 - (☞ *Jane Eyre* > The context of *Jane Eyre* > Social/Political context > Charlotte Brontë and Victorian Britain > Brontë and social issues)