

## Unit 7 Feminism

I

An Introduction to Feminism

II

Influence in British literature

III

Text Analysis *Jane Eyre*

IV

From Viewing , Discussing to Writing

- 1) Jane Eyre's Feminist Traits
- 2) Your View on Women Issue

## Lead-in Questions (Page90-93)

1. When was Victorian age?

(1837–1901), Queen Victorian reign (统治)

2. What was the social state during Victorian age ?

The empire's economic & cultural hegemony(霸权)

The height of the British industrial revolution ;

3. What were the three major classes in Victorian age ?

The aristocracy (贵族), the middle class, and the working class.

4. What consequence were brought by the hierarchy(等级) of the classes?

Sharp class contradictions ➡ workers movements for better living and working environments,  
equality, human rights, etc.

↓  
Feminist movement.

# Position of Women

## Politically

right of voting ✗  
position in government ✗

## In marriage

Inferior, dependent,  
divorce initiative

## Inequality

## Economically

bread winners, equal pay ✗  
respectable work,

## Civil rights

education, property rights,  
birth control right ✗

1st feminist  
movement ,  
19th ,UK



Right of voting  
(over 30)  
1918.

Influences in  
British literature

Critical realism literature

## 5. What are the major characteristics of critical realism literature?

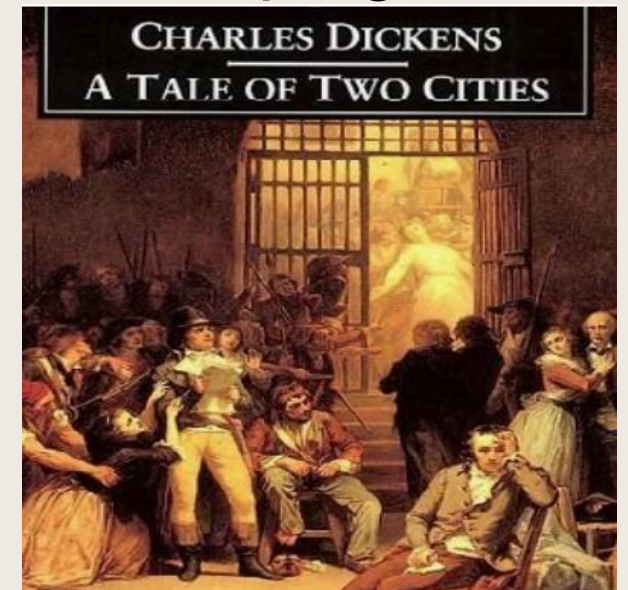
1) Unlike subjectivity of romanticism, Critical realistic works reflect social customs, human feelings, and social contradictions realistically ;



2) Sympathizing with the underprivileged people (弱势群体) in society with an emphasis on shaping the tragic fate of ordinary individuals;



3) Seeking for reforming unfair social systems like social injustice, utilitarianism, money worship, and gender inequality.



## 6. What feminist awarenesses were reflected in critical realism literature?

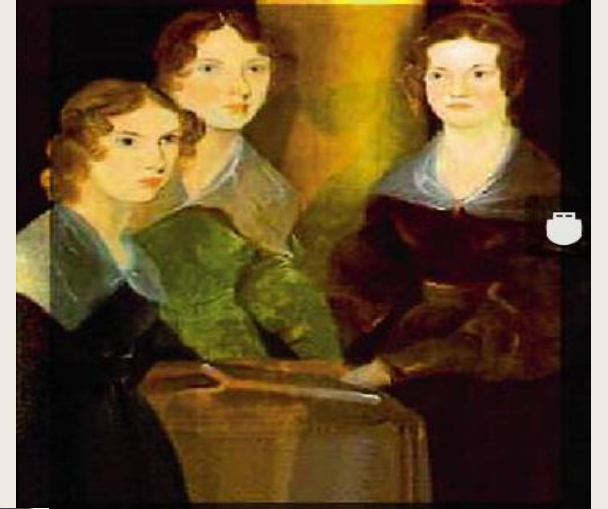
Page 94



**Jane Austen**



**Virginia Woolf**



Charlotte Bronte  
Emily Bronte  
Anne Bronte



**George Eliot**



# 1. *Calling for women's gender equality and independence ;*

## 1) . **Language**: using of genderless language



**man**kind

**hu**man

police**men**

police officer

**man**made

artificial

space**man**

astronaut

**hi**story

**he**rstory **x**

**Man**chester

hystory **x**

**king**dom

## 2) Adding Gender Marks (有社会性别的标记)

*eg. Do not grumble against one another, **brothers**.*

Do not grumble against one another, ***brothers and sisters***.

***Q: Which of the following is marked with female's gender role ?***

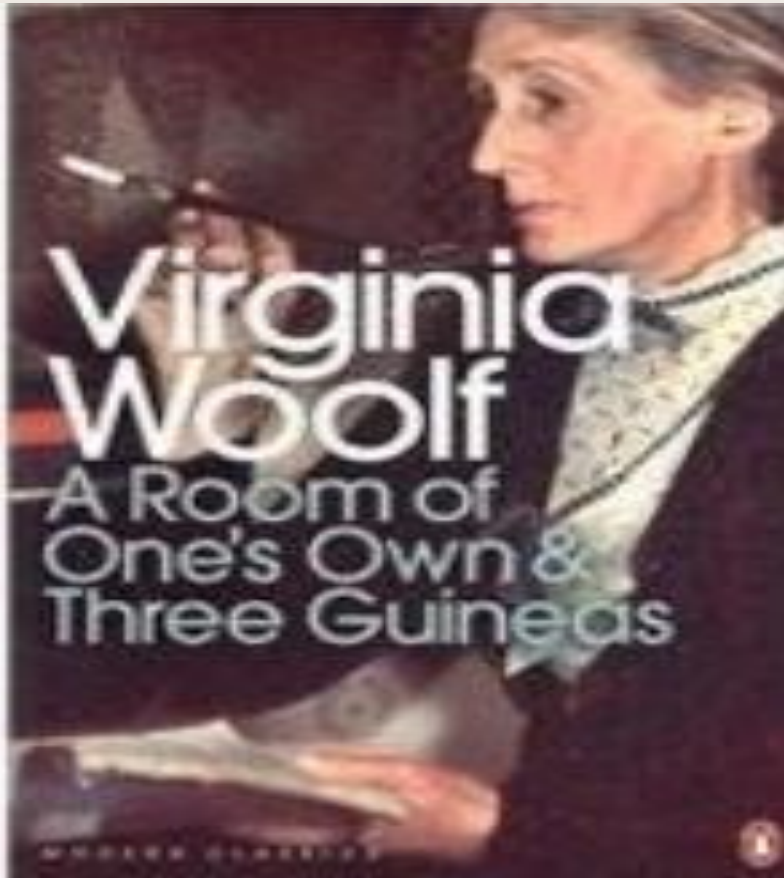
- A. From each according to **his** ability, to each according to **his** needs
- B. From each according to **his/her** ability, to each according to **his/her** needs
- C. From each according to **men's** ability, to each of us according to **their** need
- D. From each according to **one's** ability, to each according to **his** needs.

**B**



# Virginia Woolf

## *A Room of One's Own*




“No gender discrimination in the book”.

“It shows women's values & unique sound through the women's unique language & expressions.”

economic  
independence.

property rights

*“A woman must have money  
and a room of her own ”*

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black jacket and a white fur collar, is shown in a close-up, crying with her eyes closed and mouth open. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with some furniture.

Where do our love & marriage security come from?

house property?

bride-price ?

mutual love & respect

self-reliance

房产证上那个樊胜美那三个字

它是对我爱情的一个保障

是对我未来的婚姻一个安全感

## 2. Calling for women's equality in marriage and family.

### Jane Austen



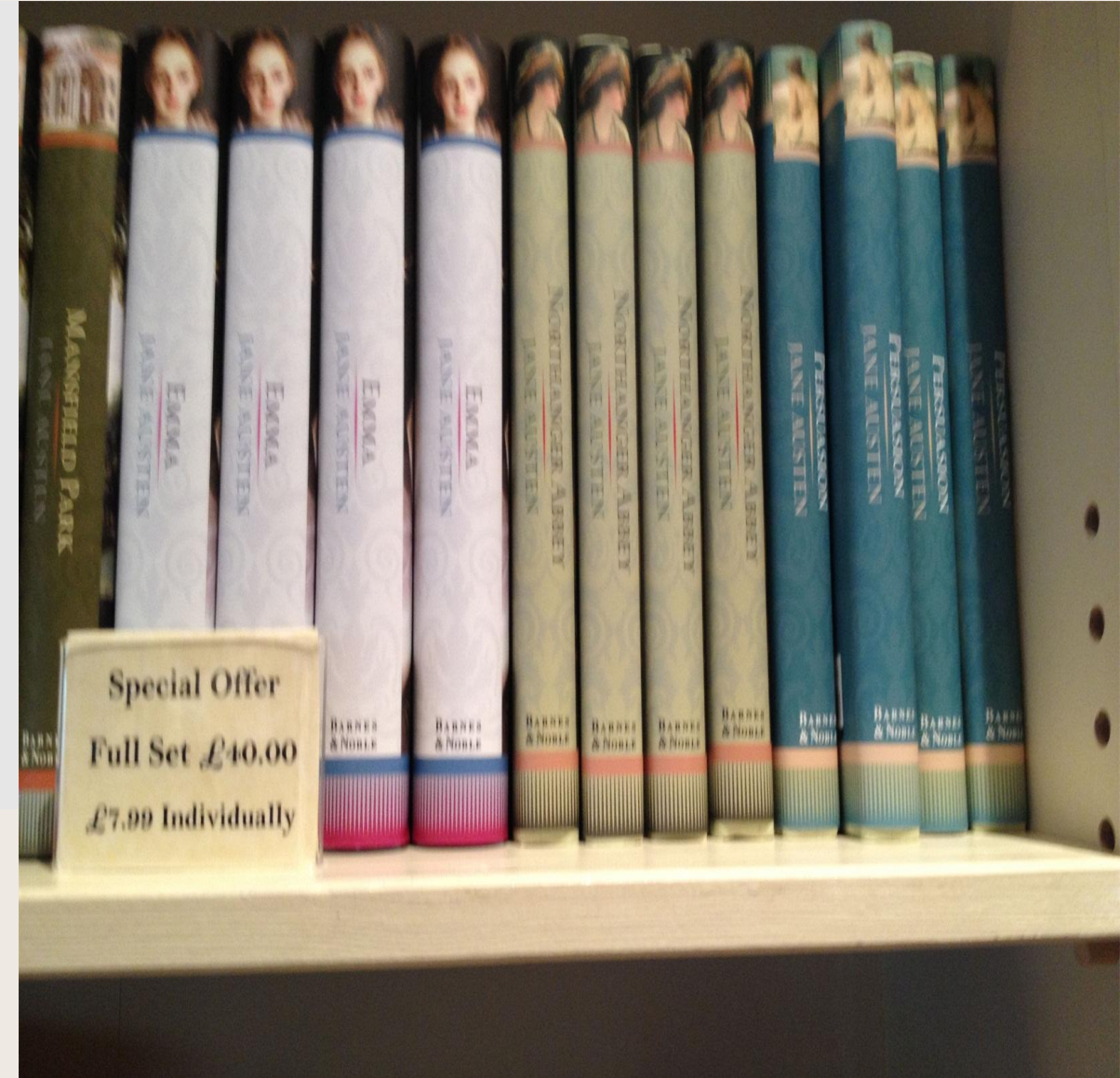
*Pride and Prejudice*

*Sense and Sensibility*

*Emma*,

*Mansfield Park*

*Persuasion*



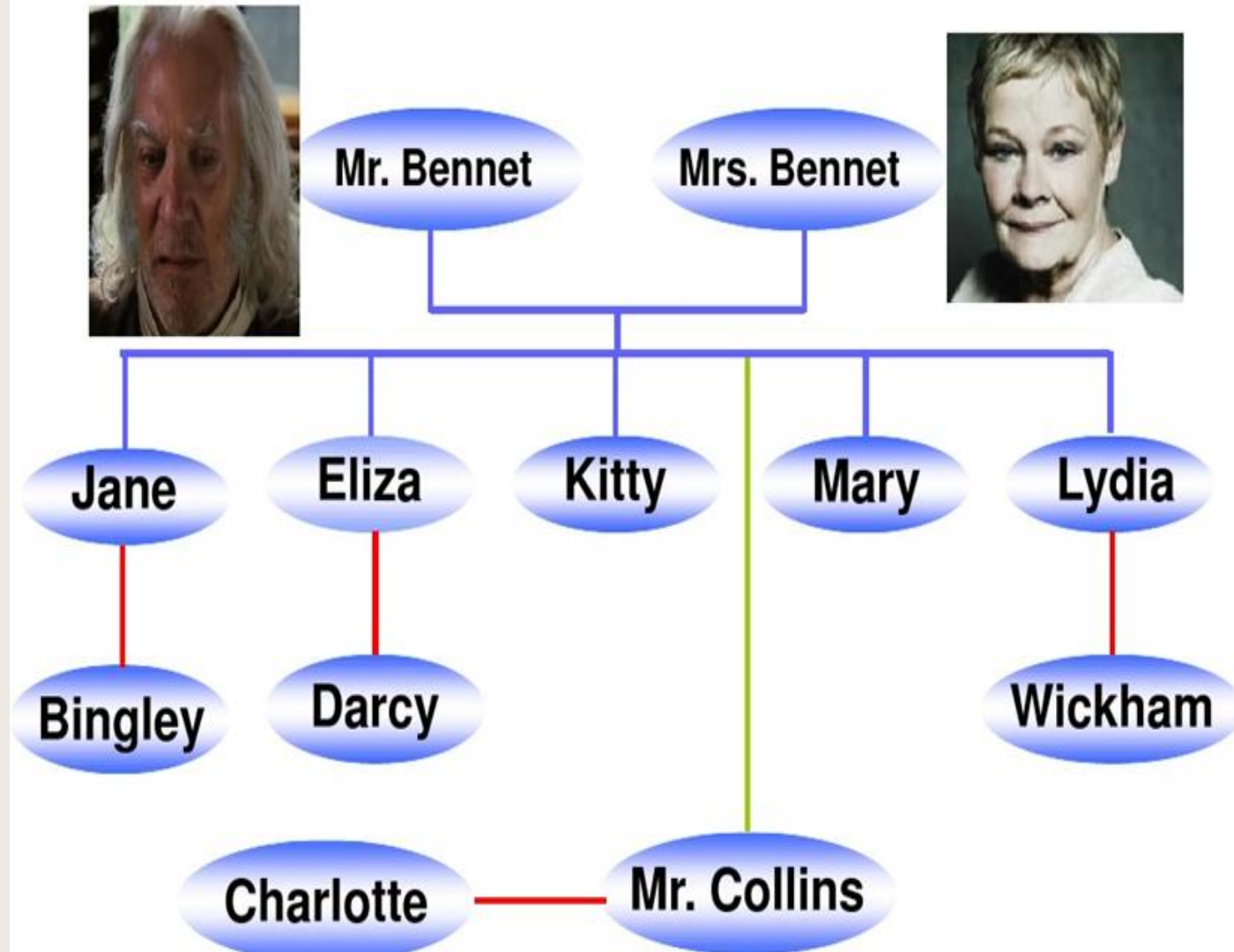


# *Pride and Prejudice*

By Jane Austen P94



## The Role Tree of *Pride and Prejudice*



## Inequality in Entailment 继承权

Eg.2 **Mrs.Bennet:** “Oh! My dear,I cannot bear to hear that mentioned. I do think it is the hardest thing in the world, that your estate (房产) should be entailed (继承) away from your own daughters...”.

*no male heirs*

ownership of real estate

distant cousin

entailment leaves no chance for their genetic daughters

# Inequality in marriage

Eg. 1 “It is a **truth** universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife.”

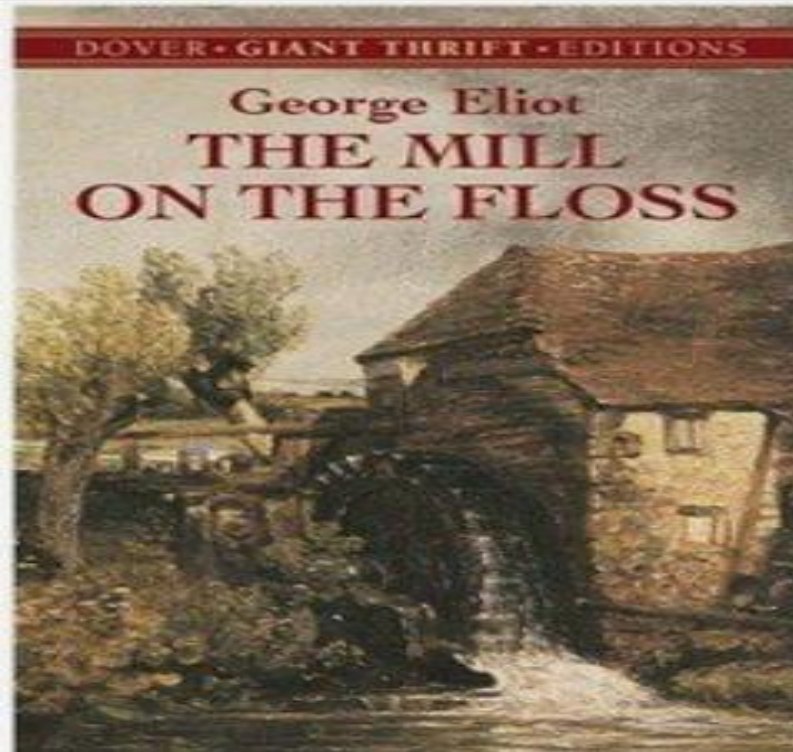
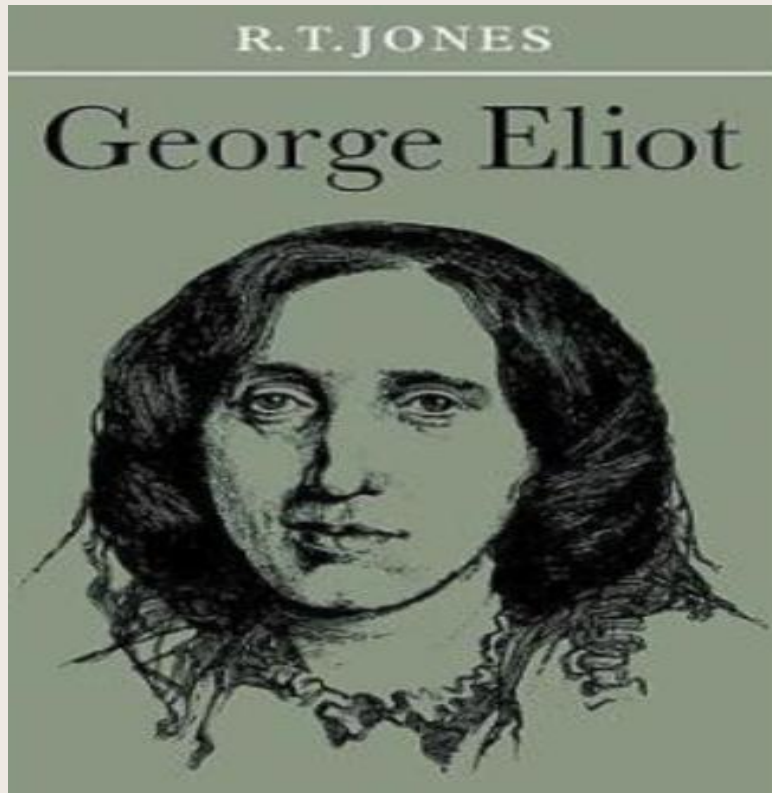
凡是有钱的单身汉，得拥有一位太太，这已成为一条举世公认的真理。

Ornament  
subsidiary



3) *Calling for women's freedom and rights in education, career, economy politics, etc.*

Page 107-108, 109-110



## Test Yourself

C

1. The following novels are a reflection of feminism Except \_\_\_\_\_?

A. *Pride and Prejudice*

B. *Jane Eyre*

C. *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*

D. *The Mill on the Floss*

2. The 1st significant feminist movement of the world broke out in Britain in the late 19th century.

✓

3. The Romanticism period produced a slew of women writers including the Bronte sisters, Jane Austen, Virginia Woolf, they made sound for the oppressed women in the low social position.

✗

4. "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife." The statement implies that marriage is as important as property for both men & women.

✗

5. *The Mill on the Floss* is an autobiographical novel by writer **Charlotte Bronte** during the Industrial Revolution in **Victorian era**. The novel details the lives of the siblings **Tom and Maggie** after their family went bankrupt.



6. *Pride and Prejudice* is an classic **comedy** written by **Jane Austen**, it interprets that **marriage** should be based on the **equality** of each other's personality, thoughts and feelings instead of their wealth and social status.



# III. Text Analysis: Jane Eyre

3.1 The story *Jane Eyre* ( Presentation)

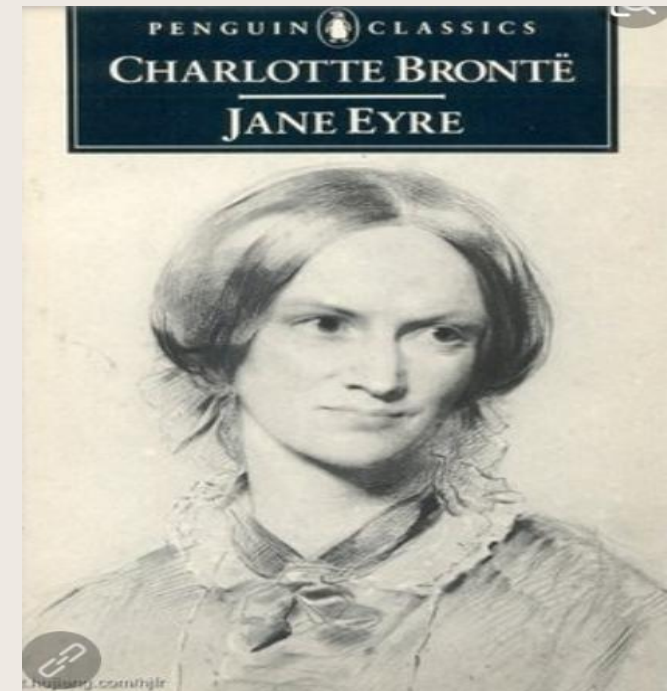
3.3 Text Reading and Understanding

3.3 Role play

3.4 Viewing and Discussing

1) Jane Eyre's Feminist Traits

2) Your View on Women Issue



# Charlotte Brontë

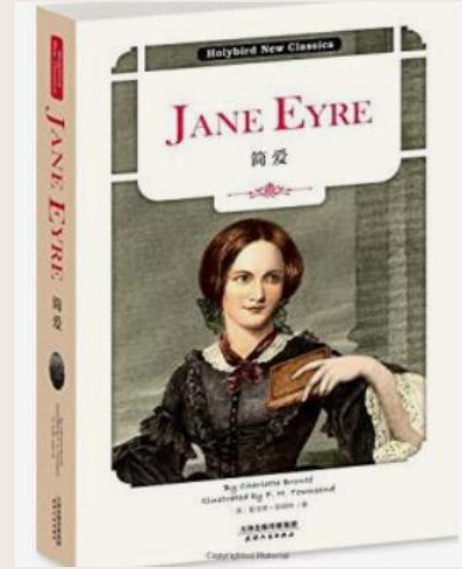
Prototype(范本) of feminist novels.

Fictional autobiography

Speaking for the oppressed women

“Anti-Christian, and vulgar (庸俗的)”

“decidedly the best-loved novel ”





# Your Presentation

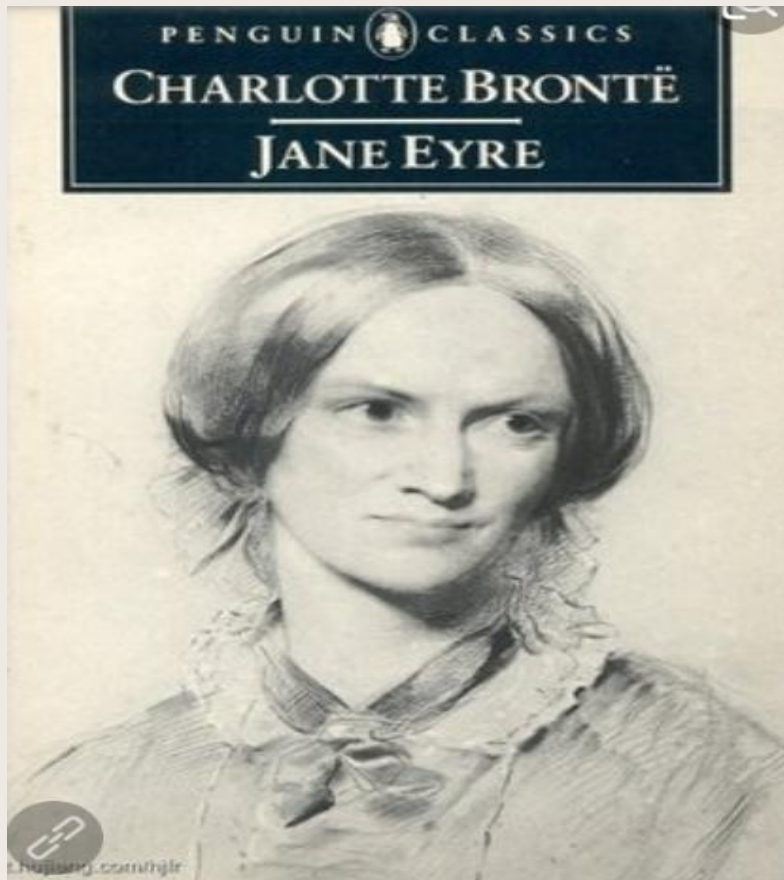
## An Introduction to *Jane Eyre*

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## 3.2 Text Reading ( Page 98)



**Key Question:**

**What feministic traits are there in Jane Eyre**

<http://novel.tingroom.com/html/book/show/13/list.html>

## Scene One (Paras.3-4 )

1. Why could Jane Eyre judge that Mr. Rochester was around?
2. “I knew I might be watched thence;” Who might be watching Jane Eyre?
3. What was Jane Eyre’s reaction when she noticed that Mr. Rochester was around? And why?
4. Why did the author conduct such elaborate description of the plants ?

To create an atmosphere to highlight the protagonist's complex psychological state.

## Scene Two (Paras.5\_10)

1. “*But no—evening is as pleasant to him as to me*”. What does the statement imply? (Pr.5)
2. Why could Rochester find Jane behind since “*Jane made no noise: he had not eyes behind*”? (P7-8)
3. “*I did not like to walk at this hour alone with Mr. Rochester in the shadowy orchard; but I could not find a reason to allege for leaving him.*” Why did Jane feel so? (Pr11)

## Scene 3

1. Why does Rochester promise Jane's leaving?
  - A. He expects Jane to express her love to him honestly
  - B. He doesn't want to keep her because he has had a wife
  - C. He looked down on Jane because she is plain and poor
  - D. It is nature to move on for the hour of repose is expired.A
  
2. Why does Jane think "This was a blow" when Rochester promises her leaving?
  - A. She is greatly disappointed because Rochester doesn't love her at all.
  - B. She is disgraceful because she was abandoned by Rochester.
  - C. She did not know that Rochester just wanted to test her love.
  - D. She was slapped by Rochester.C
  
3. Jane is reluctant to leave Thornfield because she is attached to the people in it. ✓
  
4. Jane wants to leave because Rochester ill-treated her and gave her a blow. ✗

# Paraphrase

*Love and reluctant to leave*



1. 'You must have become in some degree **attached to** the house,- you, who have an eye for natural beauties, and a good deal of the organ of **Adhesiveness** (粘性, 亲和力)

*strong attachment to sb/sw  
emotionally*

'I am attached to it, indeed.'

*understand*

'And though I don't **comprehend** how it is, I perceive you have acquired a degree of **regard** for that foolish little child Adele, too; and even for simple **dame** Fairfax?'

*concern ,care*

*old woman*

# Translation

2. It is always the way of events in this life, 'he continued <sup>place of dwelling</sup> <sup>soon, quickly</sup> presently: 'no sooner have you got settled in a pleasant <sup>resting-place</sup>, than a voice calls out to you to <sup>stand up</sup> rise and move on, for the hour of <sup>rest</sup> repose is expired.' <sup>be due</sup>



## Scene Four

- **Jane:**—'Then you are going to be married, sir?'
- **Rochester:** . 'Ex-act-ly- pre-cise-ly: you have hit the nail straight on the head'"
- **Jane:** 'Soon, sir?'
- **Rochester:** Very soon, my- that is, Miss Eyre: and you'll remember, Jane, the first time I, or Rumour, plainly intimated to you that it was my intention to put my old bachelor's neck into the sacred noose, to enter into the holy estate of matrimony- to take Miss Ingram to my bosom.'In about a month I hope to be a bridegroom.'

Why did Mr. Rochester **cheat** Jane by revealing his engagement(订婚) with Miss Ingram, which actually did not exist?

To test her reaction at the news.

To force Jane to confess her love to him.

## Scene Five

**Rochester:** 'It is a long way to Ireland, Janet, and I am sorry to send my little **friend** on such **weary** travels: but if I can't do better, how is it to be helped? Are you anything **akin**(相似) to me, do you think, Jane?'

*I could risk no sort of answer by this time: my heart was still.*

**Rochester:** "I sometimes have a **queer** feeling with regard to you- especially when you are near me, as now: it is as if I had a string somewhere under my **left ribs**, tightly and inextricably knotted to a similar string situated in the corresponding quarter of your little frame. I've a nervous notion I should take to bleeding inwardly. As for you,- you'd forget me."

1) When Rochester found that Jane decided to leave, what did he say?

2) Will Jane accept his confession of love? What's her reaction?

## Scene six

**Jane:** “ I **grieve** to leave Thornfield: I love Thornfield:- I love it, because I have lived in it a full and delightful life,- momentarily at least. I have not been trampled on. I have not been petrified. I have not been buried with inferior minds, and excluded from every glimpse of communion with what is bright and energetic and high. I have talked, face to face, with what I reverence(尊重), with what I delight in, with an original, a vigorous, an expanded mind. I have known you, Mr. Rochester; **and it strikes me with terror and anguish** (痛苦难受) **to feel I absolutely must be torn from you for ever.** ”

Why does Jane say that she is **grieved** to leave Thornfield?

loving Rochester

loving the kids & dame Fairfax

loving Thornfield

having a full & delightful life

being treated equal,  
being respected, etc.

1. Why does Jane think “*it strikes me with terror and anguish to feel I absolutely must be torn from you forever*”?

A. She loves Rochester

B. She hates Rochester

C. She is not certain of her feeling to Rochester

D. She is tired of staying with Rochester

A



# Translation

I have not been trampled on.

没有人践踏我的尊严，

I have not been petrified.

没有人僵化我的思想。

I have not been buried with inferior minds,  
and excluded from every glimpse of communion

我没有被埋没在低人一等的思想中

with what is bright and energetic and high.

没有人阻止我和那些出色的、有活力且高贵的人交流。

I have talked, face to face, with what I reverence,

with what I delight in, with an original,

a vigorous, an expanded mind.

我已面对面同我所敬重的人、同我所喜欢的人，——同一个独特、有活力、博大的心灵交谈过。

# Scene Seven

**Jane:** “I see the necessity of departure; and it is like looking on the necessity of death.”

**Rochester:** “Where do you see the necessity?”

**Jane:** 'Where? You, sir, have placed it before me.'

**Rochester:** 'In what shape?'

**Jane:**-- 'In the shape of Miss Ingram; a noble and beautiful woman,- your bride.'

**Rochester:** 'My bride! What bride? I have no bride!'

**Jane:**—'But you will have.'

**Rochester:** 'Yes;- I will!'- I will!' He set his teeth.

**Jane:** 'Then I must go:- you have said it yourself.'

**Rochester:** 'No: you must stay! I swear it- and the

oath (誓言) shall be kept '

Why does Jane Eyre say that:  
*“I see the necessity of departure”*?

Rochester's engagement  
with Miss Ingram

What are the traits of feminism  
you find in her response?

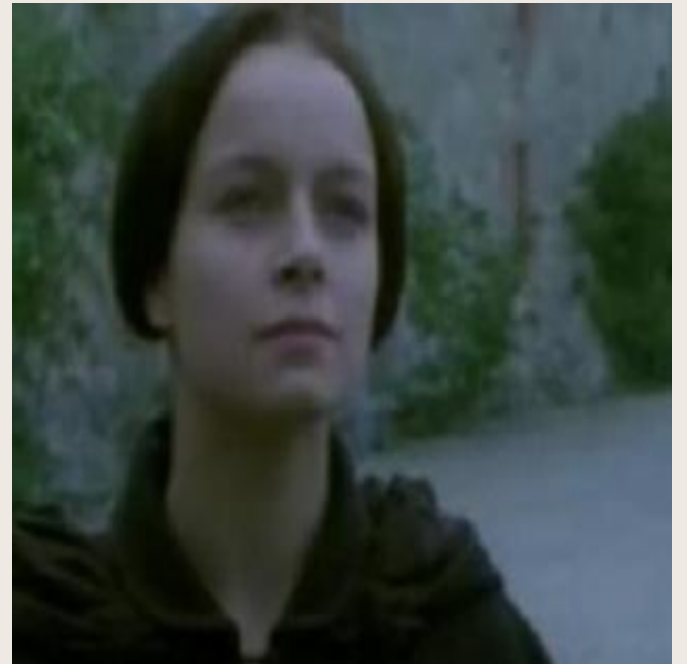
Pursuing true love

Claiming Spiritual Independent &  
equality



## Scene Eight

- 1) Read aloud and answer the question
- 2) What do you find admirable in the characters of Jane Eyre?  
ie, What are her traits of feminism ?



## Jane's Feministic Traits

pursuing good feeling & emotion

Persuing spiritual richness

Rebel social convention and prejudice

Persuing ture love

“Do you think I can stay to become nothing to you? Do you think I am an automaton?—a machine without feelings? and **can bear to have my morsel of bread snatched form my lips, and my drop of living water dashed from my cup?** Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, **I am soulless and heartless?** You think wrong!—I have **as much soul as** you—and **full** as much heart! And if God had gifted me with some beauty and much wealth, I should have made it as hard for you to leave me, as it is now for me to leave you. **I am not talking to you now through the medium of custom, conventionalities, nor even of mortal flesh:** it is my spirit that address your spirit; just as if **both had passed through the grave,** and we stood at God's feet, **equal—as we are!**”

Seeking dignity & self value

Having a recognition of basic rights

For gender equality

Seeking spiritual equality

# Role play



# After-class Assignments

1. Loud reading in QQ

## 2.Exercises

1) According to the story Jane Eyre, give an analysis about her feministic traits. (More than 80 words)

2) Talk about your understanding about gender equality based on the world women's present situation. ( What,why ,how, egs.)

## Read the text into QQ group

“ Do you think I can stay to become nothing to you? Do you think I am an automaton?—a machine without feelings? and can bear to have my morsel of bread snatched from my lips, and my drop of living water dashed from my cup? Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, I am soulless and heartless? You think wrong!—I have as much soul as you—and full as much heart! And if God had gifted me with some beauty and much wealth, I should have made it as hard for you to leave me, as it is now for me to leave you. I am not talking to you now through the medium of custom, conventionalities, nor even of mortal flesh: it is my spirit that address your spirit; just as if both had passed through the grave, and we stood at God's feet, equal — as we are! ”



# After-class Assignments

1. Loud reading in QQ

2.Exercises in Pigainet. 作文号为: 2991002

1) According to the story Jane Eyre, give an analysis about her feministic traits.(More than 80 words)

2) Talk about your understanding about gender equality based on the world women's present situation.(more than 60 words)

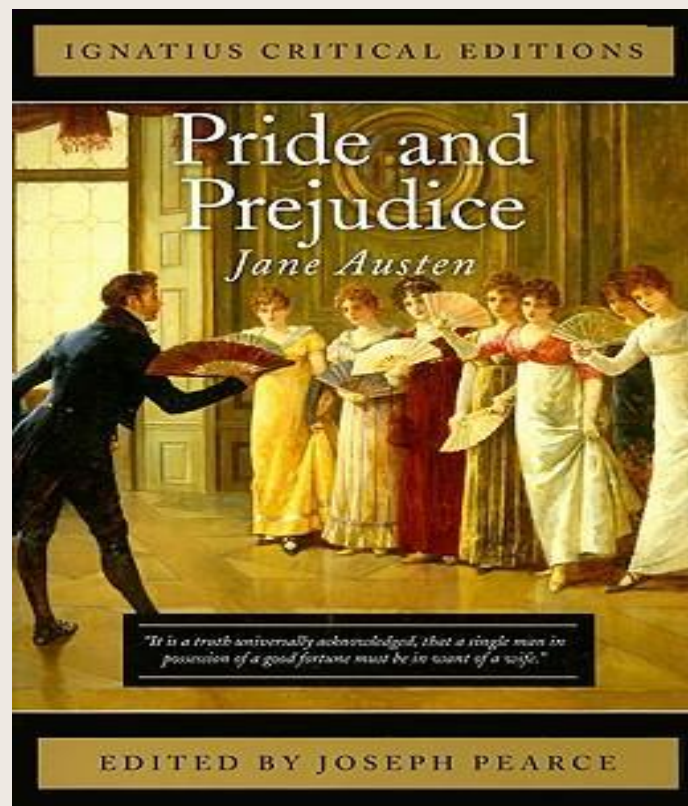


## Charlotte Brontë

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## Pride and Prejudice



李思安

张冠储