

# JANE EYRE (YEAR 9 UNIT 1)

## Terminology

**GENRE** = A style or category of art, music, or literature. Jane Eyre

Is an example of the Gothic Genre.

**ALLUSION**= An **allusion** is a figure of speech that references a person, place, thing, or event. Each of these concepts can be real or imaginary, referring to anything from fiction, to classics, to folklore, to historical events and religious manuscripts.

**SUBTEXT**= The inner meaning of the text– aspects found beneath the surface.

**SYMBOLISM**= A literary device that uses symbols, or marks e.g. A heart for example is a symbol of love.



**FORESHADOWING**= Foreshadowing is a literary device in which a writer gives an advance hint of what is to come later in the story. Foreshadowing often appears at the beginning of a story, or a chapter, and it helps the reader develop expectations about the upcoming events.

**CHARACTER ANALYSIS**=Character analysis is when you evaluate a character's traits, their role in the story, and the conflicts they experience. Authors will also reveal character traits, which are a character's behaviours, motivation, personality types, and their relationships with others throughout the story.



## Context

**Historical Context** :Jane Eyre is set in the north of England sometime in the first half of the nineteenth century. It was first published in 1847. During this period, British society was undergoing slow but significant change. Perhaps most important was the transition from a rural to an industrial economy.

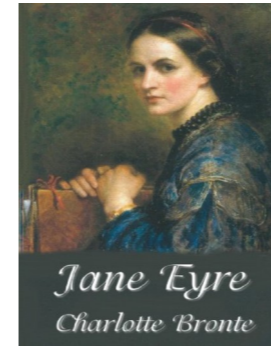
**Role of Women** : Women had few, if any, opportunities to work outside the home, other than being a governess to children. Also women were seen as the weaker gender, and the men in their lives traditionally maintained a level of control over them. Women's rights were minimal at the time, and the novel received criticism at the time due to Jane's portrayal as an independent woman who demanded equality and respect.

**The Church** : The church held great influence and in-depth knowledge of the Bible was extremely important this can be seen in the actions of the character of the pastor St. John.

**The Gothic** : Gothic tradition can be seen in: supernatural encounters, remote locations, complicated family histories, ancient manor houses, dark secrets and mysteries to create an atmosphere of suspense and terror– the plot of the novel contains most of these elements.

## Themes and Key Vocabulary

- Character Development
- Education
- Morality and Ethics
- The Supernatural
- Religion
- The class system
- Race and gender
- The home
- The Gothic
- Self autonomy
- Self-care and respect



### Key Vocabulary:

acrimonious, benevolence, cumbersome, degeneration, emaciated, fastidious, gaunt, haughty, imperious, jubilee, lament, melancholy, noxious, obscure, pompous, quaint, rancid, sequester, tempestuous, unfathomable, vehement, warranted, zeal.



## Key Quotations

**ON THE VALUE AND AUTONOMY OF THE INDIVIDUAL**: "I am no bird; and no net ensnares me; I am a free human being with an independent will."

**SOCIAL CLASS AND WOMEN'S EQUALITY** "Do you think I am an automaton?—a machine without feelings? ....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! ....I am not talking to you now through the medium of custom, conventionalities, nor even of mortal flesh;—it is my spirit that addresses your spirit; just as if both had passed through the grave, and we stood at God's feet, equal,—as we are!"

**ON TRUE BEAUTY** "Most true it is that 'beauty is in the eye of the gazer.'"

**ON SELF-CARE AND RESPECT** "I can live alone, if self-respect, and circumstances require me so to do. I need not sell my soul to buy bliss. I have an inward treasure born with me, which can keep me alive if all extraneous delights should be withheld, or offered only at a price I cannot afford to give."