

Before Reading

BEFORE READING ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 1 BEFORE READING

1 N 2 Y 3 N 4 Y 5 N 6 N

ACTIVITY 2 BEFORE READING

Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the answers are 1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 3a.

While Reading

CHAPTERS 1 TO 3 WHILE READING

- 1 *Dr Grantly / The archdeacon* hoped to become (*the*) *bishop*, so he asked *Mr Harding / his father-in-law* to send a message to the prime minister.
- 2 *Mr Harding's daughter / Eleanor Bold* needed help in caring for *her son / Johnny Bold*, so *her sister-in-law / Mary Bold* had come to live with her.
- 3 *Mr Slope* worked for *the bishop / Dr Proudie* as his chaplain, but shared the same strong passion for power as *the bishop's wife / Mrs Proudie*.
- 4 When *Mr Slope / the bishop's chaplain* gave his first sermon in the cathedral, there were strong reactions: *Dr Grantly / the archdeacon* was furious, *Mr Harding* was miserable about the music, and *the bishop / Dr Proudie* himself was terrified by what *his chaplain / Mr Slope* said.
- 5 *Dr Stanhope* brought his family back from Italy, including *his daughter / Madeline Neroni*, who made all the young men fall in love with her.
- 6 *Mr Slope / The bishop's chaplain* cleverly encouraged *Mr Harding / Eleanor's father* to refuse the post of *warden*, so that it could be offered to *Mr Quiverful / the vicar of Puddingdale*.
- 7 *Bertie Stanhope / Dr Stanhope's son* agreed to the plan, suggested by *his sister / Charlotte Stanhope*, of marrying *Eleanor Bold* for her thousand pounds a year.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 4

Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that only number 4 happens.

CHAPTERS 4 TO 6 WHILE READING

Encourage students to discuss their interpretations of the speakers' words. Some suggested opinions are given below.

- 1 Mrs Grantly to Mr Arabin
This is hinting that she thinks Mr Arabin should get married, and that a wife can help a clergyman in many ways.

- 2 Mr Arabin to Eleanor Bold
This shows he is an impressionable man, and perhaps not very wise in the ways of women; praising one woman (Madeline Neroni) to another (Eleanor Bold) is not always a good idea.
- 3 Mr Quiverful to his wife
This shows he is not a very strong character, not a fighter; he just accepts his fate with sad resignation.
- 4 Mrs Proudie to Mr Slope
This shows her determination to fight, and how she pretends that all decisions are taken by the bishop, when in fact it is she who decides everything.
- 5 Dr Proudie to his wife
This is quite surprising, and shows rare courage on his part in daring to defy his wife, especially at such a tense moment.
- 6 Madeline Neroni to Mr Slope
This shows her scorn for Mr Slope's insincere flattery, and might suggest that she guesses Mr Slope's plan to marry Eleanor for money, and plans to have some fun at Mr Slope's expense.
- 7 Mr Slope to Madeline
This shows that Madeline has great power over Mr Slope, and that Mr Slope is very much outclassed in this battle of wits between the two of them.
- 8 Eleanor to Mr Arabin
This shows how hurt and angry she is that he did not respect her judgement. The strength of her feeling might also suggest that she cares very much what Mr Arabin thinks of her.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 7

Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the answers are 1b, 2a.

CHAPTERS 7 TO 9 WHILE READING

Some suggested answers are given. Encourage students to expand on their opinions of the characters' actions and behaviour.

- 1 When Mr Arabin saw Mr Slope hand Eleanor out of the Stanhopes' carriage, he *should not have assumed that Eleanor had invited Mr Slope to accompany her*.
- 2 When Eleanor made it very clear she wanted to be alone, Mr Slope *should have gone away / should not have persisted*.
- 3 When Mr Slope put his arm round Eleanor's waist, she *was quite right to smack his face*.
- 4 When Charlotte heard from Eleanor about Mr Slope's proposal, she *should not have laughed / should not have used the opportunity to get Bertie to propose*.

- 5 While Charlotte was talking to Madeline about the arrangements for going home, Mr Arabin *should have tried to make more interesting conversation with Eleanor than just asking her about her relations.*
- 6 If Bertie did not really want to marry Eleanor, he *should not have said anything about marriage or Charlotte's plan.*
- 7 When Bertie told Eleanor about Charlotte's plan, he *should not have asked Eleanor to lie for him.*

BEFORE READING CHAPTERS 10 AND 11

Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the true answers, which are 1, 3, 4, 6, 7.

After Reading

ACTIVITY 1 AFTER READING

Open answers. Encourage discussion of the characters.

ACTIVITY 2 AFTER READING

Open answers.

ACTIVITY 3 AFTER READING

Suggested answers:

DR PROUDIE: You really think I should dismiss Mr Slope, my dear?

Mrs Proudie: *Certainly I do. Look at his behaviour with that Neroni woman!*

Dr PROUDIE: Well, to be fair, the Signora is extremely attractive—

Mrs PROUDIE: *Bishop! She is a married woman! Mr Slope should not have anything to do with a married woman!*

Dr PROUDIE: Yes, yes, of course. One forgets there is a husband somewhere.

Mrs PROUDIE: *His behaviour has been disgraceful.*

Dr PROUDIE: Disgraceful, as you say, my dear.

Mrs PROUDIE: *And look at the way he interfered with the appointment of the warden.*

Dr PROUDIE: Interfered, yes, I suppose he did. But perhaps he thought Mr Harding was the right man for—

Mrs PROUDIE: *Nonsense! Mr Quiverful was by far the best choice.*

Dr PROUDIE: Well, well, at least Quiverful is the warden now. Did you want me for something, my dear?

Mrs PROUDIE: *Yes, I did. I want you to send for Mr Slope at once.*

Dr PROUDIE: At once? And what should I say when he comes in?

Mrs PROUDIE: *Tell him to leave your employment and this house as soon as possible.*

Dr PROUDIE: Leave my employment and this house, yes, I think I've got that. What should I say if he asks why, my dear?

Mrs PROUDIE: *He won't dare to ask! But if he does, I shall tell him, very clearly.*

Dr PROUDIE: I expect you will, my dear. I'm sure he will be in no doubt at all about your disapproval.

Mrs PROUDIE: *Are you suggesting, Bishop, that you approve of this disgraceful behaviour? I cannot believe my ears!*

Dr PROUDIE: No, no, of course I do not approve of — of anything. You are absolutely right, my dear, as you always are.

Mrs PROUDIE: *Thank you, Bishop.*

ACTIVITY 4 AFTER READING

- Mr Harding, thinking about Eleanor's engagement to Mr Arabin, which she has just told him about.
- Mrs Quiverful, thinking about the post of warden of Hiram's Hospital, which has been promised to her husband. Mr Slope has just arrived and is talking to Mr Quiverful, and she is anxious to know what the outcome will be.
- Mr Arabin, having just seen Mr Slope and Eleanor arriving together at the Ullathorne party in the Stanhopes' carriage, and assuming they must be close to an engagement.
- Mrs Grantly, thinking about the newcomer to Barchester, Mr Slope. He has just given his sermon in the cathedral, which has greatly angered her husband and other clergy.
- Mr Slope, thinking about Madeline Neroni and the scornful way she treated him on his visit to her a few days after the Ullathorne party, when Eleanor rejected his proposal.

ACTIVITY 5 AFTER READING

The New Dean

We are sure that our readers would like us to give a warm welcome to Mr Francis Arabin of Oxford, who will be the dean of Barchester, following/after the sad death of Dr Trefoil. Although Mr Arabin is single at the moment, we have heard of his recent engagement to a modest and charming young lady/widow. We hope to hear of their marriage/wedding very soon.

Other News

Mr Slope, one of our most capable/intelligent/hard-working and promising young priests, has suddenly decided to resign his post as bishop's chaplain. We will no longer have the pleasure of seeing him in Barchester. Sadly, other/higher/important duties require his presence elsewhere.

Mr Quiverful, new warden of Hiram's Hospital, starts work there on Monday. His wife and family/children are moving into the warden's comfortable house today. Mrs Quiverful said, 'I can't believe it! It's better than my wildest dreams!' We hope they will be very happy there.

ACTIVITY 6 AFTER READING

Open answers. Encourage discussion of students' opinions about the theme of the story, and therefore the titles that they feel would be appropriate or inappropriate for such a theme.