

Name _____

Little Women

Answer the questions below using the R.A.C.E. rubric. Points will be deducted for punctuation and capitalization errors.

1. What is the **setting** of the story at the beginning of Chapter One ?
2. Investigate: Although we are not told the year in which the story takes place we do know that Mr. March has joined the army to fight in the American Civil War. What were the years in which the war was fought?

3. Not many novels have four protagonists as does *Little Women*. To help keep the four sisters (Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy) straight match each with the following descriptions.

	Character	Description
a)		A tomboy
b)		The pet of the family
c)		The eldest
d)		Not gifted with dramatic power
e)		Fifteen years old
f)		“Little Tranquility”
g)		The youngest
h)		Very pretty, plump and fair with large eyes

5. What idea did Beth come up with regarding how to spend their money for Christmas?

6. What clue is there in the first chapter which might indicate that the March family is not as poor as they let on?

7. A simile is a comparison using the words “like” or “as”. An example from Chapter One is, *Meg had a voice like a flute...* In this example, what is Meg's voice being compared to? Is this meant to be a compliment? Why or why not?

8. **Personification** is giving human qualities to something that is not human. The following is an example from Chapter One: *... and Jo wandered through the airs at her own sweet will ...* What makes this personification?

9. What do the girls' actions show about how they feel about Marmee?

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Chapter Five: Being Neighborly

Circle the best answer to each question below.
You may look back in the book if you need to.

1. Which sister preferred to stay inside by the fire when there was snow outside?

- A. Amy
- B. Beth
- C. Jo
- D. Meg

2. Why had Laurie been staying inside during the cold weather?

- A. He didn't like snow.
- B. He was studying for a test.
- C. He was sick with a cold.
- D. He was in trouble.

3. Which sister sent over some kittens to cheer Laurie up?

- A. Amy
- B. Beth
- C. Jo
- D. Meg

4. Who was Mr. Brooke?

- A. Laurie's cousin
- B. Mr. Laurence's butler
- C. Laurie's tutor
- D. Mr. Laurence's gardener

5. What does Jo do to Laurie's room?

- A. Clean it
- B. Mess it up
- C. Paint it
- D. Put flowers in it

6. What effect did Jo's visit have on Laurie?

- A. He stayed sick
- B. He did not like the visit
- C. He felt better
- D. He got grounded

Opinion: Would you rather live in a small house like the March's with four children or a large, fancy house like Laurie's but be an only child? Why?

Predict: Do you think Laurie will turn out to be a good friend? Why or why not?

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Chapter Six: Beth Finds the Palace Beautiful

Using context clues from the story or a dictionary, write the letter from each vocabulary word next to the correct definition as it is used in this book.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| a. indolent | ___ irritable; cranky; ill-tempered |
| b. truant | ___ showing no interest or effort; lazy |
| c. coddling | ___ staying away from school without permission |
| d. rapture | ___ treating someone in an overprotective way |
| e. crochety | ___ a feeling of intense pleasure or joy |

Write *true* or *false* next to each statement below.
You may look back in the book if you need to.

- _____ 1. Mr. Laurence was very kind to the March family and welcomed them into his home.
- _____ 2. The girls enjoyed Laurie's company, but he did not enjoy spending much time with the group of girls.
- _____ 3. **Mr. Laurence used to be a music teacher, so he taught Beth how to play the piano.**
- _____ 4. Mr. Laurence did not want Beth to play the piano in his house because listening to it reminded him of a granddaughter he had lost.
- _____ 5. Beth finally got the courage to go in the large house and play the grand piano when she thought that Laurie and Mr. Laurence were out of the house.
- _____ 6. To pay him for allowing her to play the piano, Beth, with the help of her family, made Mr. Laurence a pair of slippers.
- _____ 7. Mr. Laurence liked the slippers very much and sent over a piano for Beth to keep and play at her house.
- _____ 8. Beth was too shy to go thank the man personally, so she made him a card decorated with flowers from the garden to show her appreciation.

Opinion: Do you think it is better to be rich in love or rich in money? Why?

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Chapter Seven: Amy's Valley of Humiliation

An **antonym** is a word with the opposite meaning as another word.
Draw a line to match the words on the left with an antonym on the right.

revengeful •	• honor
foes •	• friends
disgrace •	• often
conceit •	• humility
seldom •	• forgiving

A **simile** is a comparison of two things using the words *like* or *as*.

*Beth was meek **like a kitten**.*

Beth is being compared to a kitten using the word *like*.

*Mr. Davis was as gruff **as a bear**.*

Mr. Davis is being compared to a bear using the word *as*.

A **metaphor** compares two things without using *like* or *as*.

Marmee's hug was a warm blanket on a cold winter night.

Marmee's hug is being compared to a blanket on a cold night.

Next to the examples below, write S for simile or M for metaphor. Leave it blank if it is neither.

- ___ The world was a stage, and Amy wanted to be the star.
- ___ Beneath his gruff exterior, Mr. Laurence's heart was pure gold.
- ___ Marmee was a great mother to the four girls.
- ___ After working all day, Hannah slept like a newborn baby.
- ___ Beth's cheeks were as red as a tomato.
- ___ The chirping of the birds was Jo's alarm clock.
- ___ Amy was punished at school for disobeying the rules.
- ___ Amy was as angry as a hornet.
- ___ Laurie's praise caused Beth's heart to swell like a balloon.
- ___ Meg's singing was happy and warm like sunshine in the spring.

Write a simile or a metaphor about a character from the book.



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Chapter Eight: Jo Meets Apollyon

Write the correct answer to the questions below.
You may look back in the book if you need to.

1. Who had invited Jo and Meg to go see a play? _____
2. Who was begging to go with them? _____
3. What play were they going to see? _____
4. What did Amy burn that belonged to Jo? _____
5. Who went ice skating together? _____ and _____
6. Who followed them – uninvited – then fell through the ice? _____
7. Who told Jo that she used to have a problem with her anger as much as Jo did? _____
8. Whom did Mother tell Jo she could always count on to help her with her problems and bring her peace, happiness, and strength? _____

Sketch your favorite scene from this chapter with a quote.



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Chapter Nine: Meg Goes to Vanity Fair

Using context clues from the story or a dictionary, write the letter from each vocabulary word next to the correct definition as it is used in this book.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| a. fortnight | ___ not having serious purpose or value |
| b. nonsensical | ___ a period of two weeks |
| c. daunted | ___ childishly annoyed and irritated; sulky |
| d. frivolous | ___ made someone feel intimidated or apprehensive |
| e. petulantly | ___ having no meaning; doesn't make any sense |

Answer each question using a complete sentence.






You may look back in the book if you need to.

1. What did Meg get out of Marmee's treasure box, and what did she want from it that she didn't get?

2. Which sister tries to use big words but mispronounces them?

3. What did Laurie send Meg while she was at the Moffats', and what did he think of her after she had been dressed up by her friends?

4. What did Meg confess to Marmee that she did at the Moffats'?



Opinion: Meg felt that the more one gets, the more one wants.
Do you think this is true? Why or why not?
