

Questions 1 – 10 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

This passage is adapted from Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, published in 1813. Elizabeth is a sister of Jane, a young woman who has fallen ill at Mr. Bingley's residence, which is known as Netherfield.

- Elizabeth passed the chief of the night in her sister's room, and in the morning had the pleasure of being able to send a tolerable answer to the inquiries which she very early received from Mr. Bingley by a housemaid, and some time afterwards from the two elegant ladies who waited on his sisters. In spite of this amendment, however, she requested to have a note sent to Longbourn, desiring her mother to visit Jane, and form her own judgement of her situation. The note was immediately dispatched, and its contents as quickly complied with. Mrs. Bennet, accompanied by her two youngest girls, reached Netherfield soon after the family breakfast.
- Had she found Jane in any apparent danger, Mrs. Bennet would have been very miserable; but being satisfied on seeing her that her illness was not alarming, she had no wish of her recovering immediately, as her restoration to health would probably remove her from Netherfield. She would not listen, therefore, to her daughter's proposal of being carried home; neither did the apothecary, who arrived about the same time, think it at all advisable. After sitting a little while with Jane, on Miss Bingley's appearance and invitation, the mother and three daughters all attended her into the breakfast parlour. Bingley met them with hopes that Mrs. Bennet had not found Miss Bennet worse than she expected.
- "Indeed I have, sir," was her answer. "She is a great deal too ill to be moved. Mr. Jones says we must not think of moving her. We must trespass a little longer on your kindness."

"Removed!" cried Bingley. "It must not be thought of. My sister, I am sure, will not hear of her removal."

"You may depend upon it, Madam," said Miss Bingley, with cold civility, "that Miss Bennet will receive every possible attention while she remains with us."

Mrs. Bennet was profuse in her acknowledgments.

"I am sure," she added, "if it was not for such good friends I do not know what would become of her, for she is very ill indeed, and suffers a vast deal, though with the greatest patience in the world, which is always the way with her, for she has, without exception, the sweetest temper I have ever met with. I often tell my other girls they are nothing to *her*. You have a sweet room here, Mr. Bingley, and a charming prospect over the gravel walk. I do not know a place in the country that is equal to Netherfield. You will not think of quitting it in a hurry, I hope, though you have but a short lease."

"Whatever I do is done in a hurry," replied he; "and therefore if I should resolve to quit Netherfield, I should probably be off in five minutes. At present, however, I consider myself as quite fixed here."

"That is exactly what I should have supposed of you," said Elizabeth.

"You begin to comprehend me, do you?" cried he, turning towards her.

"Oh! yes—I understand you perfectly."

"I wish I might take this for a compliment; but to be so easily seen through I am afraid is pitiful."

"That is as it happens. It does not follow that a deep, intricate character is more or less estimable than such a one as yours."

70 “Lizzy,” cried her mother, “remember where you are, and do not run on in the wild manner that you are suffered to do at home.”

“I did not know before,” continued Bingley immediately, “that you were a studier of character.

75 It must be an amusing study.”

“Yes, but intricate characters are the *most* amusing. They have at least that advantage.”

1

Over the course of the passage, the primary focus shifts from

- A) A family dynamic to a heated argument
- B) A cordial meal to a description of an estate
- C) A character’s health to a lighthearted conversation
- D) A deceptive plot to a romantic exchange

2

As it is used in line 1, *chief* most nearly means:

- A) Leader
- B) Majority
- C) Head
- D) Native

3

In lines 15 – 22, the author suggests that Mrs. Bennet sees Jane’s illness as:

- A) An alarming emergency that must be taken seriously
- B) An expected part of an overall chronic condition
- C) A miserable experience for everyone involved
- D) An opportunity for Jane to stay at Netherfield longer.

4

Which of the following statements about Mr. Bingley would the narrator most likely agree?

- A) He is an overly emotional man who should better control his feelings
- B) He is a considerate man who shows care for others
- C) He is too hasty in his decisions
- D) He should spend more time at Netherfield

5

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 27 – 29 (“Bingley... expected.”)
- B) Lines 46 – 48 (“for she... met with.”)
- C) Lines 55 – 59 (“Whatever... minutes.”)
- D) Lines 62 – 63 (“You... her.”)

6

In lines 31-34, it can be inferred that

- A) Mrs. Bennet is clueless as to what is actually happening
- B) Miss Bennet’s illness is spiraling out of control
- C) Mrs. Bennet values Mr. Jones’ judgment
- D) The Bennets are unwelcome at Netherfield

7

Compared to his sisters, Mr. Bingley is depicted as being more:

- A) Aloof
- B) Warm
- C) Educated
- D) Standoffish

8

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 10 – 14
- B) Lines 34 – 38
- C) Lines 42 – 47
- D) Lines 55 – 59

9

Elizabeth's comments in lines 67 – 69 are best understood to mean

- A) Character judgments are difficult to follow
- B) Deep characters are the most valuable types of character
- C) Mr. Bingley has a simple character
- D) Elizabeth is an expert at judging character

10

As it is use in line 72, "suffered" most nearly means

- A) In pain
- B) Agonize
- C) Indifferent
- D) Allow

Answer Key

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. B
5. A
6. C
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. D

