

Virginia Woolf

Mrs Dalloway

Pages 8-9

- 1 *Suggested words:* dancing, food, gossip, guests, dinner, music, elegant (clothes), wine, cars, taxis, smoking, Lords/Ladies,
- 5 Clarissa thinks about her limited education, how little she knows about the world and how there is so much going on in it that it is frightening and dangerous to try to get through just one day.
- 6 *Suggested answer:* The author wants the book to be about Clarissa Dalloway herself, not about something external like her party. She uses the event as a means of showing us various sides to Clarissa's personality and her interaction with some of the other characters in the novel.

Pages 20-23

- 1 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 T 6 F 7 F 8 T
- 2 On the day of her party in Westminster, Clarissa Dalloway (1) **decided** to go to the florist's to (2) **choose** the flowers herself. As she (3) **walked** through the streets, she remembered a happy time at her family home when she was eighteen, and she also (4) **thought** about her old friend Peter Walsh, whom she (5) **had refused** to marry. In St James's Park, Clarissa was (6) **surprised** to meet another old friend, Hugh Whitbread, who (7) **assured** her that he and his wife (8) **would be** at the party. While she was looking at the flowers in the shop, Clarissa (9) **heard** a loud noise outside; a large motor-car had stopped opposite and seemed to be (10) **carrying** a very important passenger. Eventually the car (11) **drove** away and went towards St James's. Meanwhile, Septimus Warren Smith and his Italian wife Rezia, who had seen the car, went to (12) **sit** in Regent's Park. Rezia was unhappy because her husband just (13) **stared** ahead of him and did not talk to her; she also (14) **realised** that she (15) **missed** her homeland. They and other people watched a (16) **flying** above them, which (17) **poured out** white smoke to publicise a toffee product.
- 3 1 Clarissa Dalloway (on meeting Hugh Whitbread in St James's Park) 2 Miss Pym (in Mulberry's the florist's) 3 Septimus Warren Smith (to his wife Rezia) 4 Hugh Whitbread (to Clarissa) 5 Maisie Johnson 6 Rezia Warren Smith
- 4 *Suggestions:*

Clarissa's Past	Clarissa's Present	Clarissa's Future
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bourton, as a girl of 18 - serious (something terrible going to happen?) - Hugh Whitbread - not marrying Peter Walsh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - walks to florist's - loves life, activity in London, this time of year - considers her daughter Elizabeth's relationship with Miss Kilman - believes she knows who is in the dove-grey car 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - she will "survive" after her death - hopes Elizabeth will stop her friendship with Miss Kilman

- 5 1 Rezia was worried that people might have heard Septimus saying/announcing that he would kill himself. 2 Dr Holmes wanted Rezia to encourage Septimus to become interested in the outside world. 3 Clarissa really wanted to have the same attitude as Richard, who did things for their essential value. 4 Clarissa wondered whether it was important that she would die and that everything would continue without her.
- 7 *Suggested ideas:* Both Clarissa and Septimus feel isolated and alone in their marriage and there is a similar distance from their respective partners. For Clarissa, it is Richard's political career and his character which have caused this; for Septimus, the lasting effects of the First World

War have resulted in his alienation from Rezia. Richard is portrayed as being less passionate than Peter Walsh, whom Clarissa *could* have married but chose not to; Rezia is a passionate Italian woman who feels displaced amongst the English.

10 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 F 5 T 6 F 7 F 8 T

Pages 34-37

1 1 Lucy said, "Can I help to mend that dress?" 2 Mrs Dalloway said, "You have enough on your hands already." 3 Peter said, "I only reached London last night. I will have to go to the country at once." 4 Clarissa said, "Do you mind my just finishing what I am doing to my dress? For we have a party tonight." 5 Peter said, "The lawyers and solicitors are going to do it."

2 CLARISSA

blessed, purified, (suddenly) aged, cold with excitement, (face) delicate, glad, shy, shocked, embarrassed, alone, (voice) frail, thin, far away

SALLY

extraordinary beauty, dark, large-eyed, abandonment, powerful personality, (voice) beautiful

3 1 Sally Seton, while staying at Bourton; the guests go outside and then Sally kisses Clarissa.

2 Peter Walsh, arriving unexpectedly at the Dalloways' house; he goes into the drawing-room and surprises Clarissa. 3 Elizabeth, interrupting Clarissa and Peter Walsh's discussion in the drawing-room; Peter rushes out, saying goodbye, and leaves. 4 Lucy, trying to give Mrs Dalloway a message; Clarissa reads the message on her telephone pad. 5 Clarissa, complimenting Lucy; she gives her an old cushion to get rid of.

4 (*Missing words in bold*) 1 When Clarissa realised that she had not been invited **to** lunch **by** Lady Bruton, she tried not **to** feel disappointed. 2 Clarissa wondered about the difference **between** falling in love with a man and with a woman. 3 Clarissa stopped **at** the top of the stairs to listen to the preparations **for** her party. 4 Clarissa could not believe **her** eyes when her old friend Peter Walsh came **in(to)** the room. 5 Peter became more and more irritated **at/by** Clarissa because **of** her situation and lifestyle. 6 Peter ran **out of** the room when Elizabeth interrupted his conversation **with** Clarissa.

5 1 Clarissa feels disappointed about not being invited to Lady Bruton's luncheon and she also feels lonely, particularly now that she usually rests and sleeps in the attic room, as instructed by Richard and by her doctor. This small room is now at the heart of her life – and she feels its emptiness.

2 Clarissa has just mentioned her party to Peter; he has put out his hand to her and then pulled back. Now she looks at him, thinking about their shared past (at Bourton) and she is not sure exactly which emotion she is experiencing, now that he has suddenly reappeared: is it regret at what did not happen between them (marriage), or relief, or something she has not felt for a very long time. Whatever the emotion, it makes her look at him "*doubtfully*".

3 At an extremely emotional moment in their surprise meeting, Peter asks Clarissa directly whether she is happy in her marriage to Richard – but he is about to be interrupted in the next instant by the arrival of Clarissa's daughter, Elizabeth. Peter will then leave in a hurry, leaving their conversation unfinished. 4 Clarissa was aware of feeling her age in Chapter One and here again she thinks about how old she is – especially just after remembering times at Bourton. This time, however, she is momentarily positive – immediately before this thought, she says to herself "*She was not old yet*". 5 Clarissa is remembering Sally Seton's character from her days at Bourton; she indirectly compares herself to Sally by recalling her ability to say and do anything ("*abandonment*"). There is a tone of regret here, perhaps also envy.

6 1 T 2 F 3 T 4 F 5 T (*possible interpretation*) 6 F 7 F ("*And then in a second it was over.*") 8 T

7 **CLARISSA:** hard, sentimental, insincere, cold, arrogant, unimaginative, maternal

RICHARD: awkward

PETER: emotional, empty, sad, happy

THE WOMAN: attractive, young, enchanting, delightful

ELIZABETH: strange-looking, big, grown-up, handsome

Pages 48-51

1 1 Peter **decided** that Elizabeth was strange-looking and that she couldn't be more than eighteen. 2 Sally Seton **asked** whether it made any real difference to one's feelings to know that before they'd married she had had a baby. 3 Peter **was convinced** that she/Clarissa would marry that man/Richard. 4 Peter **insisted** on Clarissa telling him the truth./Peter insisted that Clarissa tell him the truth. 5 Clarissa **told** Peter that it was no use; it/that was the end. 6 Peter **made up his mind** that he would try and speak to Elizabeth alone that night.

- 2** **1** Peter, referring to Clarissa's character – how it has changed from when he knew her at Bourton to now, in her married life with Richard Dalloway. **2** Trafalgar Square: Peter has seen an "extraordinarily attractive" young woman and he has decided to follow her – without intending to approach her and talk to her **3** Peter is remembering Regent's Park as a child, which surprises him as a man, since he believes that it is women who are more attached to what has happened in the past and where. **4** Peter is dreaming in Regent's Park. His dream is about a "solitary traveller journeying through a forest". **5** Bourton, summer: Clarissa has just reacted very snobbishly to a story about a man who had married his housemaid. Her mood changes dramatically when she sees her dog. **6** Bourton, summertime, at dinner: Clarissa has just talked to Peter "as if they had never met before", like the perfect hostess he has always said she would become. He thinks about this and recognises her social skills. **7** Bourton, after dinner: Clarissa and her friends decide to go boating. She goes back inside the house to fetch Peter – and he is delighted at "her generosity – her goodness". **8** Bourton: the scene at the fountain, when Clarissa tells Peter that their intimate friendship is over.
- 3** **1** weep **2** feel **3** move
- 4** **1** T **2** F – Clarissa and a few other people know that he is back. **3** F – if she stops, he will ask her to go and have an ice-cream with him. **4** T **5** F – Peter falls asleep. **6** T **7** T **8** F – he felt as if she had hit him in the face. **5** B, E, D, F, H, A, G, C
- 6** (*Suggested version in the Present, although can be in the Past*)
Peter Walsh **leaves** Clarissa's house and **wonders** why Clarissa spends her time **giving** parties. He **believes** that she **has become** conventional in her middle age. He also **feels** embarrassed about **weeping** at Clarissa's.
A group of teenage boys **marches** past him and he **tries** to **keep** up with them. Then he **sees** a beautiful young woman and **decides** to **follow** her. When she **goes** inside her house, Peter **walks** to Regent's Park to **find** a bench on which to **relax**. He **falls** asleep. He **wakes** up and **thinks** about the time at Bourton when Clarissa **rejects** him.
- 7** **BEFORE THE WAR:** innocent, lean- and hostile-faced, shy, stammering, anxious, weakly-looking, **AFTER THE WAR:** the happiest and most miserable man in the world, half-educated and self-educated, mechanical, melodramatic, insincere

Pages 62-65

- 1** (*Missing words in bold*) **1** Lucrezia decided to go back **to** Milan so that she would not suffer any more. **2** After five years away **in** India, Peter noticed how people behaved differently. **3** Nobody believed that Hugh Whitbread had kissed the penniless Sally Seton **in the** smoking-room! **4** **At** work, Mr. Brewer wanted Septimus **to** stay healthy by taking up football. **5** **In** Italy, Rezia liked **the** English because they were so silent. **6** Dr Holmes refused to accept that Septimus was ill **and** said **that** there was nothing **the** matter.
- 2** **1** Rezia could not take/tolerate it any longer. **2** Sally hated Hugh for some reason; there was something about him which she did not like. **3** Five hundred pounds a year would not be enough for Peter and Daisy to survive on. **4** Clarissa was able to create a world around her, which was extraordinary. **5** Clarissa's relaxed and distant manner made Peter very frustrated. **6** Septimus was very keen to widen his knowledge. **7** He was one of the first men to join the Army. **8** Human nature said that such a bad person should die.
- 3** (*Suggested answer*)
THE SMITHS' MARRIAGE: lonely, unhappy/miserable, silent, insincere (Septimus),
THE DALLOWAYS: distant, lonely, loving, formal, social
- 5** **1** Rezia, when Septimus takes her hand and notices that she has taken off her wedding ring
2 Sally Seton, arguing at Bourton with Hugh Whitbread **3** Peter, telling himself that he is not in love with Clarissa any more, simply that he was thinking about her constantly after seeing her again
4 Septimus, watching Rezia sitting at the table working on her hats **5** Dr. Holmes, talking to Septimus **6** Septimus, when Dr. Holmes comes into the room
- 6** **1** T **2** T **3** F – Mrs. Hugh is a mouse-like little woman. Sally is wild, daring and romantic
4 F – he is only two years older **5** F – Peter *thinks* that he is no longer in love with her
6 T **7** T **8** F – Septimus considers him "a damned fool".
- 7** **1** Lucrezia Warren Smith **thought** that it was wicked. **2** She **informed** him that she had put the ring in her purse. **3** She **commented** that he thought of nothing but his own appearance.
4 She **was convinced** that it was the hat that mattered most. **5** Mr Brewer **insisted** that he had done his duty and that it was up to them.
- 9** **1** dismiss **2** proportion **3** weariness **4** deserted **5** sob **6** rug

Pages 76-79

- 1** 1 Sir William Bradshaw to Septimus, while making notes about him 2 Septimus to Sir William, responding to his question about financial worries 3 Rezia to Sir William, when he suggests a rest home for Septimus 4 Septimus to Rezia, as they leave Sir William's 5 Lady Bradshaw, talking about her husband during a dinner 6 Rezia, talking about Sir William as she and Septimus walk down Harley Street
- 2** (*Missing words in bold*) 1 When the Warren Smiths came into his room, Sir William Bradshaw saw that this was a case **of** extreme gravity. 2 Septimus felt that human nature had condemned him **to** death. 3 Sir William told Rezia that she would have to stay away **from** her husband. 4 Rezia felt that she and Septimus had been abandoned **by** Sir William. 5 Sir William had thirty years of experience **as** a doctor with a sense of proportion. 6 Fifteen years ago Lady Bradshaw had sacrificed her will **for** the sake **of** her husband's ambition.
- 3** 1 F - they have an appointment at 12 o'clock 2 T 3 F - he has a deep prejudice against cultivated people 4 T 5 T 6 F - fifteen years ago she would go salmon-fishing 7 F - some patients call him insincere 8 F - Rezia told Septimus that she did not like him
- 4** 1 Sir William asked whether Septimus had served with great distinction in the War. 2 Rezia told the doctor that he had been promoted. 3 Rezia insisted that Septimus had not meant to kill himself. 4 Sir William informed Septimus that they would teach him to rest. 5 Sir William assured Septimus that he had a brilliant career before him.
- 5** 1 the income from Sir William Bradshaw's work, which would give him and Lady Bradshaw a financially comfortable life 2 The number of patients and the considerable responsibility of his work made Sir William seem a very important person in company. 3 Sir William notes that Septimus repeated words and seemed to give them a special meaning. 4 Sir William is talking to Rezia and insisting that he never hurries his patients - an ironic observation, since he is doing exactly that with the Warren Smiths. 5 Lady Bradshaw had "gone under" 15 years ago - she had surrendered her will and her person to her husband, Sir William - but it had been so subtle that it was not possible to say exactly when and how. 6 the exciting fresh air of Harley Street, where Sir William practised, was not "available" to his patients, who went to stay in one of his special rest homes
- 6** (*Suggested version in the Present, although can be in the Past*)
Septimus and Rezia **are** walking **down Harley Street** for a twelve o'clock appointment with Sir William Bradshaw. They see a **grey** motor-car outside his house. When Sir William first **sees** Septimus, he **realises** it is a serious case. Septimus tells him that he **has** been seeing Dr Holmes for **six weeks**. Sir William tells Rezia in **private** that Septimus **will need** plenty of rest in one of his homes in the **country**. She would **not** be able to visit him **during that time**. Septimus was very **unhappy** at this suggestion and Sir William says that he will make all the arrangements. Rezia and Septimus leave and she **decides** that she **does not like** Sir William **at all**. It is **half** past one when they are in Oxford Street.
- 7a** 1 magnificent - magnificence 2 unsuccessful - failure (or lack of success) 3 memorable - memorability 4 poor - poverty 5 contemplative - contemplation 6 silent - silence
- 7b** 1 affection - affectionately 2 deception - deceptively 3 miracle - miraculously 4 happiness - happily 5 person - personally

Pages 90-93

- 1** 1 Richard suggested they sit down for five minutes. 2 Lady Bruton suddenly asked whether they knew who was in town. 3 He confirmed that Peter Walsh had come back. 4 Lady Bruton insisted that they would hear the story from Peter himself. 5 Clarissa told Elizabeth that Kilman had arrived just as they had finished lunch.
- 2** 1 Although Hugh always brought flowers, Lady Bruton preferred Richard Dalloway. 2 Hugh was afraid (**that**) he would not be able to find a permanent job for Peter because **of** a flaw in his character. 3 After Hugh had finished **the** letter **to** the *Times*, Lady Bruton was enthusiastic and called **it** a masterpiece. 4 Richard wanted to give Clarissa **a** bunch **of** flowers and tell her that he loved **her**.
- 4** 1 had been doing badly 2 produced 3 was very fond of 4 dressed to match 5 reflected 6 as if he were about to...
- 5** 1 Lady Bruton to Hugh Whitbread and Richard Dalloway 2 Hugh Whitbread (at lunch) 3 Richard Dalloway to Lady Bruton 4 Clarissa (after reading Mrs. Marsham's note) 5 Richard to Clarissa 6 Clarissa to Richard

- 6** 1 F 2 T 3 T 4 F - from one-thirty to two o'clock the traffic stops because of luncheons 5 F - she knows it already 6 F - they just don't know how to say good-bye 7 T 8 T
- 7** 1 clearly 2 imperfect 3 exuberant 4 frustratedly 5 untrained 6 seemingly
- 8** (*Synonyms in bold*) 1 She was quite **unconscious** that she was being **watched** 2 She **could not bear** to see them together. 3 People who **shared** her views... 4 She **could not afford** to buy pretty clothes 5 She had almost **burst into tears**... 6 She had **had to go**.

Pages 104-107

- 1** 1 At her age, Miss Kilman did not dress to please people. 2 When Clarissa saw the old lady opposite, she wanted to cry. 3 Miss Kilman felt that Mrs Dalloway had wasted her life. 4 Elizabeth much preferred to be left alone in the country.
- 2** 1 Miss Kilman (about Mrs Dalloway) 2 Mrs Dalloway to Miss Kilman 3 Miss Kilman to Elizabeth 4 Clarissa to Elizabeth 5 Elizabeth (sitting on the bus) 6 Miss Kilman to Elizabeth
- 3** 1 Miss Kilman **thought** that Clarissa Dalloway was a fool and had wasted her life. 2 Clarissa (leant over the banisters and) **reminded** Elizabeth about the party. 3 Miss Kilman **insisted** that she never went to parties. 4 Doris Kilman **asked** Elizabeth not to forget her altogether. 5 Miss Kilman **told** Elizabeth that she had not quite finished yet.
- 4a** 1 converse 2 suffer 3 please 4 see 5 breathe 6 have breakfast
- 4b** 1 traditional 2 interesting 3 sorrowful 4 comfortable 5 religious 6 impulsive
- 5** 1 F - Miss Kilman is younger 2 F - Her family comes from Germany 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 T - that's what Elizabeth thinks 7 T 8 F - they held public service without being brilliant
- 6a** (*Suggestions*)
sinister, strange, extraordinary, shocked, touching, terrible, determined, difficult, alone, charming, beautiful, serene, bored, odd, busy, lazy
- 8** 1 the Strand 2 fair 3 lately 4 burst into the room 5 collided with 6 considered 7 putting 8 moved off

Pages 118-121

- 1** 1 T 2 T 3 F - Septimus wanted her to read Shakespeare (in English) 4 T 5 F - he hears the ambulance but doesn't know what has happened 6 F - it is in a blue envelope 7 T 8 T
- 2a** 1 inconvenient 2 efficient 3 regrettable 4 theoretical 5 enviable
- 2b** 1 melancholy 2 bravery 3 certainty 4 upset 5 contentedness
- 4** 1 Septimus looked proudly at Rezia, who turned the hat on the tips of her fingers. 2 When people stopped to let the ambulance pass, Peter was impressed. 3 If Peter had married Clarissa, it would not have been a success. 4 Peter decided to go to Clarissa's party so that he could ask Richard Dalloway about the situation in India.
- 5** 1 b 2 f 3 e 4 d 5 c 6 a
- 6a** 1 ordinary 2 inconceivable 3 subtle 4 bald 5 off
- 6c** 1 dug 2 took off 3 hesitated 4 rushing out 5 gave up
- 7** 1 Septimus **noticed** that the hat was too small for Mrs. Peters. 2 He **wondered** what right Bradshaw had to say 'must' to him. 3 Holmes **assured** her that he had come as a friend. 4 She **decided** that she would not allow him to see her husband. 5 Dr. Holmes **insisted** that they should let her sleep.
- 8** 1 Clarissa (at the party) 2 Sally to Clarissa 3 Mrs. Hilbery to Clarissa 4 Mrs. Bradshaw to Clarissa 5 Peter to Sally 6 Richard Dalloway to his daughter

Pages 132-133

- 1a** 1 enjoyment 2 laughter 3 murmur 4 criticism 5 dislike 6 anticipation
- 1b** 1 intimacy 2 devotion 3 precision 4 charm
- 2** 1 T 2 T 3 F - everybody pretends not to be interested. 4 F - she is crying because she is thinking about her mother. 5 T 6 T 7 F - he plays with his pocket-knife when he is excited. 8 T
- 3** 1 She **remarked** how awfully good it was of them to come. 2 Clarissa **replied** that she couldn't believe it. 3 She **was convinced** that Richard had enjoyed his lunch part a lot. 4 She **decided** she couldn't stay. 5 Peter **wondered** where Clarissa was.
- 4a** 1 annoying 2 critical 3 pleasing 4 different 5 supernatural 6 delirious