

Jane Eyre

Sample Analytical Paper Topics

TOPIC #1

Choose one or more aspects of Charlotte Brontë's life and discuss how she transferred these facts into fiction in *Jane Eyre*.

Outline

I. Thesis Statement: *Many aspects and experiences of Charlotte Brontë's life can be seen in Jane Eyre's life.*

A. Background of Victorian England

1. Views on child rearing
2. Roles for woman

II. Charlotte Brontë's Early Life

A. Daughters of the Clergy School at Cowan Bridge

1. Harsh treatment
2. Death of sisters Maria and Elizabeth

B. Lowood School

1. Harsh treatment
2. Death of Helen Burns

III. Education

A. Charlotte's work as a teacher and governess

1. Roe Head

B. Jane's work as a teacher and governess

1. Thornfield Hall

IV. Romantic hero

A. Charlotte and Constantin Heger

B. Jane and Rochester

TOPIC #2

Examine Charlotte Brontë's religious background, and how she presented her Christian values through the novel *Jane Eyre*.

Outline

I. Thesis Statement: *Charlotte Brontë's religious beliefs and Christian values were represented by a variety of characters in the novel Jane Eyre.*

II. Introduction

- A. Religion in Victorian England
- B. Charlotte Brontë's religious background
 - 1. Her parents
 - 2. Her education

III. Characters

- A. As seen through Jane's eyes
 - 1. Mrs. Reed
 - 2. Mr. Brocklehurst
 - 3. St. John Rivers
 - 4. Helen Burns
 - 5. Miss Temple
 - 6. Mr. Rochester
- B. Jane's Christian values for herself
 - 1. Her moral beliefs
 - 2. Her integrity
 - 3. Her reliance on God to give her strength

TOPIC #3

Jane's sense of self is evident from the very first time we meet her. Discuss her independent actions.

Outline

- I. **Thesis Statement:** *Throughout her life, Jane Eyre makes a determined effort to adhere to her strong sense of self and independence.*
- II. **Early life**
 - A. Gateshead Hall
 - 1. The Red Room
 - 2. Her verbal attacks at Mrs. Reed
 - 3. Her honesty to Mr. Brocklehurst
 - B. Lowood School
 - 1. Her stamina to keep going against all adversity
 - 2. Her striving for education
 - 3. Her need to take care of herself
 - C. Thornfield Hall
 - 1. Her brutal honesty with Rochester
 - 2. Her flee from temptation
 - D. Morton
 - 1. Establishing herself as a teacher
 - 2. Reacting to St. John's proposal
 - 3. Receiving an inheritance

- E. Ferndean
 - 1. Returning to Rochester on her own terms
 - 2. Achieving independence through money and education
 - 3. Knowledge of self

TOPIC #4

Discuss Jane's search for love, and the various relationships in which she finds love.

Outline

- I. **Thesis Statement:** *Jane Eyre, being an orphan raised by a cruel relation, desperately needs love and companionship, which she does find in various relationships throughout her life.*
- II. **Gateshead Hall**
 - A. Bessie
- III. **Lowood School**
 - A. Miss Temple
 - B. Helen Burns
- IV. **Thornfield Hall**
 - A. Adele
 - B. Mr. Rochester
- V. **Moor House**
 - A. Diana and Mary
- VI. **Her final relationship and marriage to Rochester.**