

# Northanger Abbey

## Vocabulary List

Below is a list of words that can be found in the story. Use the definitions to explain to children what these words mean. For an extra activity, you can use these words in a spelling test.

<b>bonnet</b>	a woman's or child's hat tied under the chin
<b>clergyman</b>	a person trained for religious service (priest)
<b>enthusiastically</b>	in a really eager way
<b>fortunately</b>	suggests a positive outcome
<b>heroines</b>	the main female character of a book, with whom the reader is expected to sympathise
<b>splendour</b>	magnificent in appearance

# Northanger Abbey

## Plot Sequencing Answer Sheet

These answers can be used to plan the next comic-strip storyboard activity.

1. Mr and Mrs Allen invite Catherine Morland with them to Bath, where she is introduced to Henry Tilney. Catherine likes Henry and is keen to see him again.
2. During a stroll, Mrs Allen and Catherine bump into an old friend, Mrs Thorpe. Catherine learns that her children, John and Isabella, are already friends with Catherine's brother, James.
3. Catherine spends a few days in the company of the Tilneys, but dislikes John. She wishes she was in the company of Henry Tilney again.
4. Catherine finally meets Henry Tilney again and he introduces Catherine to his sister, Eleanor. They invite Catherine for a walk the next day.
5. The Thorpes arrive and invite Catherine on a carriage-ride. During her ride with John, she spots the Tilneys heading towards the Allens' house, but John refuses to stop the carriage in the middle of the road.
6. Catherine finds Henry and Eleanor at the theatre and explains why she missed their walk. They invite her for dinner, where their father, General Tilney, invites her to Northanger Abbey.
7. Northanger Abbey reminds Catherine of her spooky novels. When she discovers the General only invited her because she heard rumours she is the Allens' heir, she suspects the General is evil and may have played a part in his wife's death.
8. After finding out she isn't the Allens' heir, the General forces Catherine out of Northanger Abbey and she returns home.
9. Henry Tilney arrives at Catherine's home to apologise for his father's behaviour. He asks Catherine to marry him and she accepts.

## Northanger Abbey

### Reading Comprehension Answer Sheet

<b>Q1: How many daughters does Mrs Morland have?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	10/ten
<b>Q2: What is the relationship between the Morlands and the Allens?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	Mr and Mrs Allen are friends with Mr and Mrs Allen
<b>Q3: Why was Catherine happy to wear brand new dresses?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	The rest of her clothes came via her older sisters and often needed to be mended or adjusted to fit
<b>Q4: Why does Catherine like the idea of Northanger Abbey?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	It reminds her of the spooky settings in her books: "the name alone made her imagine dark corridors and secret passageways. The perfect setting for ghostly adventures."
<b>Q5: Why does Catherine not enjoy John Thorpe's company?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	All he talks about is his new carriage and how much money his friends at Oxford have.
<b>Q6: Explain how Catherine feels when John Thorpe refuses to stop the carriage when she spots the Tilneys walking towards the Allens' house.</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	Catherine is angry that John lied to her and then refused to stop. She also feels ashamed that the Tilneys might think she is rude for abandoning their plans.
<b>Q7: What makes Isabella interested in James Morland and Captain Frederick Tilney?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	Isabella thinks James and Catherine will inherit the Allens' fortune and she knows Frederick is rich. It is stated earlier that the Thorpes had little money since the death of their father a few years ago.
<b>Q8: What is different about the outside of Northanger Abbey compared to the inside?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	The outside is cold, dark and mysterious whereas the inside is warm and welcoming.

## Northanger Abbey

<b>Q9: What makes Catherine think the Tilneys are afraid of their father?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	They are quieter when their father is around.
<b>Q10: Who started the rumors that Catherine and James will inherit the Allens' fortune?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	John Thorpe
<b>Q11: What inspired Catherine to think the General was responsible for his wife's death?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	The scary books she reads had given her a foolish imagination.
<b>Q12: Why does Catherine think the General wants her to leave Northanger Abbey so suddenly?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	Catherine thinks Henry told him he found her in his mother's room.
<b>Q13: What was the actual reason she was made to leave?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	The General had discovered that Catherine wasn't going to inherit the Allens' fortune and therefore he didn't want his son to marry her.
<b>Q14: How long was Catherine back home again before Henry came to visit?</b>	
<b>Answer:</b>	2 days

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## Diary Entry Activity

Jane Austen's stories are told by a third person narrator. In this activity, pupils are encouraged to think more about Catherine's thoughts and feelings in their writing.

Choose a scene in *Northanger Abbey* from the list below and ask your class to write it from Catherine's point of view.

- Catherine dancing with Henry Tilney at the ball
- John Thorpe refusing to stop the carriage when Catherine sees the Tilneys
- Catherine arriving at Northanger Abbey
- Catherine's journey back home from Northanger Abbey all alone
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The following checklist can be used as guidance or assessment for this activity:

- Written in first person
- Recalls the events of the story/scene
- Includes personal feelings/emotions
- Adopts the tone of the character