

Before-reading questions

- 1 judge, lawyer, solicitor, barrister, clerk
- 2 Reader's own answer.
- 3 Reader's own answer.
- 4 Reader's own answer.

During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 He wants to have an affair with a woman who he works with.
- 2 He needs sex, and he thinks that he and Fiona do not have enough of it any more.
- 3 She is saying the opposite of what she means (this is called "sarcasm"). Jack thinks he is behaving well by being honest, but she doesn't think that he is behaving well at all.

CHAPTER TWO

- 1 Because the mother could not have any more children after having her second child, and the father wanted a big family.
- 2 Jack has white hair on his chest and less muscle on his body. His face is a bit thinner, and sometimes he has an emptiness in his eyes. Her own bottom is getting bigger, her waist is thickening, and the corners of her mouth are beginning to point down.
- 3 Because the hospital doctors want to do a blood transfusion on a boy with leukaemia, but the boy's parents do not want him to have the transfusion. If the doctors do the transfusion any later than Wednesday, the situation will become very serious.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 She imagines playing a piece of piano music by Bach in her head. It doesn't work, because it leads her to a memory of Jack.
- 2 She sees herself as an abandoned fifty-nine-year-old woman taking her first steps into the beginning of old age.

- 3 She kept delaying having children as her career progressed, and then she was in her forties and worried that the child might have health problems. Then she was made a High Court judge, and she knew that she would never have children. She wonders if choosing not to have children was a way of running away from the journey she was meant to take as a woman, by which she means being a mother.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 Mark Berner argues that blood transfusions are a recent thing and, as a result, are not mentioned in the Bible. He thinks Adam is worried that if he takes the transfusion, he will be thrown out by the community for not doing what the elders want – he does not have a free choice. Leslie Grieve argues that the freedom to choose medical treatment is the right of a human being and that Adam is nearly eighteen, so he can make up his own mind. He argues that transfusions can be dangerous because other diseases like AIDS can be spread through them and that Adam understands the decision that he is making.
- 2 Before they found religion, Kevin Henry had been a bit of a wild man who drank too much and was awful to his wife. The baby cried all night, the couple argued, and the neighbours complained. After they became Jehovah's Witnesses, peace and happiness came into their lives. They became better parents, and the baby became calmer. Kevin retrained and got a new job at a digging company. The couple fell in love all over again.
- 3 Because he says that mixing your blood with another human's, or another animal's, is pollution. For Jehovah's Witnesses, it is a rejection of God's wonderful gift.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 She thinks it is one of two things. She is either a woman on the edge of a nervous breakdown, or she is going in order to make a decision about Adam.
- 2 Because when she was thirteen, she had to spend a week in one. She has good memories of the kind nurses and how clean the hospital was. She remembers the women on her ward being nice to her and that she felt protected from death and disease. She thinks of hospitals as kind places.
- 3 He is earnest and excited. Later, he is thoughtful, then playful. Fiona notices that his mood can change very quickly.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 She decides that Adam should have the transfusion. She uses the decision of another judge – Mr Justice Ward – in a similar case for the base of her own argument. She also believes that Adam is not able to make his own decision as he has only known life as a Jehovah's Witness.
- 2 He says he was a fool, driven by sexual need, and was too embarrassed to come back when he realized his mistake.
- 3 She had felt the beginnings of something easier and feels disappointed that he had not stayed away just a little longer.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 She believes it is because she has no children herself and because of the way that Jack has behaved.
- 2 He believes his religion may have all been a lie. He has told his parents that he doesn't believe in the faith any more. He realized that his parents were happy that he was alive due to the transfusion because

they did not have to make the decision themselves. They were able to have their cake and eat it.

- 3 Because she cannot get her letter right. It sounds cold and distant compared to his warm words, and she is worried that the letter will make him feel bad.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 They go on circuit so that the families whose cases they must hear don't have to travel the long distance to London.
- 2 Because she went there several times as a teenager, when her mother was ill, and spent time with her wild cousins. While there, she drank beer and had a relationship with a musician. It was very different to the calm life she knew at her mother's house.
- 3 Adam has followed her from London to Newcastle.

CHAPTER NINE

- 1 He followed her in a taxi from her apartment to King's Cross and got on the same train as her. He bought a ticket to Edinburgh because that was where the train was going, and he didn't know where she was going to get off. He found his way to the law courts in Newcastle and waited for Fiona to come out. He then looked for judges' lodgings on his phone and Leadman Hall came up. He got a taxi there and climbed over the wall. He was waiting outside when someone saw him.
- 2 To thank her because she saved his life. He read her judgment and that changed how he saw his religion.
- 3 She asks him to call a taxi for Adam, to go with him to the station, to buy him a train ticket to Birmingham, and then take him to a hotel close by.

CHAPTER TEN

- 1 She regrets kissing Adam and keeps thinking about it. She does not understand why she behaved that way and realizes that there was more to her feelings than just professional worries, but these fill her mind most. She is worried that someone had seen her and that her colleagues are discussing it now in London.
- 2 She calls Jack and arranges to have dinner with him when she returns from being on circuit.
- 3 They begin to eat meals together again and go to supper with friends, but he continues to sleep in the spare room.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 1 They agree to enjoy the rest of their lives.
- 2 That he had to die because he had listened to Satan and given up his faith.
- 3 He is angry at first, but then he is understanding.

After-reading questions

- 1 He told her that Adam had died.
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 *Reader's own answer.*
- 4 *Reader's own answer.*
- 5 *Reader's own answer.*

Exercises

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 1 I will be humiliated by being left for a younger woman.
- 2 I will simply agree to anything he wants.
- 3 I know I will be destroyed by this affair.
- 4 Nothing will be the same when I come away.
- 5 He did it "behind my back".
- 6 It will happen, with or without my permission.

- 7 He will leave me and the world will go on.
- 8 I called after him.

CHAPTER TWO

- 2 1 First, she had to look at / think about the facts.
- 2 There was no sound from the bedroom.
- 3 There was just the traffic, and the rain.
- 4 She wanted it, and she didn't want it.
- 5 "What do you/does that mean?"
- 6 It has been seven weeks and a day.
- 7 It was about life, love, death and a race against time.
- 8 It was just past ten-thirty.

CHAPTER THREE

- 3 1 false
- 2 false
- 3 true
- 4 false
- 5 true

CHAPTER FOUR

- 4 1 Fiona Maye
- 2 Mark Berner
- 3 Rodney Carter
- 4 Leslie Grieve
- 5 Fiona Maye
- 6 Kevin Henry
- 7 Marina Greene

CHAPTER FIVE

- 5 1 f 2 d 3 g 4 h
- 5 a 6 c 7 b 8 e

CHAPTER SIX

- 6 1 His faith was true and should **be respected**.
- 2 "He **has** only **known** life as a Jehovah's Witness, and so of course he will have the strong ideas of his faith."
- 3 "He must **be protected** from his religion and from himself, so I rule against the wishes of Adam and his parents."

- 4 The night before, it **would have been** a dark and sad thing to do, but tonight she felt light and free.
- 5 She unlocked the door and walked in without **looking** back.
- 6 They both knew all the things that were **not being** said.
- 7 He was a bloody fool, he realized, to **be driven** by sexual need.
- 8 She was disappointed that he **had not stayed** away a little longer.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 7 1 e 2 g 3 d 4 a
5 f 6 c 7 b

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 8 1 They were nice **lodgings**, with grand bedrooms and excellent cooks.
- 2 The idea of a having a stranger's blood inside me makes me **sick**.
- 3 Fiona was in Newcastle and being driven to the **law courts** on the riverside.
- 4 Leadman Hall was a beautiful building. It had a **butler** and nine servants.
- 5 They had drinks in the **drawing room** before their dinner.
- 6 It was very cold, so the butler said he would bring them a **heater**.

CHAPTER NINE

- 9 1 Why did Fiona ask Pauling to bring in a heater?
- 2 How did Adam find Fiona's lodgings / Leadman Hall?
- 3 What had Fiona not noticed about Leadman Hall / the lodgings before?
- 4 Why did Adam leave his family?
- 5 Why did Adam want to see Fiona?
- 6 What did Fiona write in her judgment?
- 7 Why did Fiona say that Adam couldn't stay with her and Jack?

- 8 How did Fiona feel about the kiss / sending Adam away in the taxi?

CHAPTER TEN

- 10 a 8 b 4 c 2 d 5
e 3 f 6 g 1 h 7

CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 11 1 Fiona had heard Keith Jarrett's *Facing You* many times. Jack had introduced her to it.
- 2 Fiona did not like the freedom of jazz. It allowed for too much playing by *feeling*. She needed to follow the rules, the notes as they were written.
- 3 Fiona drank two glasses of wine and then stopped because Mark Berner warned her that she shouldn't be drinking.
- 4 As she played, Fiona suddenly had the feeling that something waited for her when she returned. Her smile became stiff, and she did not look at her partner.
- 5 Fiona and Mark had played "The Salley Gardens" many times before, but she surprises Mark when she starts to play it.
- 6 Fiona and Jack hadn't discussed the Jehovah's Witness case because Jack had been with Melanie when it happened.
- 7 Jack had never seen his wife so deeply emotional before.
- 8 Jack sees how upset Fiona is and comes to lie close to her. He promises that he will still love her when she tells him the whole story.

ALL CHAPTERS

- 12 1 She knew that she was responsible for the problem.
- 2 She is in a place or situation which she knows and feels comfortable in. This gives her confidence in an argument.
- 3 "I can make my own decisions and I am responsible for them."
- 4 in a situation which is dangerous

- 5 to feel very close to having a nervous breakdown (A nervous breakdown is a situation where a person is so stressed they cannot do normal things.)
- 6 This expression means that you should not be able to have one thing when having that thing means that you can also have the other (e.g. Adam cannot refuse the transfusion and still live). However, by allowing Fiona to make the decision, his parents can have both.

Project work

Reader's own answers.

Essay questions

Reader's own answers.