

## Before-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.* (Famous books by Thomas Hardy are: *Far from the Madding Crowd*, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, *Jude the Obscure*, *The Return of the Native* and *The Woodlanders*.)
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 New machines had been introduced and ways of working were changing very quickly. Farmers no longer stayed in the town or village where they were born but were forced to move around.
- 4 *Reader's own answer.*

## During-reading questions

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1 He has found out that the Durbeyfields' ancestors are the grand and ancient family of the d'Urbervilles. "Sir" is a title given to a man from an important family.
- 2 They are on a walking tour.
- 3 She wants Tess to go and visit a woman called Mrs d'Urberville who lives in Trantridge. She believes the woman must be a relative and wants Tess to let her know about the Durbeyfields.

### CHAPTER TWO

- 1 John Durbeyfield's business of buying and selling depends on having a horse.
- 2 Simon Stoke changed the family name to d'Urberville when he moved the family down to the south of England.

### CHAPTER THREE

- 1 She has to care for the chickens and take different ones to visit Mrs d'Urberville each day.
- 2 Tess is laughing because the girl has a tear in her dress. The girl is angry with Tess for laughing. She is also jealous of Tess because Alec now prefers Tess, and she starts to shout at her.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 She has just had sex with a man whom she is not married to.
- 2 He wants to comfort Tess. He means the baby will have the same afterlife as a child that has been baptized.

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 He does not understand why she can have such sad thoughts, and she does not understand why he wants to be a farmer and sees life so seriously. They want to find out more about each other.
- 2 Farmer Crick tells her that Angel does not like old families.

### CHAPTER SIX

- 1 In the morning light she does not seem real, and is at her most beautiful. She is like one of the Greek goddesses.
- 2 What he did to his girlfriend is similar to what Alec did to her. Like Tess, the girl had sex outside of marriage.
- 3 Angel is a gentleman and from a higher class than them. He is going to be a farmer and will probably marry a lady.

### CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 It has been raining a lot, and the lane is full of water. The girls cannot cross it to get to the church because they are wearing their best dresses and shoes.
- 2 She means that even if Angel had not met her, he would not have married any of the other three women.
- 3 Izz tells her that Angel's family want him to marry a parson's daughter near Emminster.

### CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 She is the daughter of his father's neighbour, who Angel's family want him to marry.

- 2 He is no longer studying all the time but behaving like a farmer, sitting with his legs wide and a bright light in his eyes.

## CHAPTER NINE

- 1 She says she believes she is not good enough for him, and his parents would want him to marry a lady.
- 2 She wants her story – she had a baby with Alec d'Urberville that then died – to reach Angel so that she does not have to tell him herself.
- 3 Although he does not like old families, he is happy because he knows his mother will think better of Tess because of it. He asks her to use her name correctly from then on.

## CHAPTER TEN

- 1 She tells her not to tell Angel about her past, and to be happy.
- 2 They cannot hate Tess because they cannot lose something they have never had.
- 3 It is the same as hers, so she thinks that he will now forgive her.

## CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 1 He is quiet, his face looks thinner and he speaks in a lifeless voice. He finds it hard to believe, and he is very shocked. He has to go outside to get some fresh air, so that he can think about it.
- 2 He can divorce her or she can kill herself.
- 3 They decide that Tess will go home until Angel has thought about things. If he can accept what she has told him, he will come to her.

## CHAPTER TWELVE

- 1 They work in the swede fields, digging and cutting the swedes from the earth. Then, they tie reeds in the barn.

- 2 He recognizes her from Trantridge and knows about her past with Alec d'Urberville.
- 3 She hears Angel's brothers talk about Angel, saying he "threw himself away on a milkmaid" and he has a "terrible marriage". They also talk about Mercy Chant being a "nice girl".

## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

- 1 He feels tempted (to sin) by her beauty and is losing his new religious beliefs because of her.
- 2 He makes her stand on top of the threshing machine and feed it with the corn.
- 3 She comes to tell Tess that their father is dead.

## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

- 1 He is very thin because he has been ill, and his face is much older. His friend in Brazil told him he had wronged Tess. Angel's feelings slowly changed towards Tess, and he has slowly forgiven her.
- 2 Tess is a country girl and Sandbourne is a town with large lodging houses where rich people stay.
- 3 He blames himself for it.

## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

- 1 She says that she has killed him with a knife because he called Angel by a bad name.
- 2 He is not sure. He thinks she has possibly lost her mind, or is imagining it.
- 3 They stay at a large mansion called Bramshurst Court in the New Forest. They get in through an open window.

## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

- 1 She asks him to marry Liza-Lu.
- 2 The police find them.
- 3 Tess is executed (killed by law) for murdering Alec.

## After-reading questions

- 1 **Example answer:** Tess works at Talbothays during a lovely hot summer. She knows the work and is comfortable with it. Farmer Crick is kind to her, and she becomes good friends with the kind milkmaids she stays with. She is at Flintcomb Ash during a very hard winter. The work (cutting swedes, tying reeds and threshing) is new to her, and very hard. She only has one friend, Marian, and stays in lodgings where there is no one she knows. Farmer Groby does not like her and makes her work harder than it needs to be.
- 2 **Example answer:** She wants Liza-Lu to be safe and for her family to be looked after.
- 3 **Reader's own answer.**

## Exercises

### CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- |   |            |              |
|---|------------|--------------|
| 1 | 1 parson   | 2 lane       |
|   | 3 ashamed  | 4 class      |
|   | 5 landlady | 6 determined |
|   | 7 tear     | 8 blame      |

### CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

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

### CHAPTERS FIVE AND SIX

- 3 1 Each girl sat on her stool, her cheek **pressed** against the cow's side.
- 2 Tess's attention **was taken** by the person who had said this.
- 3 She **had reminded** herself of the thing she most wanted to forget.
- 4 After hearing this, Tess was glad that she **had kept** her mouth shut.
- 5 While all other beautiful women **were sleeping** in their beds, Tess was there beside Angel.
- 6 She felt terrible that everyone **had laughed** at Mr Crick's story.

- 7 "It is true. I **would marry** him tomorrow," said Marian. "But none of us shall."
- 8 A farm woman **would be** the best kind of wife for him.

### CHAPTERS SEVEN AND EIGHT

- |   |                    |                         |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 | 1 Tess             | 2 Angel                 |
|   | 3 Angel            | 4 Retty, Marian and Izz |
|   | 5 Angel's brothers | 6 Angel's father        |
|   | 7 Angel's mother   | 8 Alec d'Urberville     |

### CHAPTERS NINE AND TEN

- 5 **Example answers:**
  - 1 Tess: sad, ashamed, beautiful, guilty, honest, hardworking, intelligent, serious, kind, poor
  - 2 Angel: happy, honest, hardworking, serious, kind, determined
  - 3 Farmer Crick: funny, happy, honest, hardworking, kind
  - 4 Jack Dollop: guilty, bad, dishonest, unkind
  - 5 The d'Urbervilles: rich, ancient, grand
  - 6 Joan Durbeyfield: honest, hardworking, simple, worried, poor
  - 7 Retty, Izz and Marian: sad, honest, hardworking, serious, kind, poor

### CHAPTERS ELEVEN AND TWELVE

- 6 1 How did Tess expect Angel to behave after she told him about her past?
- 2 Why did Angel laugh?
- 3 How does Tess think they could end the marriage?
- 4 Why was Joan Durbeyfield angry?
- 5 Why did Marian write a letter to help Tess?
- 6 Why didn't Farmer Groby like Tess?/Why did Farmer Groby make Tess work harder than the others?
- 7 Why did Tess throw her boots under the hedge?

## CHAPTERS THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN

- 7 1 Alec keeps visiting Tess, **doesn't he?**
- 2 He's not in love with me, **is he?**
- 3 Farmer Groby gave Tess the worst job, **didn't he?**
- 4 Tess's family did not know what to do, **did they?**
- 5 The d'Urbervilles had a vault in Kingsbere, **didn't they?**
- 6 If Tess was a servant she would use the back door, **wouldn't she?**
- 7 Tess's feelings towards Angel had changed, **hadn't they?**
- 8 Angel blamed himself for everything, **didn't he?**

## CHAPTERS FIFTEEN AND SIXTEEN

- 8 1 They are at Stonehenge.
- 2 It is quiet and bleak after her great happiness, and she only wants to be with Angel.
- 3 They were hiding in an old mansion called Bramshurst Court.
- 4 The lady who looked after the place came in and found them.
- 5 She killed Alec d'Urberville with a knife.
- 6 **Example answer:** Tess feels she has had her happiness with Angel, and now she should be punished for killing Alec.

## Project work

*Reader's own answers.*

## Essay questions

*Reader's own answers.*