

Before-reading questions

Reader's own answers.

During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 Maggie likes playing beside the river. Her hair is untidy and her mother is not happy about it. Maggie is very clever (much cleverer than Tom) and she loves reading books.
- 2 **Example answer:** Mr Riley thinks that Maggie should be reading “prettier books” because she is a girl. He thinks that Maggie is a naughty child because she talks too much and asks lots of questions.

CHAPTER TWO

- 1 Tom brings Maggie a fishing line. Tom wants to go fishing in the river the next day.
- 2 Mrs Tulliver screams and drops a plate of food. She shouts at Maggie and starts to cry.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 Philip Wakem is the new student at Mr Stelling's school. Philip is also from St Ogg's. He is the son of Lawyer Wakem, who is the lawyer of a man called Mr Pivart. Tom's father is fighting Mr Pivart in a lawsuit.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 Mr Tulliver has lost his lawsuit against Mr Pivart. He has also fallen off his horse and badly hurt his head.
- 2 Mrs Tulliver's “best things” are pretty plates, cups and bowls that the family uses only for special dinners at home. They will all be sold. Mrs Tulliver's sister Aunt Pullet will buy some of them but not for Mrs Tulliver – she wants to keep them for herself.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 Mr Tulliver hurt his brain when he hit his head. Now he cannot remember anybody's name (but he can remember Maggie's) and he cannot get out of bed. When she says Mr Tulliver “may never be himself again”, Aunt Pullet means that he may never remember people's names or be the same person that he was before.
- 2 Aunt Glegg thinks that Mrs Tulliver should forget about her “best things”. She thinks that her sister should remember that she is lucky to have simple things, like a bed to sleep in at night.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 Philip gives Maggie a drawing he did of her as a child, when they first met. He also tries to give her a book called *The Pirate*.
- 2 Maggie loves the world too much when she reads books. Now that Maggie is poor, he knows that she will never be able to see and know more about the things that she reads about in books. That makes her very sad.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 Because she thinks he is strange. She sees him walking out of the woods a lot and she thinks that he is having problems with his mind. She also thinks that he is strange because he looks different (he has a hump on his back) and he does not talk to many people.
- 2 Mr Tulliver becomes very ill and dies. He tells his family that he is happy that he beat Wakem and that he will never forgive him.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 Maggie is a teacher now, and she is between jobs. She is staying with her cousin in St Ogg's until she finds new work.
- 2 Lucy wants to marry Stephen, and she wants Maggie to marry Philip.

CHAPTER NINE

- 1 **Example answer:** When Stephen sings, Maggie does not notice anything else in the room around her because she enjoys hearing his voice so much. She is "lost" in Stephen's voice because it takes her away from where she is.
- 2 Philip has seen Stephen talking to Maggie in a secret way. Philip now knows that Stephen has feelings for Maggie, and that she may also have feelings for Stephen. Philip loves Maggie and wants to marry her, so Maggie knows that he will be hurt.

CHAPTER TEN

- 1 **Example answer:** This is a little surprising. Aunt Glegg thinks that she knows best about a lot of things and she is stern with Tom and Maggie when they are children. But family is very important to Aunt Glegg and she knows that sending Maggie away at a difficult time in her life is not the right thing to do.
- 2 The sweet woman is Maggie's cousin Lucy Deane.

After-reading questions

- 1 **Example answer:** At the start of the book, Maggie is a very clever child who loves reading books. She has a wild side and she can be very untidy – something that her mother hates. Tom loves to be outside, playing with animals and fishing. He does not like reading or studying. Tom and Maggie are very different children but they love having adventures together. As they get older, Maggie becomes sadder and worries about her parents, and Tom becomes angry about what has happened to his father.
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 **Example answer:** Maggie sees Philip as a brother or a best friend at first, but she begins to love him more deeply. Maggie loves being with Philip and she feels calm when she is with him. Philip loves books, music and art as much as Maggie does. When Maggie is sad because her father has lost everything, Philip shows her that it is important to still enjoy those things in life. Maggie also has strong feelings for Stephen, but maybe those feelings are not as deep and will not last as long as the love that Maggie feels for Philip.

Exercises

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 “I don’t want Tom to be a lawyer, not one of those **rascals!**”
- 2 “I don’t want you to **complain** about sending Tom to that school.”
- 3 “Tom hasn’t got the right **brain** for business.”
- 4 “**Tidy** your hair and change your clothes!”
- 5 “That woman in the water is a **witch.**”
- 6 Mr Riley gave Mr Tulliver the name of a well-educated **tutor** named Mr Stelling.

CHAPTER TWO

2	Who spoke?	Who to?
1 “There he is, my sweet boy!”	Mrs Tulliver	Tom
2 “You don’t know what I’ve got in my pockets.”	Tom	Maggie
3 “Do little boys and girls come into a room without saying hello to their aunts and uncles now?”	Mrs/Aunt Glegg	Tom and Maggie
4 “Can you quickly cut the back for me?”	Maggie	Tom
5 “Don’t worry, little one.”	Mr Tulliver	Maggie
6 “I’m not going to stay a moment longer in this house!”	Mrs/Aunt Glegg	Mr Tulliver

CHAPTER THREE

- 3 1 He was completely sure that he **was doing** what Mr Tulliver wanted for his boy and **was teaching** him the right things.
- 2 Tom **hated** his lessons with Mr Stelling.
- 3 On the first day of Tom’s second term at Mr Stelling’s school, he **was joined** by another student.
- 4 Philip knew that Tom **was looking** at him and he **turned** red.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 4 1 false
Maggie was studying at a school near **St Ogg’s**.
- 2 false
The lawsuit with Lawyer Wakem ended **badly**.
- 3 true
- 4 false
Tom and Maggie find their mother sitting with **her best things**.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 5 1 **Who** is Mrs Moss?
Mrs Moss is Mr Tulliver’s sister.
- 2 **Why** is everyone surprised when Tom speaks?
Because Tom sounds like a man.
- 3 **What** do Tom and Maggie want their aunts and uncles to do?
They want them to give their family money now.

4 Who owns Dorlcote Mill now?

Lawyer Wakem owns Dorlcote Mill now.

5 Where does Mr Tulliver tell Tom to write a promise?

He tells him to write a promise in the Bible.

CHAPTER SIX

6 At 16 years old, Maggie felt that her life was boring and grey. Each day was the same as every other day. Her father was now much better, and able to work again at the ¹ mill for ² Lawyer Wakem. Tom had a job with his Uncle Deane, but he had to start at the bottom of the ³ business. He also went to school at night to learn the things that he needed to get a better job. Tom did not need any of the Latin ⁴ grammar that he learned from Mr Stelling.

Mrs Tulliver did not want to look after the home now. She often walked ⁵ silently around the empty house, and Maggie worried about her. The only time Mrs Tulliver seemed happy was when she was brushing and pulling Maggie's long black hair into a ⁶ tidy crown on top of her head.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 7 1 "I don't want to read books where the blonde woman becomes happy."
 2 "I never / don't always take the side of the unhappy person in stories."
 3 "This man is not a horrible person."
 4 "I have never / not always loved being with you."
 5 "He does not talk to many people."
 6 "I don't feel well."

CHAPTER EIGHT

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

CHAPTER NINE

- 9 1 miller 2 realize 3 lost 4 stall 5 confusing 6 part

CHAPTER TEN

- 10 1 Lucy 2 Maggie 3 Philip 4 Stephen 5 Tom 6 Mrs Tulliver

Project work

Reader's own answers.