

Before-reading questions

1 *Example answer:*

a Henry James was from a rich family. He was the second of five children, with three brothers and a sister. The children were taught in private schools and spoke several languages. The family lived in New York, but when James was a child, they went on several holidays to Europe.

b James lived in America, France and England. He visited Italy, Ireland and Switzerland.

c James wrote about relationships between people, Americans travelling in Europe, and the differences between American and British society.

2 *Example answer:*

a Venice is a city of about 638,000 people in north-east Italy. It is built on a group of 118 small islands, joined by bridges.

b Marco Polo, the explorer; the painters Bellini, Canaletto and Tintoretto; and Antonio Vivaldi, who wrote music, were all born in Venice.

c You can visit a number of famous historic places, for example, the Doge's Palace, Saint Mark's Basilica and Square, and the Bridge of Sighs. You can take a ride on the canals (waterways) in a gondola, a long, narrow kind of boat. You can also enjoy walking by the canals or spend time in one of the city's many cafés or restaurants.

3 *Example answer:* A dove is a beautiful, gentle white bird. A person who is like a dove is probably quiet, sweet and innocent.

4 *Example answer:* Women can have jobs, so they are able to get money of their own. They do not need to marry for money. Because of this, they have more choice to lead the lives they want to live.

5 *Example answer:* It is important that a friend is someone you can trust and who can keep a secret, and that they listen to your problems.

During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

1 She decides to visit her father to tell him that she wants to come and live with him. Also, Lionel Croy has not been well and has asked his daughter to visit him.

2 He tells Kate to stay with Aunt Maud because he is hoping that Aunt Maud will find a rich husband for her. Then Kate will be able to give him lots of money.

3 Marian is a poor widow and lives in a small house with her four children. She does not have an interesting life. Kate lives with Aunt Maud and has a very pleasant life. She goes out to interesting places and meets rich and fashionable people. Kate also has the opportunity to marry a rich husband.

CHAPTER TWO

1 She meets Merton Densher for the second time on the Underground Railway.

2 She likes Densher, and thinks he is charming, but she does not approve of him as a husband for Kate because he has no money.

3 He asks Densher to go to New York for a few months and write about American society for the newspaper.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 She has had a sad life because her parents have died, and she has no other family.
- 2 She met Merton Densher in New York.
- 3 She is very happy to write to Mrs Lowder because she was at school with her and would love to see her again. But she also wants Mrs Lowder to know that she is a good friend of Milly Theale, one of the richest young girls in America.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 The coincidence is that in New York, Milly met a young English journalist, Merton Densher, who Mrs Lowder and Kate know too.
- 2 **Example answer:** The Bronzino painting makes Milly feel sad because the young woman in it, who looks like Milly, was once alive and beautiful. But now she is dead. Perhaps this makes Milly feel worried about her own health.
- 3 She asks Kate to come with her to her appointment with Sir Luke Strett the next day.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 He tells Milly that she has a serious illness.
- 2 He wants to meet Mrs Stringham because she is Milly's dearest friend, and he wants to talk to her about Milly.
- 3 She feels a little frightened because Kate has begun to say strange things which Milly does not understand, for example, that she (Milly) should leave while she can.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 She does not want to be at the hotel when Sir Luke Strett visits. She also loves art galleries because they are very peaceful and relaxing.

- 2 The first shock is that she sees Merton Densher. The second is that Kate arrives and seems to like him.
- 3 He just thinks of Milly as his "little friend from New York". He has no feelings of love for her.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 She does not come to Mrs Lowder's dinner because she is not feeling well.
- 2 She wants Densher to visit Milly and show her that he likes her, and that he is interested in her. She wants him to pretend to fall in love with Milly and forget about Kate, so that Kate can marry Lord Mark.
- 3 Densher and Milly go for a ride in the carriage together.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 He is an Italian man who helps foreign visitors in Venice. He finds the ladies a wonderful place to stay, the Palazzo Leporelli.
- 2 He comes to see Milly because he wants to ask her to marry him.
- 3 He understands that Milly does not want to marry him because she has feelings for Merton Densher. And he thinks that Kate Croy and Merton Densher are planning to deceive Milly.

CHAPTER NINE

- 1 He moves into lodgings because his hotel is very noisy and he has work to do. But he also wants a private place where he can be alone with Kate.
- 2 She says that Milly looks like a dove in her white dress.
- 3 He says that Kate must come alone to his lodgings before he will agree to her plan.

CHAPTER TEN

- 1 He does not approve of Densher because he knows that Densher is only interested in Milly's money.
- 2 He sees Lord Mark in Florian's café.
- 3 She says that Densher can tell Milly that he is not engaged to Kate.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 1 He tells Densher that Milly would like him to go and see her.
- 2 He goes to visit Sir Luke Strett on Christmas morning.
- 3 Lionel Croy has suddenly arrived at Marian's house, so Marian has asked Kate to go and help her with him.

CHAPTER TWELVE

- 1 She throws Milly's letter on the fire.
- 2 She is disappointed in Densher because he does not want Milly's money.
- 3 He asks Kate to choose between marrying him, and taking Milly's money.

After-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 **a** Marian Condrip is Kate's sister. She made a bad marriage and is now, like Lionel Croy, only interested in money. She also wants to use Kate to get money. If Aunt Maud did not help Kate, Kate's life would probably be the same as Marian's.
b Lord Mark is not a good person, and he often says and does unkind things. He has a high position in British society because he is from a very old British family. But he is not rich. He knows that Milly is dying, but he still plans to marry her because he wants her money.

c Sir Luke Strett does not have the same interest in money as other British people in the story. He cares about Milly, and he wants to be a good friend to her and to help her. He stays with her in Venice until he dies. Milly likes and trusts Sir Luke very much.

- 3 **Example answer:** Susan Stringham is a much better friend to Milly than Kate. She calls Milly her "princess", and she loves her very much. She thinks of Milly as her daughter, and she is also grateful to her for the opportunity to travel to Europe. She is extremely upset when she finds out that Milly is dying, and she stays with her in Venice until the end. Kate only pretends to be a friend to Milly, but she is not a real friend at all. She is very cold and hard, and is not interested in helping Milly but only using Milly's money as a way to marry Densher. She thinks of a shocking plan to deceive Milly, and persuades Densher to take part in her plan.
- 4 *Reader's own answer.*
- 5 **Example answer:** Kate means that she and Densher will never be free of Milly. They will never be able to forget that they deceived this beautiful dying girl. Milly knew that they had deceived her, but she was so kind and good, and loved Densher so much, that she still left her money to him.
- 6 *Reader's own answer.*

Exercises

CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- 1** 1 false
Marian is Kate's **older** sister.
- 2 false
Lionel Croy lives **alone**.
- 3 true
- 4 false
Lionel Croy wants Kate to **stay with** Aunt Maud.
- 5 false
Merton Densher works for a newspaper in **London**.
- 6 false
Kate and Densher first meet **at a party**.
- 7 true
- 8 false
Densher is **excited** about the idea of going to America.

CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

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

CHAPTERS FIVE AND SIX

- 3** 1 Milly **had known** for a long time that she was ill.
- 2 "Sir Luke **will help** me," she thought.
- 3 That evening, the sound of a carriage **was heard** outside the hotel.
- 4 "Susan told me that you **met** Merton Densher in New York," said Aunt Maud.
- 5 Suddenly, Milly **realized** that the young man in the gallery was Densher.
- 6 After Densher **had arrived** in England, he travelled down to London.
- 7 "I think that Milly **has fallen** in love with you," said Kate.
- 8 "Why **haven't you told** Milly the truth about us?" asked Densher.

CHAPTERS SEVEN AND EIGHT

- 4** 1 Densher 2 Mrs Stringham
3 Milly 4 Mrs Lowder
5 Sir Luke Strett 6 Lord Mark
7 Kate

CHAPTERS NINE AND TEN

- 5** 1 Kate told Densher that she was pleased (that) he was jealous.
- 2 Mrs Stringham told Densher that Sir Luke Strett had arrived.
- 3 Kate told Densher that Milly looked just like a dove.
- 4 Densher told Milly that he was writing a book.
- 5 Eugenio told Densher that Miss Theale did not want to see him.
- 6 Mrs Stringham told Densher that Milly had turned her face to the wall.
- 7 Densher told Mrs Stringham that he wanted to help Milly.

CHAPTERS ELEVEN AND TWELVE

- 6** 1 A **dove** is a beautiful white bird.
- 2 Kate tells Densher to **pretend** to be in love with Milly.
- 3 Densher moves from his hotel in Venice into **lodgings**.
- 4 Mrs Lowder does not **approve** of Kate's father or sister.
- 5 Kate is **disappointed** because Densher does not want Milly's money.
- 6 You can see paintings in an art **gallery**.
- 7 Kate's plan to **deceive** Milly is very shocking.
- 8 Lord Mark is sitting in a **carriage** outside Sir Luke's house.

ALL CHAPTERS

- 7** 1 c sisters 2 b newspaper
3 b protect 4 a young woman
5 b pearl 6 b a lot of money

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|---|---------------|---------------|
| 8 | 1 Venice | 2 London |
| | 3 Switzerland | 4 New York |
| | 5 Venice | 6 Switzerland |
| | 7 London | 8 New York |

Project work

Reader's own answers.