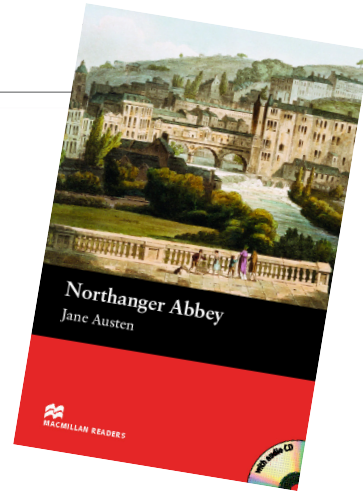


Northanger Abbey
by Jane Austen

Chapter Nine: Isabella and James

Author: Adrian Tennant
Level: Beginner – pre-intermediate
Age: Teenagers / adults
Time needed: 30 minutes approx
Preparation: Copies of the second and third part of the text for each pair of students.



Activity 1

1 On the board write the following diary page and ask your students to copy it into their notebooks:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
?	?	Isabella watches Catherine
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Isabella watches Catherine	?	?

2 Then write the following five sentences on the board (you might want students to copy these down as well):

- a) *Catherine and her brother have dinner with the Thorpes.*
- b) *Catherine and Isabella talk in the Pump Room.*
- c) *Catherine goes to Northanger Abbey.*
- d) *James returns to Bath.*
- e) *Mr Allen takes Catherine to Milsom Street.*

3 Tell your students that they are going to listen to the next chapter and that they should complete the diary by putting the five sentences under the correct day. Tell them that for one of the days they should use two of the sentences.

4 Play the recording.

5 Put students in pairs and have them check their answers together.

6 Monitor and, if necessary, play the recording again.

7 Check the answers as a class.

Key:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
James returns to Bath.	Catherine and Isabella talk in the Pump Room.	Isabella watches Catherine
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Isabella watches Catherine	Catherine and her brother have dinner with the Thorpes.	Mr Allen takes Catherine to Milsom Street. Catherine goes to Northanger Abbey.

Alternative procedure:

For stronger students don't write up the sentences. Just ask them to complete the diary with five events.

Extension: Diaries

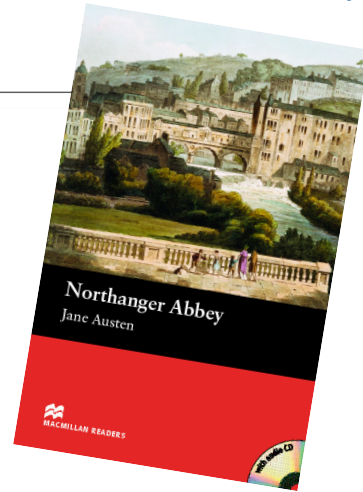
Ask your students to make a diary of their plans for the week. Then ask them to talk to a partner and tell each other what they are doing. Monitor and make notes about the language they use – especially the tenses.

Activity 2

1 Play the recording from the start up to: 'Come and talk to me, dear Catherine,' said Isabella. 'I want to...' and then pause the recording.

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2 Ask the students to predict the next word or phrase by whispering what they think it is to their partner.

3 Then play the next piece of the recording up to: '...talk to you.'

4 As you play this piece look around, you should be able to see which students guessed correctly by their faces and body language.

5 Continue the process for the following parts of the recording, pausing at the last word given in each sentence or phrase below and then, once the students have tried to guess, playing the next piece to see if they were correct.

I am not looking for...

Why is your brother...

John is...

I do not...

There has been a...

When will I see you...

Tell...

Catherine was very...

Isabella was going to...

Extension: Guess the next word

Put students in pairs – A and B. Hand out copies of the rest of the text for Chapter nine to each student A, and tell them not to show it to their partner. Tell the students that student A will read part of the text and then stop and that their partner should try to guess the next word. Then student A should continue and let student B hear if their guess was correct or not.

They should continue this for the rest of the chapter.

Note: You might want to ask them to pause/stop six times throughout the chapter to keep the activity reasonably short.

Transcript

On Monday, James Morland came back to Bath. On Tuesday morning, Catherine met Isabella in the Pump Room.

'Come and sit with me, dear Catherine,' Isabella said. 'I want to talk to you.'

They sat on a seat between two doors. Isabella looked first at one door, then at the other.

'James will be here soon,' Catherine said. She smiled.

'Why do you say that?' Isabella said. 'I am not looking for James. I am not looking for anybody.'

'But I have something to tell you,' Isabella said. 'I had a letter from John today. It is all about you.'

'The letter is about me?' Catherine said. She was surprised. 'Why is your brother writing about me?'

'My dear,' Isabella said. 'John is in love with you! He spoke to you about it – before he left Bath.'

'I do not understand!' Catherine said. 'There has been a mistake. I am sorry. But I cannot love him.'

Suddenly, Catherine saw Captain Tilney. He was walking towards them. He sat down next to Isabella.

'You are never alone,' he said. 'When will I see you alone?'

Isabella laughed. 'Why do you want to see me alone?' she asked. 'Tell me!'

Catherine was very surprised. Was Isabella in love with Captain Tilney? Isabella was going to marry James!

For the next three days, Catherine watched her friend carefully. Captain Tilney was always near Isabella. And she was always talking to him. She did not talk to James. James was very unhappy.

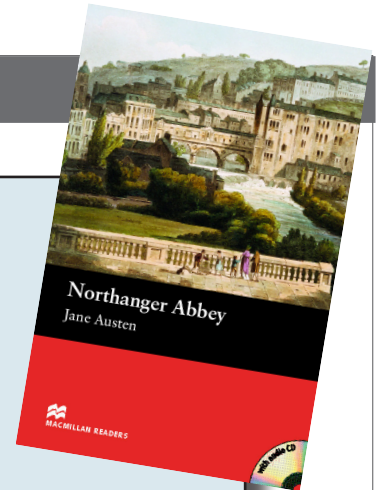
Catherine spoke to Henry Tilney.

'Please tell your brother about Isabella and James,' she said. 'They are going to get married.'

'Frederick knows about that,' Henry replied. 'I told him myself.'

'He must leave Bath,' Catherine said. 'He must not speak to Isabella. He is making James, my brother, very unhappy.'

'And Isabella?' Henry Tilney said. 'She talks to Frederick. She dances with him. She is making your brother unhappy too.'



Transcript

'Yes, Isabella is wrong too,' Catherine said quietly.
'My brother will soon leave Bath,' said Henry. 'He will soon forget Isabella. James will be happy again.'

It was Catherine's last night in Bath. She and James had dinner with the Thorpes. Isabella was kind to James and he was happy. All was well.

The next morning, Mr Allen took Catherine to Milsom Street. The Tilneys were going to leave Bath at ten o'clock.

General Tilney's carriage went first. Eleanor sat with her father. Catherine Morland sat next to Henry in his carriage. They drove slowly out of Bath. Catherine was going to Northanger Abbey!

