



SENSE & SENSIBILITY

– EXTRA

Level 2

This level is suitable for students who have been learning English for at least two years and up to three years. It corresponds with the Common European Framework level A2. Suitable for users of CROWN/TEAM magazines.

SYNOPSIS

Set in the early nineteenth century in England, *Sense & Sensibility* follows the love stories of Elinor Dashwood, 19, and her younger sister, Marianne. Elinor is a sensible young woman. Marianne, however, lets her heart rule her head.

After their father dies, Elinor and Marianne's home at Norland Park goes to their half-brother, John, and his wife, Fanny. The sisters move with their mother and their young sister, Margaret, to a cottage at Barton Park in Devon, owned by their cousin, Sir John Middleton. Elinor is unhappy at leaving her new friend, Edward Ferrars – Fanny's brother – whom Mrs Dashwood hopes she will one day marry.

The Dashwoods are welcomed in Devon by Sir John's family and two guests: his mother-in-law, Mrs Jennings, and the more serious Colonel Brandon, who immediately falls in love with Marianne. She, however, considers him too old and soon falls in love with a young man called Willoughby. They appear the perfect couple until Willoughby's aunt sends him away to London, leaving Marianne unhappy and Elinor suspicious of the reason for his departure. But Elinor, too, is unhappy after discovering that Edward is secretly engaged to Lucy Steele, a pretty, but selfish cousin of Mrs Jennings.

Does Edward truly love Lucy, or is there some other reason for his engagement? Will Willoughby ever be reunited with Marianne? Or will Marianne learn to appreciate the quiet devotion of Colonel Brandon?

THE BACK STORY

Jane Austen was born in 1775. Though her novels are set two hundred years ago, the issues her characters face are still relevant today, and her novels are still popular with young people.

Jane Austen started writing *Sense & Sensibility* when she was nineteen years old, but it wasn't published until fifteen years later. It was her first novel, and, like many of her later novels, *Sense & Sensibility* deals with the problems of marriage during the period. The main theme of the novel is the choice between marrying for love or money. It looks at the importance of finding a balance between sense and emotion in order to achieve lasting happiness.

The photographs in the Scholastic Reader come from the film of the same name directed by Ang Lee. It stars Kate Winslet and Emma Thompson. Emma Thompson also wrote the script. It won the BAFTA award for Best Film in 1996 and an Oscar™ for its screenplay.

MEDIA LINKS

DVD: For more information about the film, visit www.imdb.com.

CD: A recording of *Sense & Sensibility* is available to accompany the Scholastic Reader.

Books: There are many editions of this classic story. Other famous novels by Jane Austen are: *Pride and Prejudice* (1813), *Mansfield Park* (1814) and *Emma* (1816).

HOW TO USE YOUR SCHOLASTIC READER

Choosing and motivating

Is this the right story for your class? Have they seen the film *Sense & Sensibility*? Do they like historical romantic dramas? Motivate them with background information (see the Back Story above) and by reading aloud a passage from the story.

Organising

Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the Self-Study section at the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading. (Answers on page 4 of this Resource Sheet.)

Using the CD

Students can listen and follow in their books. They can listen and then read. They can read and then listen. All these activities will improve their reading speeds and skills.

Using the DVD

Select the English Language option on the DVD. The film is 136 minutes long. You could show the film in chunks of ten to fifteen minutes in conjunction with a class reading schedule. Alternatively, choose key scenes and set language tasks related to them.

Glossary

Go to 'New Words' at the back of the reader. Translate the words with the class or get students to find the meanings at home. The Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet practises the new words in a different context.

The language of Jane Austen's time

Introduce the old-fashioned words and expressions used in *Sense & Sensibility* (see page 6 of the reader). Students will find these notes useful when they read this story or other stories from the same period. They help to give a flavour of the original, without making the style difficult to understand.

Fact Files

Set these as self-study or use for whole class work. These provide background information about Jane Austen herself, marriage and social life in the eighteenth century.

What did they think?

Get everyone to do a written or spoken review of *Sense & Sensibility*. Compare opinions. Did they like it? Would they like to read more classic novels? Did you like it? Let us know at: readers@scholasticeltreaders.com



SENSE & SENSIBILITY

– EXTRA

People and Places

Who ...

- a) ... has no fortune of his own? *Willoughby*
- b) ... is nineteen?
- c) ... has three daughters?
- d) ... is Mrs Dashwood's cousin?
- e) ... often visits Sir John Middleton?
- f) ... thinks love is the most important thing in life?

Introduction–Chapter 2

1 Are these sentences True (T) or False (F)?

- a) Henry Dashwood had three sons.
- b) Henry Dashwood left one thousand pounds to his wife.
- c) Mrs Dashwood always listens to Elinor.
- d) Edward is very different from his sister.
- e) Fanny wants Edward to marry Elinor.
- f) Mrs Dashwood invites Edward to Barton Park.
- g) John keeps the promise he made to his father.

2 Make sentences

- a) Sir John Middleton i) is a rather selfish man.
- b) John Dashwood ii) enjoys telling jokes.
- c) Edward iii) knows about music.
- d) Mrs Jennings iv) is a kind, friendly man.
- e) Colonel Brandon v) has not yet visited Elinor.

3 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

feelings ~~promised~~ serious similar tastes

- a) John Dashwood *promised* to help his sisters.
- b) Marianne believes that her husband must have the same as herself.
- c) Mrs Dashwood and Marianne are very
- d) Colonel Brandon never laughs. He is a very man.
- e) Marianne thinks that Elinor does not show her

Chapters 3–5

1 Answer these questions.

- a) Where does Willoughby's cousin, Mrs Smith, live? *Allenham*
- b) Elinor thinks Willoughby has one fault. What is it?
- c) Why was Elinor angry when Marianne visited Allenham?
- d) Who is Miss Williams?
- e) Why is Elinor sad at Barton Park?
- f) How long does Edward stay at Barton Park?

2 Who says these things?

- a) 'My daughters do not spend their time 'catching' men, Sir John.' *Mrs. Dashwood*
- b) 'The Colonel is not so uninteresting. He has spent many years abroad and has some wonderful stories to tell.'
- c) 'I have not known Willoughby for a long time, but I know him very well.'
- d) 'His name begins with F.'
- e) 'I will not be back for at least twelve months.'
- f) 'I am not certain of their engagement.'
- g) 'It is my sister's hair.'

3 Talk to a partner. Which of these do you agree with?

- a) A person can only love once in their life.
- b) Happiness is more important than being rich or important.

Chapters 6–8

1 Circle the correct word in *italics*.

- a) In London, Marianne was *kind* / (*not polite*) to Colonel Brandon.
- b) Elinor and Marianne think Lucy Steele is *selfish* / *boring*.
- c) Lucy Steele thinks Elinor has a *good fortune* / *good sense*.
- d) At the party, Willoughby's *manner* / *position* towards Marianne was strange.
- e) Willoughby and Marianne *were* / *were not* engaged.

2 Tick (✓) the things Willoughby says in his letter.

- a) He did not mean to upset Marianne.
- b) He will keep the lock of hair Marianne gave him.
- c) He will be married in a few weeks.
- d) He only wanted Marianne to be a friend.
- e) He feels unhappy when he remembers Marianne and her family.
- f) He is sending back all the letters Marianne wrote to him.

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES

3 Who ...

- a) ... invited Elinor and Marianne to London? ... *Mrs Jennings* ...
- b) ... is engaged to Lucy Steele?
- c) ... feels sorry for Edward?
- d) ... is Willoughby going to marry?
- e) ... wants to leave London immediately?

Chapters 9–11

1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- a) Colonel Brandon loved Eliza.
- b) Colonel Brandon's brother loved Eliza.
- c) Eliza and Colonel Brandon ran away together.
- d) Colonel Brandon went abroad.
- e) Eliza left her husband.
- f) Eliza's daughter ran away with Colonel Brandon.
- g) Willoughby stayed with his lover.

2 Answer these questions.

- a) Why did Colonel Brandon not tell Marianne about Willoughby's past?
He hoped he could change......
- b) Why does Mrs Ferrars believe Miss Morton is a suitable wife for Edward?
.....
- c) Why is Mrs Ferrars cold towards Elinor?
.....
- d) Why didn't Elinor tell Marianne about Edward's engagement?
.....
- e) Where does Colonel Brandon offer Edward a position?
.....

3 Work with a partner. Who do you think will or will not marry? Why/Why not?

Chapters 12–15

1 Fill in the correct name in each sentence.

Colonel Brandon Edward and Elinor Mr Ferrars the Palmers Miss Sophia Grey Willoughby
--

- a) Elinor and Marianne went to visit *the Palmers* in Somerset.
- b) visited Elinor at the Palmers' house.
- c) Willoughby does not love
- d) Thomas told the Dashwoods that is married.
- e) Mrs Ferrars gave ten thousand pounds.
- f) At Delaford, Marianne spent a lot of time with

2 Talk to a partner.

- a) What do you think of Willoughby's character?
- b) Why do you think Marianne changes her opinion of the Colonel?

FINAL TASKS

1 Writing. Willoughby tells Elinor his story. Imagine you are Marianne. Write Marianne's story.

2 Writing. Write a new chapter for the book – Margaret's love story. Think about the following questions: *Who does she meet? Does Mrs Jennings help her? What problems does she have? What happens at the end?*

3 Speaking. Choose a favourite character from the book and list the reasons for your choice. In what ways has your character changed by the end of the story? Discuss your favourite character with a partner.

VOCABULARY BUILDER

1 There is a wrong word in each of these sentences. Underline it and find the right word from the 'New Words' list at the back of the book.

- 1. John Dashwood did not keep the hope he made to his father. *promise*
- 2. Edward wanted to get a carriage as a clergyman.
- 3. Colonel Brandon thought Willoughby was a man of bad situation.
- 4. Mrs Ferrars gave Edward £10,000. The rest of her feelings went to Robert.
- 5. There was a lock of hair in the hat Edward wore on his finger.
- 6. Lucy thought only of herself. She was very angry.
- 7. Colonel Brandon loved music, painting and good books. He was a man of excellent business.
- 8. When Colonel Brandon arrived, Marianne immediately left the room. 'She is not very suitable,' thought Elinor.
- 9. Willoughby travelled to Somerset in his road.

2 Find 'New Words' at the back of the book for these definitions.

- 1. Your ideas about someone or something. *opinion*
- 2. A promise to marry made between two people.
- 3. If you have this, you are able to decide what is the best thing to do.
- 4. To feel sad or upset because something has not happened.
- 5. The opposite of funny.
- 6. Something that is right for someone or something.
- 7. Tell someone you are angry or unhappy about something or someone.
- 8. Very, very good.
- 9. If two things are almost the same, they are

JANE AUSTEN (pages 62–3)

Be a novelist

Many problems within marriage and families are the same today as they were two hundred years ago. But the solutions to them could be different. Would the love stories in *Sense & Sensibility* have the same outcome today? Students work in pairs and decide what changes there would be in the story if Jane Austen was writing today.

Research

When Jane Austen was writing, what authors were famous in your country? Students choose an author and find out more about them. They compare the life of this author with the life of Jane Austen. Give the students some questions to guide their research: *Was the author a man or a woman? How many books did he/she write? Were his/her books popular at the time? Are they still popular? What sort of things did the author write about?*

LOVE OR MONEY? (pages 64–5)

Conversations

Work with a partner. Choose one of the pictures on these pages. Imagine what the young people are saying in the picture. Act out your conversation to the whole class.

Research

Using the Internet, students research modern-day examples of famous marriages. They use the information to write a magazine article about the couple. Students can decide whether the couple married for love or money or both!

THE LONDON SEASON (pages 66–7)

Poster

Ask students to design a poster illustrating an event for the London Season. Include information on where the event takes place, what time and who will be there. The class votes on which party looks the best.

Diary

Students write Miss Henrietta Horrocks' diary for the following week. Give the students some questions to guide their writing, for example: *What will happen between Captain Palfrey and Miss Horrocks? Will Henrietta's brother find a suitable young lady? Do any problems arise within the family?*

FILM / CD FOLLOW-UP

Misunderstandings

Choose one of the scenes from the film which involves a misunderstanding. A good example is one of the scenes where Colonel Brandon and Elinor are talking to each other in a way that makes others believe they have a romantic interest. Play the scene a couple of times without sound and ask the students to write a possible script in groups. Play the scene again without sound and students read their scripts at the same time. Now play the scene with sound for students to compare the real script with their own versions.

Who says what?

Choose a short scene before the lesson. Write five or six short quotes from the scene on the board. Students watch or listen to the scene and note down the speaker in each case.

What happens next?

Play a short scene on the DVD or CD. Ask students to tell you what happened immediately before the scene and what happens immediately afterwards.

ANSWER KEY

Self-Study Activities (pages 68–72)

- 1 a) similar b) taste c) serious d) polite e) engaged f) selfish g) fortune
- 2 a) feelings b) a promise c) manner
- 3 a) Marianne b) Colonel Brandon and Lucy Steele c) Mrs Jennings d) John Dashwood e) Elinor f) Edward Ferrars g) Combe Magna h) Barton Park i) Mrs Dashwood and her three daughters.
- 4 a) Because John was his favourite.
b) Because she wants to keep the money for her own family.
c) She feels angry and upset.
d) Because Elinor does not have any money and Edward's mother will not think she is a suitable wife.
e) He offers Mrs Dashwood a cottage on his estate.
f) They both feel sad.
- 5 a) Mrs Jennings b) Marianne c) Marianne d) Willoughby e) Mrs Dashwood f) Willoughby g) Colonel Brandon h) Elinor i) Margaret
- 9 a) carriage b) ring c) complained d) disappointed e) position
- 10 a) wrong b) wrong c) wrong d) right e) wrong f) right g) right h) right i) wrong
- 14 a) excellent b) suitable c) character
- 15 a) Eliza b) Miss Sophia Grey c) Elinor d) Lucy Steele e) Edward f) Robert g) Colonel Brandon
- 19 The correct order is: g, b, e, f, c, a, d.
- 20 a) has borrowed b) loves c) Sophia d) unhappy e) Elinor f) Marianne g) Margaret

Resource Sheet Activities

People and places

- b) Elinor c) Mrs Dashwood d) Sir John Middleton
e) Colonel Brandon f) Marianne

Introduction—Chapter 2

- 1 b) F c) T d) T e) F f) T g) F
- 2 b) i c) v d) ii e) iii
- 3 b) tastes c) similar d) serious e) feelings

Chapters 3–5

- 1 b) He is too open with his opinions.
c) Because Mrs Smith did not invite Marianne, and Marianne went there alone with Willoughby.
d) Colonel Brandon's daughter
e) Because she has no one to talk to.
f) one week
- 2 b) Elinor c) Marianne d) Margaret e) Willoughby f) Elinor g) Edward

Chapters 6–8

- 1 b) selfish c) good sense d) manner e) were not
- 2 c, d and f.
- 3 b) Edward c) Elinor d) Miss Sophia Grey e) Marianne

Chapters 9–11

- 1 b) F. Colonel Brandon's brother did not love Eliza.
c) F. Colonel Brandon's father discovered their plans.
d) T e) T f) F. Eliza's daughter ran away with Willoughby.
g) F. He left her.
- 2 b) Because Miss Morton is rich.
c) Because she does not want Edward to marry Elinor.
d) She didn't want to upset her.
e) Delaford

Chapters 12–15

- 1 b) Willoughby c) Miss Sophia Grey d) Mr Ferrars
e) Edward and Elinor f) Colonel Brandon

Vocabulary Builder

- 1 2. position 3. character 4. fortune 5. ring 6. selfish 7. taste 8. polite 9. carriage
- 2 2. engagement 3. sense 4. disappointed 5. serious 6. suitable 7. complain 8. excellent 9. similar