

Little Women

Louisa May Alcott

Stage 3
B1
Teen Readers

Activity

Put the correct time word or phrase in each space.

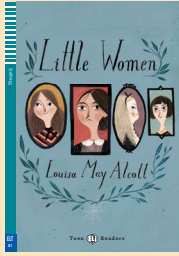
at - down - first - instead - kindly - lots of - other - then

“Come and sit **1** _____ and look **2** _____ our land of dreams,” said Beth **3** _____.

“How beautiful your land of dreams is,” said Laurie, looking at the green fields and hills on the **4** _____ side of the river. “I have **5** _____ dreams,” said Laurie.

“**6** _____, I’d like to see the world. **7** _____, I’d like to become a famous musician. **8** _____,

Grandfather wants me to continue his business, but I hate ships. I think I’ll have to run away, like my father did.”



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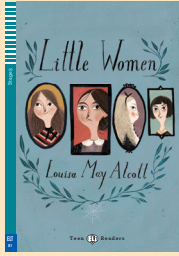
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TEST YOURSELF!

Are these sentences true or false?

	T	F
1 Aunt March has a talking parrot.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Mr. Brooke kept one of Meg's gloves.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Mr. and Mrs. March have three daughters.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Laurie is Mr. Laurence's grandson.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Amy loves reading books and writing stories.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 Jo loves painting pictures and wants to be a famous artist one day.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7 Meg wants a big house with servants.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8 Beth wants to travel the world when she is older.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Answer: 1 T; 2 T; 3 F (4); 5 F (it's Jo); 6 F (Amy); 7 T; 8 F (want to stay at home and look after her mother and father)



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PET – Writing

Rewrite these sentences using the prompts to help you.

- 0 'Let's go shopping tomorrow afternoon', the girls said.
The girls decided to go shopping the following afternoon.
- 1 Mrs. March arrived home. She found her four daughters chatting round the fire. (when) _____

- 2 Beth played the old piano. Then she went to bed. (before / going)

- 3 They arrived at the Hummel's house. Hannah made a fire. (when)

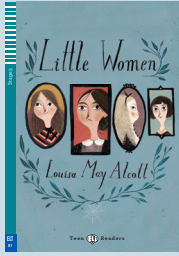
- 4 Jo didn't see Laurie after the party. Then she saw him at the window. (since)

- 5 Jo was looking at a big picture of Laurie's grandpa. Then the door opened and he walked in. (while)

- 6 A few days passed. Mr. Laurence came to see Mrs. March. (later)

1 When Mrs. March arrived home, she found her four daughters chatting round the fire; 2 Before going to bed, Beth played the old piano; 3 When they arrived at the Hummel's house, Hannah made a fire; 4 Jo saw Laurie at the window. She hadn't seen him since the party; 5 While Jo was looking at a big picture of Laurie's grandpa, the door opened and he walked in; 6 A few days later, Mr. Laurence came to see Mrs. March.

Answer:



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Focus on...



THE NOVEL'S TITLE

When using the term “little women”, Alcott was drawing on its Dickensian meaning; it represented the period in a young woman’s life where childhood and elder childhood were “overlapping” with young womanhood. Each of the March sister heroines had a harrowing experience that alerted her and the reader that

“childhood innocence” was of the past, and that “the inescapable woman problem” was all that remained.

Other views suggest that the title was meant to highlight the inferiority of women as compared to men, or, alternatively, describe the lives of simple people, “unimportant” in the social sense.