

Thomas Hardy

TESS OF THE D'UBERVILLES

The story, set in a poor rural area of England in the 19th century, centres around Tess Durbeyfield, a sweet, innocent, country girl who's a victim of fate and her own beauty. In order to help her family, Tess goes to work for Alec d'Urberville who changes Tess's life in a dramatic way. Then Tess meets Angel Clare. Will he love her forever as he promises without judging her for her past, or will Alec d'Urberville become her master? Read and find out.

In this reader you will find:

- Information about Thomas Hardy and his times
- Focus on section about Stonehenge
- Glossary of difficult words
- Comprehension and extension activities including B1 Preliminary style activities.

Tags

Classic literature Relationships Fate Judgement
Social differences

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Thomas Hardy

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TESS OF THE D'UBERVILLES



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Book brief

- 1 *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* is a Victorian tragic novel written by British author, Thomas Hardy and published in 1891.
- 2 The novel is set in the 1880s in the countryside in the south of England that Hardy refers to as Wessex.
- 3 It tells the story of Tess, a young girl from a poor family called Durbeyfield, whose father prefers to dream about his rich, old ancestors rather than work to keep his family.
- 4 Tess blames herself for the death of the family's horse and this accident leads to a series of events that will change Tess's life forever.
- 5 Main themes include the role of fate in our lives, how people are held under control by social classes, nature and women.

Thomas Hardy

Tess of the d'Urbervilles

Retold and Activities by
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For Review Only

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Main Characters

The son of a rich merchant, Alec doesn't think twice about taking advantage of Tess's innocence.



Alec D'Urberville

An intelligent young man who decides he wants to learn all about farming.

Angel Clare



*Tess
Durbeyfield*



The main character of the novel, Tess is a beautiful, young girl who lives in the country with her poor family.

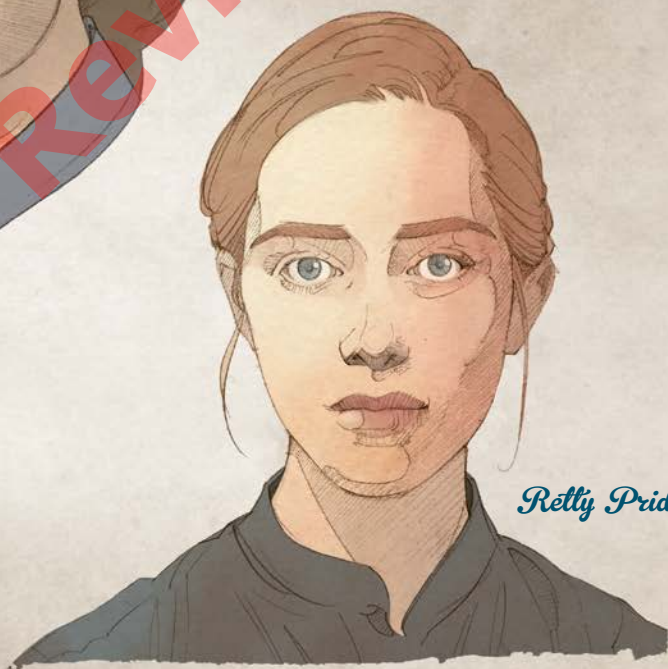
The three milkmaids Tess becomes friends with at the Talbothays Dairy.



Izzy Fluett



Marian



Retty Priddle

Before you Read

Reading B1 Preliminary

- 1 Read about *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and complete the text with one word for each space.

Tess of the d'Urbervilles is a story *about* a young girl
(1) lives in a small village called Marlott with
(2) family. She's (3) very pretty girl, even
(4) she's still too young to realise it. Her mother and father
want (5) to go and work for the d'Urberville family but Tess
(6) not like Alec d'Urberville and she'd (7)
find another job. However, in the end, she decides to do (8)
her parents want because she feels she must help her family.
This is (9) start of all Tess's problems and the rest of the story
shows (10) this decision changes Tess's life forever.

Vocabulary

- 2 Match the words from Chapter 1 to the correct description.
Use a dictionary if necessary.

1 ☒ maiden

2 ☐ parson

3 ☐ inn

4 ☐ merchant

5 ☐ lantern

6 ☐ vault

7 ☐ beehive

a a pub, sometimes with rooms to sleep

b a kind of lamp

c a room under a church

☒ d an unmarried girl

e a person who buys and sells things

f where bees make their honey

g a man of the church

Writing and Speaking 21st Century Skills

3 In *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy talks about country life. Discuss the following questions with a partner and write your answers.

1 Do you live in a city, a town or in the countryside?

.....

.....

.....

2 What do you like about the place where you live?

.....

.....

.....

3 Where would you like to live one day? Why?

.....

.....

.....

4 What's good and bad about living in a big city?

.....

.....

5 What's good and bad about living in the countryside?

.....

.....



Listening

2 **4** Listen to the start of Chapter 1 and decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

The village of Marlott was four hours from London.

1 The story starts when it's autumn.

2 Everyone saw Tess's father riding on his horse.

3 Tess had a large red mouth.

4 The women and girls were going to dance in a field.

5 People from the village and strangers didn't consider Tess's beauty in the same way.

6 The three boys who stopped to look at the girls dancing all left after a few minutes.

T	F
☒	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

The Maiden

- 2 The village of Marlott, with its beautiful landscape of soft hills and fields, lay in the Vale of Blackmoor, four hours from London. It was May Day, and the young girls and women were walking through the village dressed in white and carrying flowers. They were on their way to the field where there'd be dancing to celebrate this special day. The younger girls were not used to everyone watching them and often kept their heads down to avoid all those staring* eyes. They passed The Pure Drop Inn, and one of the older women shouted:

'Tess Durbeyfield, there's your father riding home in a carriage*!'

Tess, turned her head to see. She was a beautiful girl. There was something special about her – maybe her large innocent* eyes or her full, deep red lips. She couldn't believe it! Her father was riding in the carriage and waving to everyone while he sang: 'I've-got-a-great-family-vault-in-Kingsbere.' Everyone laughed except Tess.

'I think he's had too much to drink again,' said the older woman.

'That's not true!' shouted Tess. 'It's just that he's tired and our horse needed a rest today.'

They soon reached the field where they were going to dance and Tess forgot about her father. At this time in her life, Tess Durbeyfield was a young, innocent girl, full of emotion*. Sometimes she seemed like a full-grown woman, while at other times, still a sweet, innocent

In the Victorian era, May Day, was May 1 and was considered to be the middle of spring. It was celebrated with dances and picking flowers to put along the streets to make the town look pretty.

stare look at something/someone for a long time
carriage 

innocent (here) pure
emotion strong feelings

Tess of the d'Urbervilles

child. Everyone in the village thought she was just a pretty, country girl. Instead, strangers to the place were attracted by her fresh beauty. One particular stranger noticed Tess that day. Three young brothers, who were on a walking tour, stopped to watch the girls as they danced. Soon, the two more serious elder ones, were ready to continue, but Angel, the youngest, wanted to dance.

‘Carry on,’ said Angel to his brothers. ‘I’ll catch up with* you in a minute.’

3 The other two left and Angel asked the first girl he saw to dance. It wasn’t Tess Durbeyfield. Soon after, Angel realised it was time to go. As he was leaving, Tess looked at him in disappointment because he hadn’t asked her to dance. He felt disappointed too, but he really had to go. He ran up the hill and at the top, he looked back. Tess, the pretty girl he’d noticed, was standing watching him. If only he’d asked her to dance – but it was too late now and he put any thoughts of her out of his mind.

Tess Durbeyfield couldn’t forget Angel so easily. He’d seemed so much nicer than the village boys. She continued dancing with the others but without feeling any great emotion. Then she remembered about her father and the carriage and decided to go home to see what had happened.

She lived with her family in an old cottage in the village. When Tess arrived home, her mother was singing to the baby and washing clothes in the main room. Tess felt sorry that she’d left her to do everything while she’d been at the May Dance. If you looked carefully, you could see that Tess had taken her beauty from her mother.

‘Tess, I must go and get your father, but first, listen to this,’ said Joan Durbeyfield excitedly. ‘You’ll never guess! Your father comes from a

catch up with reach the same point as someone

The Victorian era was a time of great change because of the Industrial Revolution. Some still followed traditional opinions and thought that it was important to come from a noble family, while others thought it was more important to be rich.

rich, ancient, noble* family called the d'Urbervilles with vaults and who knows what else! The parson told him today. Do you remember the silver spoon we have with the castle on it? That's from his noble family!

The problem was that Jack Durbeyfield, a simple seller and a lazy man, hadn't told his wife the whole story. The parson had also said that the d'Urbervilles had once been rich, but now the only thing that was left were the vaults where they were buried in Kingsbere.

'I'm glad about that,' said Tess slowly, 'but will it help us, mother?'

'Oh yes! Just wait and see!' said her mother, excitedly.

'Where's father now?' asked Tess suddenly.

'Now don't get angry, Tess,' said her mother. 'Today the doctor told the poor man that he must be careful or he could die any minute because of his bad heart. Then he got the good news from the parson, so he went to Rolliver's Inn half an hour ago to have a drink with his friends and tell them all about it. Then, after midnight, he needs to take all those heavy beehives to the market and it's so far away ... a drink with his friends will help him before such hard work.'

'I don't think that was a good idea,' said Tess angrily, 'and you let him go, mother!'

'Well, actually I didn't agree and I was waiting for you to arrive to look after your brothers and sisters so I could go and get him,' said her mother.

To sit with her husband in Rolliver's Inn for an hour or two was one of the few pleasures that Joan Durbeyfield had in her life. She left quickly before Tess could say anything else.

Tess and her mother were very different. Tess had been good at school. She knew things that her mother would never understand. Two hundred years separated the way the two women thought. Her

Tess of the d'Urbervilles

mother's favourite book was *The Complete Fortune-Teller*. She'd read it that day to discover Tess's future.

While Tess finished the washing, she chatted to her nine-year-old brother Abraham, and her sister Eliza-Louisa of twelve and a half. Everyone called her 'Liza-Lu'. The other children were already in bed. Tess was four years older than Liza-Lu and the eldest of the family. After Abraham, there were two girls, Hope and Modesty, then a boy of three and then the baby who was just one year old.

It was now late and Tess's parents hadn't come back, so Tess sent Abraham to the inn to tell them to come home. An hour passed and there was no sign of anyone, not even Abraham so Tess decided to go and get them herself. As she walked along in the dark, she didn't know that her mother and father were deciding her future for her.

Joan Durbeyfield was talking excitedly to her husband, while Abraham sat on the stairs near his parents waiting for them to finish.

'This noble family of yours,' said Joan Durbeyfield, 'I've heard that there's a rich lady who lives near The Chase Woods called d'Urberville. She must be our relation and I think we should send Tess to tell her about us.'

'Yes, of course!' said Durbeyfield. 'It's right that the two branches of our family should meet.'

'Indeed!' agreed his wife. 'Tess should go to this lady, and then she might meet a noble gentleman who'll marry her,' continued his wife. 'I read about her future in my book, today.'

'Do you think Tess will agree?' asked her husband. 'You know, she's strange.'

'Leave her to me,' said his wife. She'd already decided that her daughter would go, if she liked it or not.

Just then, Tess arrived. As soon as they saw her, her parents finished their drinks quickly and left with her and Abraham. It was now eleven o'clock. If her father wanted to get the beehives to the market in Casterbridge on time, he'd have to leave at two in the morning.

At half past one, Tess's mother came into the room where she was sleeping with all her little brothers and sisters and said:

'Tess, the poor man can't go. Maybe we can ask a boy from the village to take the beehives to the market for us.'

'Oh no! I'll go if Abraham comes with me,' said Tess quickly. She didn't want the whole village to know her father had drunk too much again. They woke up Abraham and Tess went out in the dark to get the horse and little old cart* ready. Then they started their long journey in the night.

Prince, their horse was even older than the cart. At first, they walked beside him so the cart was less heavy going up the hill. Once the road became flat, they jumped on the front of the cart and sat side by side, both holding the reins*. Suddenly, Abraham said:

'Aren't you glad that through our rich relation, you're going to meet a gentleman and marry him?'

'Who put those silly thoughts into your mind?' asked Tess, surprised.

'Mother,' said Abraham. 'I heard her talking to father about it while I was waiting for them at the inn.'

Tess suddenly became very still* and said nothing, but Abraham looking up at the stars, continued:

'Tess, do you think the stars are worlds?'

'Yes,' she replied, 'most of them good, but some bad, like the apples on our tree. If we were in a good world, father wouldn't drink so much and mother wouldn't have to wash so much,' said Tess.

Tess of the d'Urbervilles

‘And would you already be a rich lady and not have to marry a gentleman to become one?’ asked Abraham.

‘Oh Aby, don’t – don’t talk about that anymore!’ said Tess.

Abraham was tired now, so Tess made some space for him in the back of the cart among the beehives and he was soon asleep. Although she didn’t usually drive the cart, she thought she could manage Prince since he was such an old slow horse. Everything was dark and silent now. Tess didn’t realise how tired she was and she soon fell asleep too. Suddenly, she was woken by something pulling on the reins.

The cart had stopped. They were much further along the road than Tess could remember before falling asleep. A deep groan* came from the front of the cart, then she heard: ‘Hey there!’ Someone was shining a lantern in her face. Tess jumped down from the cart and then she saw Prince. The poor horse had a piece of wood stuck under his neck. There was blood everywhere. While she was sleeping, her cart had crashed with the early morning post cart coming in the opposite direction. She tried to stop the blood by putting her hand over the hole – it was useless. Her father’s poor horse, Prince lay down and died.

The man on the post cart helped her take off the reins and said:

‘You were on the wrong side of the road. I need to take the post to town, but I’ll send somebody to help you. It’s almost daylight now, so you’ll be alright.’

The man went away and Tess stood looking at the horse.

‘It’s all my fault,’ she cried. ‘What will mother and father live on now? Aby, Aby!’

The boy, realising immediately how serious the situation was, started to cry too.

groan the sound someone makes when they’re in great pain

Reading Comprehension

1 Choose the correct answer, A, B or C about Chapter 1.

On May Day in Marlott...

- A** ☐ everyone went on a trip to London.
- B** ☒ the women wore white clothes.
- C** ☐ all the men rode in carriages.

1 Tess Durbeyfield...

- A** came from a small family.
- B** wasn't pretty at all.
- C** knew a lot more than her mother did.

2 Jack Durbeyfield...

- A** was a lazy man and drank too much.
- B** went to the market with Tess.
- C** wasn't interested in his family history.

3 The horse, Prince, died...

- A** because the cart was too heavy.
- B** because he was very old.
- C** in an accident with the post cart.

4 Tess agreed to visit Mrs d'Urberville because...

- A** she wanted to find a husband.
- B** she blamed herself for Prince's death.
- C** she wanted to escape from her family.

5 Mr Simon Stoke...

- A** had been a real member of the ancient, noble d'Urberville family.
- B** had added d'Urberville to his name to seem more important.
- C** had bought the old d'Urberville house in the country.

6 Alec d'Urberville...

- A** told Tess to go away.
- B** found Tess very attractive.
- C** felt embarrassed when he was with Tess.

7 At the end of the chapter, Tess decided to ride home with Alec...

- A** because she wanted to be alone with him.
- B** because she wanted to go for a ride in the woods.
- C** because she wanted to escape from the angry women.

Grammar

- 2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

take • be • think • wash • not realise • not ask • marry • not exist

- Everyone in the village *thought* Tess was just a pretty, country girl.
- 1 Tess was disappointed that Angel her to dance.
 - 2 When Tess got home, her mother clothes.
 - 3 Joan Durbeyfield hopes that one day, her daughter
a noble gentleman.
 - 4 Tess said she the beehives to the market instead
of her father.
 - 5 The noble d'Urberville family anymore.
 - 6 Tess how dangerous Alec d'Urberville was.
 - 7 The other women jealous of Tess's beauty,
so they shouted at her.

Pre-Reading Activity • Chapter Two

Listening B1 Preliminary

- 4 3 Listen to the start of Chapter 2 and complete the sentences with the words you hear.

- Tess decided to go back home one *Sunday* morning in October.
- 1 D'Urberville had driven fast up and down those same hills last
.....
 - 2 The hadn't changed but Tess had, since the lesson
she'd learnt in the woods.
 - 3 Alec d'Urberville offered to drive her the rest of the way in his
.....
 - 4 Tess wasn't of d'Urberville anymore.
 - 5 When Tess saw her, she started to cry.
 - 6 Tess hated herself because she'd let d'Urberville her.
 - 7 D'Urberville said that Tess didn't have to work in the
or dairies anymore.

Maiden No More

- ▶ 4 Early one Sunday morning in October, a few weeks after the night ride in The Chase Woods, Tess decided to go home. She walked up and down the same hills where d'Urberville had driven so fast in June. At the top of one hill, Tess stopped to look at the familiar landscape. *It's as beautiful as always* thought Tess, *not like me*. She'd changed since the lesson she'd learnt in the woods.

She heard the noise of a cart. It was Alec d'Urberville.

He caught up with her quickly and said:

'Why did you leave without telling anybody? You know that nobody wished to stop you going! If you don't want to come back, at least let me drive you the rest of the way.'

Tess agreed and climbed onto the cart next to him.

She wasn't afraid of him anymore – there was nothing more to be afraid of. Tess showed no emotion until she started to cry at the sight of her village, Marlott.

'What are you crying for?' asked d'Urberville coldly.

'I was thinking that I was born over there,' said Tess.

'Well, if you didn't wish to leave it, why did you come to The Slopes? You didn't come for love of me, that's for sure,' he said.

'That's true,' said Tess. 'If I loved you, I wouldn't hate myself now for letting you trick me.'

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'That's what every woman says,' he replied.

'Have you never thought that what every woman says some women may feel?' she shouted angrily.

'Very well,' he said laughing. 'I'm sorry – I did wrong and I know it – but you know that you needn't work in the fields or dairies* again.'

▶ 5 'I don't want anything from you,' said Tess angrily.

'Well, Tess, I can say no more. I suppose I'm a really bad guy. I was born bad and I've lived bad, and I'll probably die bad – but I promise you Tess, I won't ever be bad to you again. If you ever need any help in the future, just write to me.'

Tess didn't want his help. She got down from the cart, but as she was turning to go, he said:

'You're not going like that! Come here!'

'If you wish,' she answered coldly as she let him kiss her on the cheek.

'You don't give me your mouth and kiss me back,' he said. 'I don't think you'll ever love me.'

'It'd be easier for me to tell a lie right now but I'm still honest enough not to do that,' said Tess.

'Well, you needn't be so sad, Tess,' he said. 'You have more beauty than many other women – use it well. Goodbye my four months' cousin!'

Tess didn't look back. As she walked along the path, she passed a gate where a man was writing in big red letters:

'HELL* IS WAITING FOR YOU!'

'Why are you writing such terrible words?' Tess asked the man shocked. Maybe he knew what she'd done, she thought.

'To make dangerous young girls like you think,' he said. 'If you

dairy a farm with cows where they make things from the milk

hell they say you go there when you die if you're bad

want to hear more, go and listen to a very good parson at the church in your town today, Mr Clare of Emminster.'

Tess didn't reply and carried on walking. When she got home, everyone was sleeping except her mother.

'Well, Tess,' said her mother surprised. 'How are you? Have you come home to get married?'

'No I haven't come for that,' said Tess. Then she told her mother everything.

'And you're not going to marry him?' said her mother. 'Any woman would marry him after what he did!'

'Any woman except me,' replied Tess.

'But you were such a pretty couple,' said her mother, almost crying. 'Why didn't you think of doing some good for your family instead of thinking only of yourself? Why weren't you more careful if you didn't want to make him marry you?' she shouted angrily.

'Oh mother!' cried Tess. 'I didn't know anything! I was a child when I left this house four months ago. Why didn't you tell me that men can be dangerous?'

'I didn't speak about what he felt for you and what might happen in case you decided not to go,' replied her mother. 'Well, we must make the best of it, I suppose. It's nature after all, nothing strange.'

Everyone in Marlott soon heard that Tess had come back and some of the young girls came to visit her. While talking to them, Tess forgot her troubles, but the next morning she felt so sad again that she wanted to hide from everyone.

A few weeks later, Tess decided to go to church one Sunday. While the parson was speaking, many of the local people turned to stare at Tess and then whispered* to each other. Tess knew what

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they were talking about. She didn't go back to church again, but stayed at home watching the months and seasons go by. She only went out for a short walk after dark, when everybody else was at home. While walking, she felt out of place in the pure nature around her, blaming herself for what had happened, when really she had nothing to blame herself for.

August came and it was harvest* time. Everyone was already hard at work in the fields around Marlott at sunrise. A big machine cut the wheat*, leaving it in the field to be picked up and tied together. Most of the workers were young girls. One of them kept her head down as she worked, never looking up like the other young girls to see if any of the boys were watching. When she stood up to rest, you could see the face of a beautiful young woman with deep dark eyes.

It was Tess Durbeyfield, otherwise d'Urberville, a bit changed – living like a stranger in her hometown. After hiding for so long, this was the first day she'd decided to start working outdoors again.

At about eleven o'clock, Tess saw a group of children between six and fourteen years old coming over the hill towards her. Her face became red but she continued working. The eldest girl was carrying, what at first seemed to be a doll, but was actually a baby in long clothes. Another child brought some lunch. Tess Durbeyfield stopped working and took the baby from her sister Liza-Lu. She turned away from the others, her face even redder than before, opened her dress and started to feed the baby. When the baby was full, the young mother sat it in her arms and looked into the distance over the child's head, almost as if she didn't like it. Then, suddenly, she started kissing the child again and again as if she could never stop.

Many big changes happened in the 19th century in farming. The use of machines for some jobs meant that work became quicker and easier.

harvest when plants, grown for food, are ready to be picked

wheat a type of cereal

‘She loves that child,’ said one of the women, ‘even if she tries to make us believe that she hates it.’

‘She’ll soon change,’ replied another woman. ‘It’s wonderful what a body can get used to with time, but I think it took more than a bit of persuading that night in the Chase Woods last year – they say that they heard somebody crying. Nobody went to help though. If they had, that other one would be in big trouble now.’

‘What a pity! It always happens to the prettiest ones! Poor Tess!’ replied the first woman.

It was time to start work again so Tess gave the baby back to her sister. They finished late in the evening and as they rode home in the cart, the women sang and told Tess how happy they were to see her again. They were so friendly that Tess almost felt happy, but not for long.

When she got home, she discovered that her baby had suddenly become ill. The only thing that Tess wanted now was for her child to live, but it was obvious that her baby was dying. Tess was terrified at this thought and felt even more desperate* when she realised that the parson hadn’t baptized* her baby yet. She didn’t want him to go to hell. She asked her father to call the parson, but he said no. He didn’t want any parson in his house, asking too many questions.

Tess went to bed, but in the middle of the night, her baby got worse. She sat on the bed, the baby in her arms – her poor little baby with no father and not baptized. Suddenly she had an idea how to save her baby from hell. She lit a candle, and woke up her brothers and sisters who were sleeping in the same room. She told them to kneel* and make a circle around her. Then with a jug in one hand and

desperate how you feel when you don’t know how to solve a terrible situation

baptize when the church recognises that a person becomes one of its members

kneel go down on your knees

Tess of the d'Urbervilles

the baby in her other arm, she poured some water over his head and saying the words that the parson usually said in church, she baptized the baby herself. She called him SORROW.

Poor little Sorrow died just before sunrise. Tess had another thought now. Would the parson bury Sorrow like all other members of the church? She went to speak to the parson that evening and asked:

‘Will it be just the same for him as if you’d baptized him?’

The parson heard the emotion in the voice of the poor girl, so he said:

‘Yes, it’ll be just the same.’

‘Then will you bury him like a normal member of the church?’ asked Tess quickly.

The parson felt he was in a tight corner. On hearing that the baby was ill, he’d gone to the girl’s home the night before to baptize him but Tess’s father hadn’t let him in.

‘I’m sorry, but I can’t,’ he said at last.

‘Then I don’t like you!’ shouted Tess with tears running down her cheeks, ‘and I’ll never come to your church again!’

‘It won’t make any difference – your child will still be safe,’ said the parson.

They put Sorrow in a little box and buried him in the churchyard that night by the light of a lantern. It was the worst part of the churchyard where all unbaptized babies, criminals and people who drank too much were buried. Tess bravely made a little cross tied with flowers, and put it at the head of the grave*. Then she put a jar of flowers at the other end. “Keelwell’s Marmalade” was written on the jar, but Tess, blinded by the love for her lost baby, didn’t notice this detail.

In the Victorian period, the number of babies who died was very high, especially those from poor families. Even as late as 1883, only 450 out of 1000 babies born to poor families managed to reach the age of five.

grave a hole in the ground where you bury people



Tess spent the winter at her father's house. As the months passed, she remembered the terrible night in The Chase Woods, and the dates of her baby's birth and death. All these events had changed Tess from a simple girl to a complex* woman. She decided that the only way to escape from her sad past was to leave Marlott.

One day, in early May, a letter arrived from a friend of her mother's. It said that a dairy, a few miles south, was looking for a dairymaid* for the summer. Tess had decided; there'd be no more d'Urberville castles in her new life – only Tess the dairymaid. Her mother had understood too and never talked about their noble family anymore. At the same time though, Tess was interested in the dairy called Talbothays, because it was near the great family vaults of the ancient d'Urberville family. She wondered if any strange good things might happen since she'd be so near them.



complex not simple, with lots of different sides or parts

dairymaid a girl or woman who gets milk from cows or does other work in a dairy



Reading Comprehension

1 Put the sentences about Chapter 2 in the right order (a - h).

- ☒ a Tess went back to Marlott in October.
- 1 ☐ Tess went to speak to the parson.
- 2 ☐ Liza-Lu brought the baby to Tess in the fields.
- 3 ☐ Tess decided to go and work in a dairy.
- 4 ☐ Tess baptized her baby and called him Sorrow.
- 5 ☐ Some of the village girls came to visit Tess.
- 6 ☐ Tess's father refused to call the parson.
- 7 ☐ Tess saw a man writing something on a gate.

Vocabulary

2 Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

sunrise • jar • ~~cheek~~ • troubles • parson • stranger •
churchyard • circle

D'Urberville insisted on kissing Tess on the *cheek*
before letting her go.

- 1 Tess forgot her while talking to the village girls.
- 2 Tess was living like a in her hometown.
- 3 The children knelt in
a around
Tess and her baby.
- 4 Sorrow died just before
.....
- 5 The had come
to Tess's house the night before.
- 6 They put Sorrow in a box
and buried him in the
.....
- 7 Tess put a
of flowers at Sorrow's grave.



Listening B1 Preliminary

-  **6** **3** Listen to the start of Chapter 3 and choose the correct answer, A, B or C.

Tess had returned from The Slopes...

- A** ☒ two or three years before.
- B** ☐ one or two years before.
- C** ☐ three or four years before.

- 1** This time, Tess travelled...

- A** ☐ all the way in a cart.
- B** ☐ in the opposite direction.
- C** ☐ all the way on foot.

- 2** When Tess saw Kingsbere...

- A** ☐ she felt love for her noble family.
- B** ☐ she wanted to take the spoon to their vaults.
- C** ☐ she felt hate for her noble family.

- 3** Compared to Marlott, this place...

- A** ☐ had smaller fields.
- B** ☐ had bigger farms.
- C** ☐ had fewer cows.

- 4** Tess thought...

- A** ☐ the air was heavier here.
- B** ☐ it was nicer here than her hometown.
- C** ☐ the rivers were dirtier.

- 5** Tess was now...

- A** ☐ twenty years old.
- B** ☐ twenty-one years old.
- C** ☐ twenty-two years old.

- 6** Tess...

- A** ☐ had no hopes for the future.
- B** ☐ still felt desperate.
- C** ☐ wanted to leave her sad past behind her.

- 7** At the dairy...

- A** ☐ the owner was not happy to see Tess.
- B** ☐ the farmyard was full of cows and people.
- C** ☐ the people in the farmyard all ran to welcome Tess.