Miser: *someone who has a great desire to possess money and hates to spend it, sometimes living in very unpleasant conditions because of this.* (Cambridge International Dictionary of English).

Page 9 – exercise 3 possible answers:
introduce the characters, plot, time and locational setting; create suspense, curiosity, interest and the desire to continue reading.

Chapter One

Page 15 – exercise 1
a. Memorising the names of characters
Apart from Silas Marner, a varied collection of villagers is introduced: Jem Rodney; Squire Cass; Mr Macy; Sally Oates. At this stage it is not possible to decide with certainty the importance or marginality of any one character.

b. Understanding relationships existing between these characters
Silas Marner is considered an outsider. He is the object of suspicion.

c. Clarifying time and location
At the beginning of the 19th century; a rural community in England.

d. Inferring relations of cause and effect
We are not told in Chapter One. We can only infer that he came seeking work. The personal reasons for his leaving his home town will be revealed in the next chapter.

e. Picturing physical appearances
The only description we have in Chapter One is the bent shape of his body as he worked and his large brown short-sighted eyes (pp. 11-12).

Page 15 – exercise 2
A. Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phrases fixing a historical setting</th>
<th>Phrases referring to Silas Marner and his life in Raveloe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In the days when the spinning wheels hummed busily in the farmhouses…’ (p. 10)</td>
<td>Silas had lived in Raveloe for fifteen years. (p.12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In that far off time… To the peasants of old times…(p.11)</td>
<td>As the years went by… (p.14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the early years of this century… (p.11)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 8 – exercise 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paragraph number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Mentions fairy tale elements in the story? 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Gives a brief description of Eliot’s family background? 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Gives reasons for the unpopularity of Silas Marner amongst the inhabitants of Raveloe? 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Links a negative event with positive consequences? 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Views Silas Marner as the last of a certain type of novel by the author? 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Describes Silas Marner’s unhappy life? 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 8 – exercise 5

Future novels abandon the rural setting and become more ambitious in scope and construction.

Before you read

Page 9 – exercise 2

George Eliot and *Silas Marner*

Page 8 – exercise 1

a. 3  b. 1  d. 5  e. 2  f. 4  c. is not used

Page 8 – exercise 3

The rural setting of the English countryside.

Page 8 – exercise 4

Lonely male protagonist; the love of nature; rural setting.
The first group of phrases distances the writer’s narrative world from the reader’s present. This distancing also creates ‘another world’ effect. The second group of phrases tells the reader how long Silas Marner had been in Raveloe and how long he had been an outsider.

**B. Characters and relationships**

**a.** Eliot tells us the villagers were very superstitious and that they didn’t like anything strange or new (p.10).

**b.** She is basically sympathetic, explaining their views rather than judging them. This is clear from the paragraph beginning: *To the peasants of old times, the world outside their own direct experience was a region of mystery…*

c. i. Where were their homes? (p.11); Who were their fathers and mothers? (p.11); And how can you trust someone if you do not know who his father and mother were? (p.11); Where was all that money going? (p.14).

**ii.** These questions highlight the reasons for the villagers’ suspicions. They also tell us not only what the villagers do not know but what the reader does not know either. We as readers are in the same position as the villagers. The questions function as a curiosity-creating device.

**iii.** Where was all that money going?

Looking Ahead

Open answers

---

**Chapter Two**

**Page 24 – exercise 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silas</th>
<th>William Dane</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Honest and innocent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facial expression</td>
<td>Trusting simplicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position regarding salvation</td>
<td>Hopeful but unsure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Severe and critical of others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>narrow slanting eyes and thin lips (p. 18).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>absolutely certain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Page 24 – exercise 3**

Those present were convinced that his mysterious suspended state had a spiritual meaning. They thought Silas had been chosen by God. The fact that the members of the community are unable to believe that Silas’s fit had no religious significance is exploited by Dane’s insistence that the trance seemed more like a visitation of Satan than a sign of God’s favour.

---

**Page 24 – exercise 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The accusation</th>
<th>What really happened</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Realising the deacon was dead, sometime between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m.</td>
<td>William Dane came at 2 a.m., saw Silas in a trance and took advantage of the situation to discredit him, taking the money (using Silas’s knife); He planted it in Silas’s home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silas stole the deacon’s money</td>
<td>Silas took the money home and hid it behind his wardrobe in his bedroom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silas took the money home and hid it behind his wardrobe in his bedroom.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Page 25 – exercise 5**

He loses everything: his companionship and mental activity; his prospects for future happiness with Sarah; his faith ‘…there is no just God who governs the earth; there is only a God of lies, who bears witness against the innocent!’ (p. 22)

**Page 25 – exercise 6**

The two extracts illustrate Eliot’s critical position with regards to a religious faith rooted in ignorance and superstition; a faith which is prepared to ignore socially accepted forms of justice (the people of Lantern Yard never called the police…) and sentence a man on the basis of drawing lots.

**Page 25 – exercise 7**

Both communities are characterised by ignorance and superstition. Eliot is far more sympathetic to the villagers of Raveloe, whose suspicion is based on an ignorance of the world outside their ‘direct experience’ and one which does not seek religious justification.

---

**Chapter Three**

**Page 31 – exercise 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who is the most prominent person in Raveloe?</td>
<td>Squire Cass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is the eldest of the Cass sons?</td>
<td>Godfrey Cass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is liked by the community?</td>
<td>Godfrey Cass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is seen as a suitable bride for Godfrey?</td>
<td>Nancy Lammeter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who drinks and gambles?</td>
<td>Dunstan Cass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who is Godfrey’s secret wife?</td>
<td>Molly Farren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who buys and sells horses?</td>
<td>Bryce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vocabulary

Physical description
- handsome, pleasant young man; (p. 26)
- (not as) healthy and happy as usual…(p. 26);
- …sad, pale face (p. 27)

Other information
- …soon he would marry Miss Nancy Lammeter; (p. 26)
- Godfrey and Nancy were fond of each other (p. 26)

Godfrey Cass
- A spiteful fellow…(p. 26)
- His plump face… (p. 27)
- …a sneering smile (p. 27)

Dunstan Cass
- The villagers did not like Squire Cass’s second son who (…) laughed at other people’s misfortunes and wasted all his money on gambling and drink… (p. 26)
- (his face ) was red and his eyes were bright (p. 27)

Page 32 – exercise 3

Sample answers:
a. This would not be very difficult! He is, however, morally weak.
b. Probably, yes; so explaining the fact that he ultimately does what Dunstan suggests.
c. Absolutely not! Being amoral, he is completely disinterested in other people’s moral judgement.
d. Dunstan certainly isn’t afraid of his father. It is probably too early to understand Godfrey’s feelings. He is certainly afraid of his father’s power to deprive him of economic comfort.
e. The chapter has shown clearly the amoral nature of Dunstan’s character.
f. Absolutely not! See b.

Page 32 – exercise 4

- Dunstan borrows money from his brother; money which originally belonged to their father (It was the rent I had collected for father). (p. 27). Dunstan ignores any obligations he may have towards his father and continues to use his brother’s secret to his (Dunstan’s) benefit. There is no compassion here and no desire to help.
- Dunstan preferred to sell the horse, because he knew it would pain Godfrey. (p. 28)

Page 32 – exercise 5

Dunstan’s thoughts
1. You won’t see me walking. Walking indeed!
2. No horse, no money and, to make things worse, this miserable weather.
3. What’s that light? It must be Marner’s cottage.
4. I’ll borrow some money from him. He has lots. I’ll pay him back with interest.
5. Just let him try refusing me money! I’ll change his mind.
6. No answer, I’m going in.
7. No one here. Maybe Marner’s lost or better still drowned.
8. Where does he keep that money everybody talks about?
9. If he’s dead, nobody will ever know the money’s gone.
10. It must be here somewhere. What’s that on the floor?

Reported form
- Now Dunstan would have to walk home and that seemed to him a humiliating thing…
- He always rode on horseback to and from the village. It was nearly four o’clock and a fog was gathering. Dunstan started walking home along the lonely lane, drinking his brandy and swearing at his misfortune.
- Then suddenly he saw a light. Dunstan realised that it must be coming from the window of Silas Marner’s cottage.
- He would also ask Silas to lend him some money. He would promise to pay interest…
- …and if Silas was still unwilling to part with his gold, he would frighten him a little.
- There was no answer, so Dunstan pushed the door and it opened.
- Perhaps he got lost in the fog and had fallen into the abandoned quarry. If so, he would certainly drown…
- Dunstan thought of taking the money.
- If the old weaver were dead, no one would ever know that it had been stolen.
- He looked around the cottage, searching for the hiding place. The brick floor was sprinkled with sand, but in one place the sand had been smoothed by a hand.
Chapter Four

Page 38 – exercise 1
1. Silas discovers his money is missing.
2. Silas goes to the Rainbow for help.
3. The next day the villagers look for clues at Silas’ cottage.
4. Bryce tells Godfrey about the accident to Wildfire.

Page 38 – exercise 2

Page 39 – exercise 3

Page 46 – exercise 1
1. c 2. b 3. b 4. a 5. c

Page 46 – exercise 2

The effect of the pattern chosen is to maintain the separate identity of each narrative whilst preparing for the convergence of the narratives that begins in Chapter Six.

Page 46 – exercise 3

A. ‘to mourn’: to feel sad or show sadness for the loss of life, because someone has died’. (Cambridge International Dictionary of English).

B. moaned: his reaction, and the suffering caused, is as if a real person has died.

Page 47 – exercise 4
A. not to tell his father
B. that he had lent the money to Dunstan, who had accidently killed Wildfire
C. the theft of Silas’s gold (and the fact that Dunstan had once disappeared once before following an argument with his father).
D. His wife and whether she would appear to tell his secret.
E. Nancy’s character is revealed without being a central character to the plot. She is introduced in this way as a separate character but one who is at the same time connected to Godfrey. Her thoughts emphasise the conflict in emotions when the characters address ‘moral dilemmas’. She is a woman with high moral standards but she is not as hard hearted as she appears.

Page 47 – exercise 5

A. B. The world outside her own is a mystery. What she does not know is shrouded in superstition. Her attitude to religion is a clear example of this.

Typical behaviour | Signs of change
--- | ---
Worked all day | He invited Mrs Winthrop into his cottage
Desperate about the loss of his money | He was grateful for her kindness
Worked on Sunday | He offered Aaron a cake
Relieved when Mrs Winthrop and her son left |  

Page 47 – exercise 6
Silas Marner
Will the theft of his money be solved?

Godfrey Cass
What will his secret wife do?
What will Dunstan do?

Nancy Lammeter
Will she find out Godfrey’s secret?
Will she decide to marry him?

Looking ahead

Page 48 – exercise 1
A. a. He had a fit (the third one mentioned in the story so far).
Evolutionary Theory

Page 52 – exercise 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1798</th>
<th>1833</th>
<th>1844</th>
<th>1852</th>
<th>1859</th>
<th>1861</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

by Thomas Malthus by Charles Lyell by Robert Chambers coined by Hubert Spencer by Charles Darwin by George Eliot

Page 52 – exercise 2

1. How can the present class system be justified?
2. Why can’t women have the same rights and opportunities as men?
1. Are we, as humans, no better than any other species?
2. What is the meaning of life?

Chapter Six

Page 52 – exercise 3

– Silas’s loss of faith was as a result of empirical evidence.
– the natural vs. supernatural debate at the Rainbow over the robbery of Silas’s money.

Page 60 – exercise 1

DUNSTAN

What did he do after his accident on Wildfire?
a. he robbed …

MOLLY

What did the child do after its mother collapsed?
b. she went to …

...Silas Marner’s house

What would he have done if he hadn’t found Silas’s money?

What would Molly have done if she hadn’t collapsed in the snow and died?

b. He would have continued to blackmail Godfrey so forcing Godfrey to…

...reveal his secret

Page 61 – exercise 3

A.

1. Visit | Reason for visit | Place of visit | Impact of his arrival |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st visit: Chapter Four (p. 34)</td>
<td>He wanted to report the theft of his gold.</td>
<td>The Rainbow pub</td>
<td>They were drinking beer, telling jokes and laughing when the door burst open and there stood Silas Marner, soaking wet, trembling and as white as a ghost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd visit: Chapter Six (p. 57)</td>
<td>He needs a doctor after finding the child and its dead mother.</td>
<td>The Red House, home of Squire Cass</td>
<td>…looking up (Godfrey) saw what seemed to be an apparition from the dead. Silas Marner stood there, wet with snow…</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Similarities: Silas arrives on both occasions wet and distraught; on both occasions his arrival interrupts a party-atmosphere and causes surprise and even a little fear. (They feel like they’ve seen a ghost).
Differences: The reasons for his need for help is different: the loss of money on the first occasion and the arrival of a child on the second; the destinations: the two places represent the two sides to Raveloe life. The Rainbow represents the peasant class whilst the Red House represents the landed classes.

Page 61 – exercise 4

A.

Relief | Guilt |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Molly is dead. He can marry Nancy.</td>
<td>He would like to confess (also out of decency for Nancy). He is saddened by the fact that his child does not recognise him and that he will not admit it is his.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. While his wife lives, his life will always depend on the secret they share, which she at any moment could reveal. If that secret were to be revealed he (Godrey) could lose both Nancy, who he wants to be his wife, and possibly his inheritance.

C. open answer

Chapter Seven
Page 69 – exercise 1
Dolly Winthrop: paragraph beginning: the day after ... Dolly Winthrop brought some clothes ... Eppie: probably from paragraph beginning: So the child was christened ... (p. 63); Godfrey: clearly from the paragraph beginning: One person watched Eppie's growth with particular interest (p. 63).

Topic shift is marked by change of subject, place, time.

Page 69 – exercise 2
Both accept the idea that life is basically mysterious and respond to it in consequence. Silas does not understand why his money was stolen or why Eppie has been brought to him. He accepts both; the latter by wanting to bring the child up as best as possible. Dolly accepts the mysteries of the world by following her code of behaviour: practical generosity, acceptance of conventional rules (‘prayers ... and good words and good things that will keep us from harm’). Both are ignorant of worlds that are different from their own: Dolly does not know of baptism just as Silas does not know of christening.

Page 69 – exercise 3
1. cooking and cleaning
2. to looking after a child
3. be tied to the loom with a piece of linen
4. to be christened and to go to church
5. Silas hasn’t been christened

Page 69 – exercise 4
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dolly tells Silas ...</th>
<th>Her actual words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How to dress the child</td>
<td>NOT REPORTED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the child must be looked after whilst Silas is working</td>
<td>‘But what are you going to do with her while you work at your loom?’ (p. 63).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the child must be christened and should go to church</td>
<td>‘And you must take her to church...She probably hasn’t even been christened yet’ (p. 63).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the child should be disciplined</td>
<td>‘You must smack her...either that or put her in the coal-hole’ (p. 65).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 70 – exercise 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Sentence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>b. Eppie was christened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>e. Dolly tells Silas that Eppie must be smacked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>f. Eppie manages to cut the strip of linen tying her to the loom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>a. Eppie runs outside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>i. Silas runs to the quarry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>d. Silas finds the girl and holds her in his arms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>g. Eppie is put in the coal-hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>j. Eppie cries asking to be let out of the coal-hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>c. Eppie is washed and changed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>h. Eppie goes to the coal-hole for a joke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 70 – exercise 6
1. Silas is inevitably drawn closer to the community of Raveloe because of: the practical implications of having and bringing up a daughter (his need for help, as provided by Dolly Winthrop);
2. the goodwill shown to Silas by his adoption of the child (Silas was doing something socially acceptable);
3. Silas’s desire to do everything he can for the child meant integrating the child into its social context.

Page 70 – exercise 7
The contrast between Silas and Eppie highlights how far Silas had gone into his narrow, lonely life and how Eppie’s arrival brought a new life of joy and companionship. This journey would have been the same with a character who was not as ‘lively’ but it would have been considerably harder to narrate.

Page 70 – exercise 8
A. The problem of his secret wife has been resolved: his wife is dead and their child has been adopted by Silas Marner. Dunstan is unlikely to return and so Godfrey is free to marry Nancy.
B. marriage to Nancy with a happy family; maintaining his responsibilities towards Eppie without raising suspicion.
c. Aaron is obviously dissatisfied with the social injustice of a system that allows a few to have too much and too many to have too little. His origins along with his contact with the Red House as gardener give him ample evidence to support these views.

Page 78 – exercise 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short-term plans</th>
<th>Medium/long-term plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>– Build a garden</td>
<td>– marry Aaron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– live together with her father and husband</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 79 – exercise 2

open answers

Looking ahead

Chapter Nine

Page 79 – exercise 1

1. b. linen-weaver (not a local profession of Raveloe)
2. d. severe (associated with William Dane)
3. a. Mr Snell (the landlord of the Rainbow; the others are regulars)
4. c. Sarah (not connected to Raveloe)
5. a. spiteful (adjective describing Dunstan Cass; the others describe Godfrey)

Page 79 – exercise 5

open answers

Page 78 – exercise 3

a. He has grown up and fallen in love with Eppie. He is handsome and respectable. He works for Godfrey Cass.

b. Godfrey’s life apparently continues without drama: he is renewing his gardens and land. His decision to drain the quarry so as to use the land shows him in the role of efficient squire.

Part 2

Chapter Eight

Page 78 – exercise 1

Bright, Autumn Sunday (p. 73); the bells were ringing (p. 73); the freshest blossom of youth, a blonde dimpled girl of eighteen; a handsome man …(p. 73); this happy animal life …(p. 76).

Page 72 – exercise 5

open answers

Page 78 – exercise 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Year’s Eve, 16 years earlier</th>
<th>A bright Autumn Sunday, 16 years later</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silas was in his thirties</td>
<td>Silas is 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He had dark hair</td>
<td>His hair is white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eppie was a young child</td>
<td>Eppie is 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silas had no pets</td>
<td>They have a dog and two cats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His cottage was simply furnished</td>
<td>The house has fine pieces of furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The quarry was full of water</td>
<td>The water of the quarry has dropped</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 72 – exercise 6

The situation as it stands at this stage in the story is morally unacceptable to Eliot and to the moral norms of the period. Godfrey cannot get away with it. Some form of judgement or retribution is inevitable. The victims of the deception (Nancy, Eppie) have a right to know the truth. Perhaps only Silas would be satisfied with not knowing the truth.

How will it occur: Godfrey’s secret is revealed. Students should be asked how they imagine this revelation will occur.

Part 2

Chapter Eight

Page 78 – exercise 1

Bright, Autumn Sunday (p. 73); the bells were ringing (p. 73); the freshest blossom of youth, a blonde dimpled girl of eighteen; a handsome man …(p. 73); this happy animal life …(p. 76).

Page 72 – exercise 5

open answers

Page 78 – exercise 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>‘positive’</th>
<th>‘negative’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Godfrey</td>
<td>He was heavier (p.80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a handsome man; his hair was still blond and his skin smooth; (p. 80)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td>(a little pale; (she) has had troubles in her life; (p.80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>still a good-looking woman; clear brown eyes expressed … patience and quiet strength; a woman who has … born (her troubles) bravely. (p. 80)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. though: contrastive or adversative linkers can be divided into three main categories according to the grammatical context they require:
1. intra sentential, joining two main clauses together: but;
2. introducing a subordinate clause or noun phrase: although, though, despite (the fact);
3. as an adjunct to a main clause marked off by a comma: however; yet.

Page 85 – exercise 3

A. • 16 years ago Dunstan disappeared and Molly Farren died;
• 15 years ago, soon after their marriage Squire Cass died and Godfrey inherited the Red House;
• After 10 years of marriage it became clear that Nancy could not have children and Godfrey told her he wanted to adopt a child, possibly Eppie;
• Two years later Godfrey raised the subject of adoption again and Nancy continued to refuse;
• For four years now Godfrey had not mentioned the idea of adopting Eppie.

B. – Godfrey wanted to adopt Eppie. Nancy believed that it was God’s will for her not to have children. Therefore, adoption also was against God’s will.
– Nancy might not have married Godfrey if he had told her about his marriage to Molly.
– If Godfrey had told Nancy about Eppie immediately after their marriage Eppie would have loved Nancy as her mother.
– If Godfrey had been truthful about his past their marriage would have been happier.
– If Eppie had been adopted by Godfrey and Nancy Cass, she (Eppie) would have been brought up as a lady/she might not have have been any happier.

Page 86 – exercise 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Your reaction (‘yes’, ‘no’, ‘not given’)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nancy wanted only her own children.</td>
<td>Yes: ‘it would be wrong to go against God’s will (p. 81).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy resigned herself to not having children almost immediately.</td>
<td>No: ‘...as the years passed...Slowly Nancy gave up hope ... (p. 80).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godfrey would not have wanted to adopt any other child but Eppie.</td>
<td>Not given: it depends on our opinion of him whether he would have been prepared to adopt another child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy was saddened by her husband’s insistence on adopting Eppie.</td>
<td>Yes: Godfrey, however, could not accept it (not having children) and this caused Nancy further pain and sadness (p. 81).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godfrey in time accepted life without children.</td>
<td>Not given: the fact that he had not mentioned the idea of adopting Eppie for four years now... (p. 81), does not necessarily mean that he had ceased to want a child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godfrey didn’t understand the strength of Silas’s feelings for Eppie.</td>
<td>Yes: Godfrey never imagined that Silas would rather die than part with Eppie (p. 81).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy uses her religion to justify her opposition to adoption.</td>
<td>Yes: it was God’s will and (…) her duty, as a good Christian, (…) to accept it (p.p. 80/81).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy’s views on adoption are inconsistent.</td>
<td>Not given: This is not stated explicitly. It depends very much on the reader’s opinion of Nancy’s actions: she isn’t prepared to adopt Eppie when she is an orphan but she is when she finds out that Godfrey is her father. However, this could also be interpreted as consistent with her view that when a child has a natural parent, this should be recognised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy has a easy-going approach to life.</td>
<td>No: ‘...nothing is worth doing wrong for – nothing in the world’(p. 84).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy believes she is the main victim of Godfrey’s lies.</td>
<td>No: ‘...the person you really wronged was Eppie’ (p. 84).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Looking ahead

Page 86 – exercise 1
open answers

Chapter Ten

Page 93 – exercise 1
1. e   2. b   3. a   4. c   d is not used

Page 93 – exercise 2
The loss of his gold coincided with the arrival of Eppie. With the loss of his money he was saved from a life in misery. Eppie replaced his material well-being with love and companionship.

Page 93 – exercise 3
The return of his money coincides happily with Eppie’s plans to marry Aaron (and give them the financial help they will need).

Page 94 – exercise 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument</th>
<th>Silas’s or Eppie’s replies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The social advancement for Eppie</td>
<td>‘I would be miserable if I left my father...I don’t want fine clothes or a carriag or a big house’. (Eppie) (p. 90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godfrey is Eppie’s natural father</td>
<td>‘Why didn’t you come 16 years ago, before I began to love her...God gave her to me because you did not want her and now He looks upon her as mine’. (Silas) (p. 99)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 94 – exercise 9
accepting to be without a child

Page 94 – exercise 10

a. Godfrey admitted his secret to Nancy

b. Silas – anxious, Eppie - mistrustful, reinforcement of her attachment to Silas; Nancy - sympathetic.

c. Dunstan’s body is found in the quarry near Silas’s cottage, where he fell the night of the theft.
hard work; large markets in the Empire.
3. Machines facilitated mass production: flying shuttle, spinning jenny.
4. Production shifted from individual artisans to mass production and the factory system; weavers could not compete with mass produced products so weavers moved to cities to seek work in the factories; villages were depopulated as weavers and other artisans became extinct.

The two meanings are: weak and unhealthy in appearance; a craft which became extinct as a result of industrialisation.

Conclusion

A. open answers
B. a. to get engaged
b. white wedding
c. reception
d. bride; bridegroom

*Weaving and the Industrial Revolution*

**Page 105 – exercise 1**

1. from 1740 to 1850
2. positive climate for enterprise and
In Raveloe, Silas’s miserable existence without love and companionship is compensated by a growing pile of gold. When this is stolen he is desperate. The miraculous arrival of Eppie leads Silas back to a life of companionship not only with Eppie directly but also with the social contacts with the village his adoption of Eppie entails. Godfrey’s dilemma stems from past secrets that come back to haunt him. His rejection of Eppie as a baby and his decision not to tell his secret prove to be mistakes. He is, however, morally a better person after telling his wife his secret. The news and the subsequent refusal by Eppie to join them bring the couple together.

The outer circle of Raveloe and its inhabitants serves various functions. It highlights the original feelings of suspicion about Silas the outsider but also their goodwill towards him when he decides to adopt Eppie. Raveloe is a social microcosm and proves an interesting historic description of English village life at the beginning of the industrial revolution. It compares starkly to the ‘great industrial town’ that Silas and Eppie go back to in search of the chapel at Lantern Yard.

Sample answer:
The organic form that typifies Eliot’s writing (especially up to ‘Silas Marner’) of an inner and outer circle is clearly present in ‘Silas Marner’. The dilemmas of Silas and Godfrey are at first separate and unconnected. Silas has been wrongly accused of stealing and the response of his chapel leads to his flight from his own town, the people he loved and his loss of faith.
1. They knew nothing about them and did not understand their skills.

2. He didn’t mix socially; Jem Rodney had seen him in a death-like trance; he was saving a large amount of money.

3. The unjust accusation of theft; the dishonesty of William Dane; the drawing of lots to decide guilt or innocence.

4. He drank and gambled; he blackmailed his brother; he robbed Silas Marner.

5. He went to the Rainbow to ask for help.

6. He would have to tell his father about his marriage to Molly because he was no longer able to raise 100 pounds after the death of his horse, Wildfire.

7. She entered his house whilst he was in a trance.

8. He was unable to punish Eppie; he was patient with her naughtiness.

9. He offers to dig the garden, and bring soil and herbs from Mr Cass’ garden.

10. His wife and Silas.

11. Dunstan’s dead body was found in the drained quarry.

12. She loved Silas and had no ambition to become a lady.

13. He learns to accept his past and the fact that the truth about the real events at Lantern Yard will never be revealed.

14. They resign themselves to their existence and think they can be happier than they had been so far.

15. Nancy Lammeter: she suffers years of silence on her husband’s part; Silas Marner: he is unjustly accused of theft; he is robbed by Dunstan Cass; Eppie: she loses her mother and her natural father refuses to recognise her.

Complete these sentences:

‘All our bad deeds come to light in the end…’

1. Because Godfrey didn’t want his father to know about Molly, his brother Dunstan ....

2. Because he didn’t want Nancy Lammeter to know that the child Silas brought to the Red House was his, he agreed ......

3. Because he did not recognise his daughter when she was a little girl, later, a grown-up Eppie refused ......

4. Because he had to accept Eppie’s decision, on the day of her wedding Godfrey Cass ......

Look at this sentence:

‘The gold had gone… and you had come in its place’

How are the Cass brothers responsible for what Silas says?

What do you think is the moral of the story? Write a composition explaining your choice.

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2. He didn’t mix socially; Jem Rodney had seen him in a death-like trance; he was saving a large amount of money.

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…was able to blackmail him.

…letting Silas keep the child.

… to leave Silas and live with the Cass family.

… could not go to the wedding and left the village for the day.

Dunstan steals his gold, but Godfrey gives him Eppie.

open answer