

Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Secret Garden

KEY TO THE EXERCISES AND EXIT TEST

Page 8 – Exercise 1

- False – Britain controlled all of India.
- True
- True
- False – British children were looked after by Indian nursemaids.
- False – Things were very similar for rich families.
- False – They saw their parents only for a short time each day.
- False – Poor families lived in houses with only one or two bedrooms.
- True
- False – They left school to earn money to buy food and clothes for the family.

CHAPTER ONE

Page 13 – Exercise 1

1. D 2. A 3. A 4. B 5. D 6. B

Page 14 – Exercises 2-3

Open answers.

Page 15 – Exercise 4

1. work 2. parties 3. she wanted
4. unpleasant 5. dead 6. nine

Page 15 – Exercise 5

Open answer.

Page 16 – Exercise 6

2. fire/fireplace 3. table 4. plate
5. knife 6. fork 7. glass 8. candle
9. picture 10. rug 11. chair
12. pillow

Page 17 – Exercise 7

Possible answer:

Dear Susan,
What a coincidence that you ask me about children just now. A little girl has just arrived here who I must look after – at least for now. Her name is Mary Lennox and she is Mr Craven's niece. She lived in India but both her parents died during a terrible epidemic. Mr Craven, of course, could not abandon his sister's child. In any case, she is a sour and extremely unpleasant little girl. Completely spoiled! Generally I like children but this one seems to me to

be from another world. She doesn't even seem English. I hope a real governess will come soon because I do not like looking after her.
Yours sincerely
Mrs Medlock

Page 17 – Exercise 8

- a. 6 b. 4 c. 8 d. 5 e. 7 f. 1 g. 3
h. 2

ABOUT INDIA

Page 20 – Exercise 1

- China
- Three
- 1876
- India's great leader
- Hindu
- A mausoleum built by an Indian emperor for his wife
- Indian cooking

Before you read

Page 21 – Exercise 1

1. C 2. A 3. C 4. B 5. C 6. C

CHAPTER TWO

Page 27 – Exercises 1-2

- A
- A
- A
- B – He did not seem particularly pleased to see Mary.
- A
- A
- A
- A
- A – She asked the robin if it wanted to be her friend.
- A

Page 27 – Exercise 3

- That she was sour and not good-looking.
- Uncomfortable.
- Like an old woman.
- Like a real child.

Page 28 – Exercise 4

- carrot/pea/potato/turnip/swede/runner bean
- oak/elm/ash/sycamore/plane
- rose/pansy/daisy/sunflower/buttercup/carnation

Page 29 – Exercise 5

- hard
- strong
- well
- good
- large
- empty
- ugly
- happy
- wonderful
- wild

Before you read

Page 29 – Exercises 1-2

- NO – It was Mrs Craven's.
- YES
- YES
- NO – She was bored because she had nothing to do.
- YES
- YES

CHAPTER THREE

Page 37 – Exercise 1

- Mr and Mrs Craven.
- The scullery maid.
- She shouted at Mary, and told her to go back to her room.
- She was good-natured and hard-working.
- Because she did not like herself.
- The key to the locked garden.
- A gust of wind blew away the ivy that was hiding the door.



- h.** Because she was afraid that she would then be forbidden to go there.

Page 37 – Exercise 2

- a.** She is becoming stronger. Her complexion is no longer yellowish. Now it is pink.
b. She is sorry for her uncle. It shows that she is learning to think about other people.
c. She wonders how Martha's mother could buy it since she has so little money. Again, this shows us that she is beginning to think of other people and not just herself.

Page 37 – Exercise 3

- a.** It is overgrown and untidy but plants were beginning to grow.
b. She is spoilt and unpleasant.
c. Because nobody has looked after it for ten years.
d. Because nobody concerned themselves with giving Mary a good upbringing for ten years: she had physical comforts, but nobody who loved her and taught her about life.
e. She has met Martha and she has made friends with Ben and the robin. Also, she is outside all the time doing something she likes.
f. Because Mary is looking after it by pulling up the weeds.
g. She thinks it is the loveliest and most mysterious place she has ever seen.
h. They both probably realise that 'a spoilt child' is a child that has not had proper care, and that if Mary has proper care she too will become a pleasant and happy little girl. In other words, despite

her outward appearance Martha likes Mary.

Page 38 – Exercise 4

- a.** Do you see **b.** is not working
c. understand **d.** are you doing
e. is singing **f.** feels **g.** skips
h. is pulling **i.** want **j.** do you do

Page 39 – Exercise 5

- 1.** is going **2.** is talking
3. is eating **4.** is going
5. is meeting **6.** is putting on

ENGLISH GARDENS

Page 42 – Exercise 1

- 1.** C **2.** B **3.** C **4.** A **5.** C **6.** B

Before you read

Page 44 – Exercise 1

- 1.** NO – He had blue eyes.
2. YES
3. NO – He had heard of it but he did not know where it was.
4. NO – He thought it was a strange and pretty place, like a dream.
5. YES
6. NO – He just asked her if there was anything she wanted.

CHAPTER FOUR

Page 49 – Exercise 1

- 1.** A **2.** A **3.** C **4.** C **5.** A **6.** D

Page 50 – Exercise 2

- 1.** may **2.** so pleased **3.** you don't go
4. he goes abroad **5.** when

Page 50 – Exercise 3

- 1.** A **2.** A **3.** A **4.** D **5.** B **6.** B
7. D **8.** B **9.** A **10.** B

Before you read

Page 52 – Exercise 1

- 1.** A **2.** A **3.** C **4.** B **5.** C **6.** B

CHAPTER FIVE

Page 57 – Exercise 1

- a.** 'Because I am afraid that people will see me.'
b. Because people will stare at him.
c. Because his mother died when he was born.
d. Because his father locked the secret garden ten years ago, when Colin was born.
e. Because she thinks that Colin will tell someone.

Page 57 – Exercise 2

- a.** Mary was Mr Craven's niece. / Mary was his niece.
 Mr Craven was Mary's uncle. / Mr Craven was her uncle.
b. Mrs Lennox was Colin's aunt. / Mrs Lennox was his aunt.
 Colin was Mrs Lennox's nephew. / Colin was her nephew.
c. Mr Craven was Colin's father. / Mr Craven was his father.
 Colin was Mr Craven's son. / Colin was his son.
d. Martha was Dickon's sister. / Martha was his sister.
 Dickon was Martha's brother. / Dickon was her brother.

Page 58 – Exercise 3

- 1.** B **2.** B **3.** C **4.** B **5.** C

Before you read

Page 59 – Exercise 1

- 1.** NO – She was worried that she would lose her job.
2. YES
3. NO – He thinks it must be a wonderful place.
4. NO – He seemed to be pleased with the thought that he was going to die.
5. YES
6. YES

CHAPTER SIX

Page 65 – Exercise 1

- a.** He thought that one of the gardeners was looking at him.
b. Because everyone said that he would die.
c. People should make less fuss of him and allow him to go out.
d. He should come out to the garden and look at the flowers and animals.
e. He was angry because Mary had not been to see him.

Page 65 – Exercise 2

- a.** He is spoilt because the servants do everything he wants them to do.
b. His own death was the weapon he used to get what he wanted.
c. He was probably angry with Mary because she said that she would never talk to him again if Colin sent Dickon away.
d. *Open answer.*

Page 65 – Exercise 3

- a. Martha was very upset.
- b. It rained for a week, so Mary could not visit the garden.
- c. The robin was building a nest.
- d. A whole week had gone by since Mary had seen Dickon.
- e. Mary was awakened by the sound of screaming and crying.
- f. She ran into Colin's room and shouted at him.

Page 66 – Exercise 4

Mary: sour, plain
 Martha: friendly, cheerful
 Ben: old, grumpy
 Colin: selfish, sad
 Mr Craven: handsome, sad
 Dickon: kind, happy

Page 67 – Exercise 5

- a.
 1. boots
 2. hat
 3. gloves
 4. scarf
- b.
 - a. head
 - b. hands
 - c. neck
 - d. feet

Before you read**Page 68 – Exercise 1**

1. a long
2. as straight as
3. Yorkshire
4. laugh
5. animals
6. trust

CHAPTER SEVEN**Page 73 – Exercise 1**

1. D
2. D
3. C
4. C
5. D

Page 74 – Exercise 2

1. is going to study/is going to work
2. will bring
3. am going to talk

4. will break/won't break
5. am going to see/will tell

Page 75 – Exercise 3

There is a rabbit:

1. on top of the hedge.
2. in front of the hedge.
3. behind/next to the sunflower.
4. under the table.
5. on the chair.
6. next to/behind the flower pot.

Before you read**Page 76 – Exercise 1**

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. A
5. C

CHAPTER EIGHT**Page 82 – Exercise 1**

- a. He cried with happiness.
- b. Running away from his sorrow.
- c. The sound of the water filled him with peace, and suddenly he was healthy and happy.
- d. Because he dreamt of his wife's garden.
- e. The secret garden.
- f. Laugh.

Page 82 – Exercise 2

- a. It means 'cowardly'.
- b. She probably chose it on purpose since he ran away from his sadness for ten years and did not have the courage to see his own son.

Page 82 – Exercise 3

- a. He made her realise for the first time that she was a sour little girl who talked like an old lady. It was the first time that she saw herself as others saw her.

- b. Martha was bright and cheerful, and treated Mary like a capable little girl.
- c. Martha's mother sent her a skipping rope which helped her to become strong physically. Also, she probably gave her two children, Dickon and Martha, good advice about Mary.
- d. He knew how to make Mary trust him, and he shared his world of nature with her.
- e. It made her grow healthier and stronger.
- f. It was her first friend and it showed her where the secret garden was.
- g. Besides being a healthy place to play, it gave Mary something wonderful and special of her own to share with other people.

Page 82 – Exercise 4

- a. Mary was the first person to treat Colin like a healthy little boy and to dare to fight with him when he acted badly. She also, of course, took him out of his sad little room to the magical garden.
- b. He brought him his animals, and he gave Colin the lamb to nurse. Also, of course, Dickon became Colin's playmate in the secret garden.
- c. It was the 'magic' of the secret garden which made Colin decide that he was going to be healthy and strong; his cousin Mary and the famous doctor had not been enough to convince him.

Page 83 – Exercise 5

Open answer.

Page 83 – Exercise 6

Possible answer:

My dearest Mary,
 I still think about how when my mother was pregnant with me and one day the branch she was sitting on broke. She was badly hurt and then she died giving birth to me. My father locked up their garden and he locked me away too. I lived for ten years thinking that I was going to die. In part, this was horrible and cowardly of my father, but I can understand him. My mother was everything to him. Before she came into his life he had been a sad young man. She showed him how wonderful life could be. So, when she died, it must have seemed like a horrible joke to him.

So, dear cousin, I have forgiven him, but, of course I am sad when I think of those sad, sad years I spent in bed. However, ever since he returned from Austria he has been the best father in the world.

Your loving cousin,
 Colin.



Page 84 – Exercise 7

2 HEALTHY W 6
 4 1 Y O 5 MOOR
 7 TOOTHACHE N O
 R K 8 KID B
 9 CROOKED E I
 O S 10 WUTHERIAN
 11 SELFISH 13 14 H
 T I 12 IMPATIEN TLY
 15 NANNY R L H E
 I 16 VEGE T A B L E S
 R 18 A T C 20 21 D
 22 F S 19 G H O S T L I
 S P O I L E D A R A S 24 25
 O X 27 I 23 U N C O M F O R T A B L E
 U 26 S Q U I R R E L S B B O U
 R V T E O S
 Y L I
 S N
 S E

Page 86 – Exercise 8

The princess is Mary.
 The evil spirit is death and the sadness that follows.
 The good fairy is Martha.
 The wood nymph is the robin.
 The satyr is Dickon.
 The magic spell is the Yorkshire spring.
 The 'sweet, sleepy land' is India.
 The castle is Misselthwaite.
 The 'lovely land of roses and fruit trees' is the secret garden.

- c. No. I have a governess.
- d. He looks after the land around the house.
- e. The servants cook and clean.
- f. By carriage.
- g. No.
- h. Yes, but sometimes I feel sad because I have no one to play with.

Page 86 – Internet Project

Suggested Web site:
<http://moors.uk.net/index.php>

THE RICH AND POOR
 IN VICTORIAN TIMES

Page 90 – Exercise 1

- a. In a big house in the country.
- b. Two sisters and one brother.

Page 93 – Exercise 2

- a. A small cottage.
- b. No.
- c. Six children live in the house.
- d. He works on a farm.
- e. No.
- f. My mother does the cleaning and cooking.
- g. No.
- h. No.

Focus on the context

1 Answer the following questions.

- a. Who was the author of *The Secret Garden*?
- b. Where and when was she born?
- c. To which country did her family emigrate when she was sixteen years old?
- d. What is the title of her most famous novel?
- e. What did Britain have control of, at the time *The Secret Garden* was written?

Focus on the story

2 Say whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F). Then correct the false statements.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. At the beginning of the story, Mary Lennox's family lived in Africa. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Mary was a rude, spoilt, young girl. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. When Mary's parents died, she went to live with her grandfather in England. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Mr Craven locked the garden and gave the key to his housekeeper, Mrs Medlock. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Mary found the key in the garden. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. All the animals trusted Dickon. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. When Mary first met Colin, he was a happy and healthy boy. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h. Colin was Mr Craven's son. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i. Colin was very happy when Mary and Dickon took him to the secret garden. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j. When Mr Craven arrived home and found Colin in the secret garden, he was very angry and started to cry. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

3 Do you know the opposite of the words below? You can find them all in *The Secret Garden*.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| a. healthy | i. tidy |
| b. fat | j. slowly |
| c. happy | k. strong |
| d. ugly | l. live |
| e. cold | m. late |
| f. polite | n. bottom |
| g. light | o. near |
| h. weaker | |

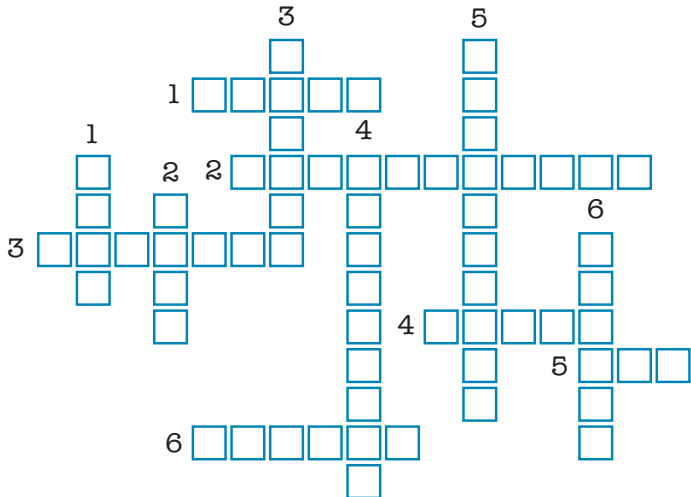
4 Complete the crossword.

ACROSS:

- Ben Weatherstaff's friend.
- Mrs Medlock was Mr Craven's
- Mr Craven's back was
- The secret garden was a ... garden.
- The missing object.
- Mary was a ... girl.

DOWN:

- The main character in the story.
- Mary opened this to enter the secret garden.
- Mr Craven was often ... - in other countries.
- Dickon took two of these to show Colin.
- Mary and Dickon took Colin into the garden in this.
- Martha's brother.



Focus on the context

- 1**
- Frances Hodgson Burnett.
 - Manchester, England in 1849.
 - The USA.
 - Little Lord Fauntleroy.
 - All of India.

Focus on the story

- 2**
- False. At the beginning of the story, Mary Lennox's family lived in India.
 - True.
 - False. When Mary's parents died, she went to live with her uncle in England.

- False. Mr Craven buried the key in the garden.
- True.
- True.
- False. He was an unhappy and ill boy.
- True.
- True.
- False. He was proud and started to laugh.

3

- ill
- thin
- sad
- beautiful
- hot
- rude
- dark
- stronger
- untidy
- quickly
- weak
- die
- early
- top
- far

4 Crossword:

