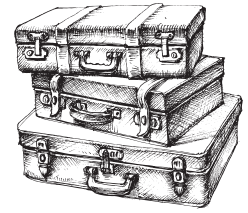




Anne of Green Gables: Discussion Guide #5



Encourage critical thinking and support your students' literacy development by asking questions during reading. Here are some questions you can ask your readers to engage them in a discussion. **Sample answers**

CHAPTERS 34 – 38

CHAPTER XXXIV. A Queen's Girl

CHAPTER XXXV. The Winter at Queen's

CHAPTER XXXVI. The Glory and the Dream

CHAPTER XXXVII. The Reaper Whose Name Is Death

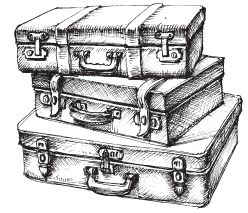
CHAPTER XXXVIII. The Bend in the Road

Comprehension:

- What makes Marilla cry when Anne is preparing to leave for Queen's?
Marilla cries because Anne has grown up and changed so much. She's distraught that Anne is going away.
- How does Anne feel when she first arrives at Queen's, and what's her academic goal?
Anne feels painfully homesick for her old life at Green Gables. She plans to get a First Class teacher's license in one year instead of two.
- Who wins the gold medal and who wins the Avery scholarship?
Gilbert wins the gold medal, and Anne wins the Avery scholarship.
- What problems does Anne learn about when she goes back home to Marilla and Matthew?
Anne hears about the gossip that Abbey Bank, the bank where the Cuthberts have all their money, is on the brink of failure. She learns that Matthew's health has been declining and he's had some "bad spells." She also learns that Marilla's pain behind the eyes has worsened and is inhibiting her ability to work.
- What does Matthew say to Anne when they are walking to get the cows in the back pasture?
Matthew says that he'd rather have Anne than a dozen boys, and he tells her how proud he is of her.
- What shocking news does Matthew discover the following morning, and what happens as a result?
Matthew reads in the newspaper that Abbey Bank has failed, and the shock kills him.
- How does Anne cope with her grief?
Anne tells Diana that she wants to be alone for the night. She reflects on her memories of Matthew and when she thinks of him telling her how proud he is, she starts to cry. She and Marilla grieve together. In the days that follow, Anne feels startled at how regular life can go on, and she feels guilty when she experiences joy.
- What bad news does Marilla get from the eye doctor?
Marilla learns that she'll go blind unless she always wears her glasses, never cries, and stops sewing and reading altogether.



Anne of Green Gables: Discussion Guide #5



Encourage critical thinking and support your students' literacy development by asking questions during reading. Here are some questions you can ask your readers to engage them in a discussion. **Sample answers**

CHAPTERS 34 – 38

CHAPTER XXXIV. A Queen's Girl

CHAPTER XXXV. The Winter at Queen's

CHAPTER XXXVI. The Glory and the Dream

CHAPTER XXXVII. The Reaper Whose Name Is Death

CHAPTER XXXVIII. The Bend in the Road

- What decision does Marilla make about Green Gables and why? What decision does Anne make in response and why?

Marilla decides to sell Green Gables because with Matthew dead, Anne about to go away, her own eyesight failing, and all their money gone, she doesn't think she's capable of running Green Gables on her own. Anne decides to give up her Avery scholarship and teach locally instead of going away to college, so she can live nearby and help Marilla. That way, Marilla won't have to sell Green Gables.

Analysis:

- The final chapter is called "A Bend in the Road," a reference to something Anne says to Marilla in this chapter: "When I left Queen's my future seemed to stretch out before me like a straight road. I thought I could see along it for many a milestone. Now there is a bend in it. I don't know what lies around the bend, but I'm going to believe that the best does." Explain what Anne means by this.

Anne is saying that when she graduated Queen's, she felt like she knew exactly where her life was headed and what she was going to do next—use her scholarship to get a B.A. degree from Redmond College. But Matthew's death, Marilla's health problems, and the Cuthberts' shaky financial state have forced Anne to change her plans and teach locally instead. Anne doesn't know where her life will take her, but she's optimistic that things will work out for the best.

- What does Gilbert do for Anne at the end of the book, and how does this affect their relationship? Why do you think Gilbert made this choice?

Gilbert decides to give up his position as the teacher at the Avonlea school and teach at the Carmody school instead, which will allow Anne to live at Green Gables while she teaches. This prompts Anne to approach Gilbert to thank him, and they make amends and agree to be friends. Gilbert likely made his choice because he cares about Anne. He knows that Anne and Marilla are already going through grief and hardship, so he wants to make things easier for them. It's likely that he recognizes that Anne living and working in Avonlea will make it easier for them to spend time together.

Personal Connection:

- Anne studies incredibly hard, and her hard work pays off when she gets accepted into Queen's and eventually wins the Avery scholarship. Describe a time when you dedicated yourself to something and your hard work paid off.

Student answers will vary.