

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

1 Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy March, Mr and Mrs March, Laurie Laurence, Laurie's grandfather.

2 Student's own answer. Student's can use information from these pages to guess what the sisters might say. It is a cold, winter evening in December. Meg and Amy are the oldest and the youngest of the sisters. It is wartime and their father is away. Their mother is out, visiting a poor sick family.

3 1 The sisters give their Christmas breakfast to the Hummels.
 2 Mr Laurence sends a special Christmas supper to the sisters.
 3 Jo visits Laurie and his grandfather.
 4 Beth plays the piano at the Laurence House.
 5 Beth knits some slippers for Mr Laurence.
 6 Mr Laurence gives a piano to Beth.
 7 Jo and Meg go the theatre with Laurie.
 8 Amy throws Jo's book of stories on the fire.
 9 Jo and Laurie go skating and Amy follows them.
 10 Amy falls in the water. Jo and Laurie pull her out of the river.

4 Student's own answer. Sample answers:
 (a) Meg: This is very hard. I can't understand some of the words.
John Brooke: I'll help you.
 (b) Laurie: John is in love with Meg. Isn't that wonderful?
Jo: No. It isn't wonderful. It's terrible news.
 (c) Meg: Amy hasn't had scarlet fever. She must stay with my father's aunt.
Dr Bangs: Good. Take care of Beth. I'll come again tomorrow.

5 (a) 'He'll take her away from us.'//Jo
 (b) 'He loves Meg very much.'//Marmee
 (c) 'I'll never marry anybody!'//Jo
 (d) 'I'm very happy to see you, John.'//Meg
 (e) 'He must go away. Please tell him.'//Jo
 (f) 'I'm too young for marriage.'//Meg
 (g) 'Meg must marry a man with money.'//Aunt March
 (h) 'Will you marry me?'//John Brooke
 (i) 'She is your sister. But John loves her too.'//Laurie
 (j) 'Welcome to our family.'//Jo

6 Student's own answer. Possible details:
 (a) *Beth and Mr Laurence*: Beth is allowed to play Mr Laurence's piano after he invites her to do so. She makes (knits) him some slippers as a present to thank him. He gives her a piano of her own.
 (b) *Laurie and Jo* are the same age and become friends after Laurie invites her to visit him. Jo realizes that though Laurie is rich he is lonely.
 (c) *John Brooke and Meg*: John is Laurie's tutor and Laurie is a friend of the March sisters. John falls in love with Meg. He helps her family when her father is ill. He finds and keeps a glove of hers because he has fallen in love with her. He asks her to marry him.