

Bridget Jones's Diary

Helen Fielding

A Before Reading

1 Bridget Jones was played by Renée Zellweger. The main male characters were played by Colin Firth and Hugh Grant.

2 Students' own answers. (By the end of the book, Bridget seems to have succeeded in resolution number 2, and possibly also number 4.)

Possible advice: use nicotine replacement patches (to stop smoking), join an Internet dating site (to meet a man), join a gym near her flat (go to the gym more often), see her parents more (be kinder to people).

3 Students' own answers.

B While Reading

4 a Students' own answers. Possible answers may include:



sexy, selfish, successful in his career, a womaniser, confident, a sports fan, rude, flirtatious, an emotional coward, dishonest, attractive

successful in his career, reliable, helpful, divorced, easily embarrassed, rude (Bridget thinks so at first), hard-working, in love with Bridget, honest, attractive, well-known

b Students' own answers.

5 Correct answers:

Order (1-8)	Party	What happens?
3	Bridget's birthday party	c Bridget's friends take her to a restaurant instead of eating shepherd's pie at her house.
1	The Alconburys' New Year's Day Turkey Lunch	a Bridget meets Mark Darcy for the first time and the meeting does not go well.
2	Magda and Jeremy's dinner party	d Bridget finds herself with four married couples who ask her why she is not married.
6	The Darcys' ruby wedding party	h Mark asks Bridget if she has read any good books lately and then invites her for dinner sometime.
8	Christmas Day at Bridget's parents' house	e Julio is arrested.
4	The publication party for <i>Kafka's Motorbike</i>	g Bridget tries to use the advice she has read in a magazine about how to behave at parties.
5	Una and Geoffrey's summer party	f Bridget is the only person wearing fancy dress.
7	Bridget's November dinner party	b Bridget serves blue soup.

- 6
- First of all, she is advised to give some personal information about people when introducing them at a party. She does this, but Mark seems to find this funny because he does the same thing in an ironic way when introducing Natasha. Secondly, she is advised to have aims for a party. She has difficulty finding good aims, but she decides that her first aim is not to get too drunk.
 - Students' own answers.
 - Students' own answers.

C After Reading

- 7 a Students' own answers. Some possible advantages/disadvantages are given below.

Bridget's lifestyle	Advantages	She has more freedom; she can go out with her friends when she wants; she can spend her money on herself; some people think her lifestyle is glamorous.
	Disadvantages	She feels lonely and sad at times; she feels that she needs to be thinner, better and healthier to attract a man; she feels used by men who don't want a long-term relationship.
Magda's lifestyle	Advantages	She lives in a nice house; she has nice children; she has a 'comfortable' lifestyle.
	Disadvantages	She has little time for herself; she doesn't have the same freedom as Bridget; her husband is having an affair.

- Students' own answers.
 - Students' own answers.
- 8 Students' own answers.