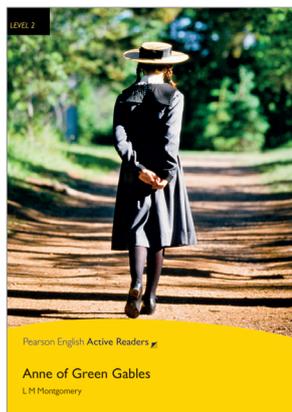


Anne of Green Gables

L. M. Montgomery



Summary

Anne Shirley arrives by chance in Avonlea, a small rural village in Canada on Prince Edward Island and slowly wins over the hearts of her adoptive parents and neighbors.

Chapter 1: Green Gables, a farm in Avonlea, is the home of Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, a middle-aged single brother and sister who want to adopt a boy to help them on the farm. However, Anne, an orphan girl, is sent by mistake and on her first night she cries herself to sleep when she learns that they were looking for a boy. That night Matthew tells Marilla that he wants to keep Anne.

Chapter 2: As Marilla takes Anne to Mrs. Spencer, an orphanage worker, and Anne tells her the sad story of her life, Marilla hesitates. She then refuses to leave Anne when she is told that she is going to be in the care of such an unkind woman as Mrs. Blewett.

Chapter 3: Mrs. Lynde meets Anne for the first time and makes fun of her red hair. Anne reacts angrily and, after refusing to apologize for a day, she finally tells Mrs. Lynde she is sorry just to make Matthew happy.

Chapter 4: Anne puts some wild flowers on her hat to go to church and is invited to go to a party. But then Marilla loses a brooch and blames Anne for it. Anne makes a false confession so that she can go to the party, but Marilla does not let her go. Fortunately, Marilla finds the brooch, she apologizes to Anne and lets her go to the party.

Chapter 5: Diana Barry, a neighbor, becomes Anne's best friend. Anne's first day at school turns out to be a nightmare since she breaks her slate on Gilbert Blythe's head because he makes fun of her red hair. Anne is punished and has to sit next to him the whole day. Anne refuses to talk to Gilbert despite his attempts. She drops out of school and studies at home.

Chapter 6: Anne's ways often get her into trouble as a young girl, but after each incident, there is a happy ending. Anne invites Diana for tea but instead of giving her cordial, she gives her wine. Mrs. Barry says she doesn't want her to spend time with Diana. But one day, Minnie May, Diana's sister, has croup and Anne saves her life. Mrs. Barry apologizes to Anne, and Anne and Diana can be friends once again.

Chapter 7: Anne bakes a cake for Mrs. Allan, the reverend's wife, but she put medicine into it instead of vanilla. Mrs. Allan finds it funny, consoles Anne and invites her to tea with her.

Chapter 8: At Diana's party, Anne tries to climb up Diana's house and falls. She has to stay in bed for a long time. When Anne gets better, she recites two poems in a concert wearing the new dress that Matthew gives her for Christmas.

Chapter 9: As Anne hates her red hair, she dyes it and it turns green. Although she washes it every day, the color stays. Marilla then decides to cut it short. Another day Anne gets into trouble on an old boat when she lets the river carry her away. Fortunately, Gilbert Blythe saves her, but she still refuses to be his friend.

Chapter 10: Anne sits for the Queen's College examinations to become a teacher. Anne and Gilbert Blythe's names come first.

Chapter 11: Matthew dies and Marilla is afraid she will have to sell Green Gables. Anne is able to return to the village to teach at her old school and take care of Marilla. When she finds out that she got the teaching job thanks to Gilbert, she no longer hates him and they finally become friends.

About the author

Lucy Maud Montgomery was born on November 30, 1874, on Prince Edward Island, eastern Canada. Her mother died when she was 21 months old, and she was raised by her grandparents. Montgomery lived on Prince Edward Island until she married the Reverend Ewen Macdonald, then moved to north Ontario and had three children. She wrote a dozen novels there, many of them about Prince Edward Island, including *Anne of Green Gables*. It was an immediate success and has been translated into fifteen languages. Even Prince Edward Island has become famous because of the book. Other books that followed are *Anne of Avonlea*, *Anne of the Island*,

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and *Anne's House of Dreams* in which Anne finally marries Gilbert Blythe. Montgomery also wrote poems.

The original text

Anne of Green Gables, written in 1908, gives a good picture of rural society in Canada in the late 1800s.

Anne of Green Gables is partly autobiographical. Like Lucy Montgomery, Anne enjoys reading and becomes a teacher, and most of the stories about her take place on Prince Edward Island. Both Anne and Montgomery lost their mothers.

Background and themes

Anne of Green Gables is a "Bildungsroman": a novel of personal development. That is why its themes are as relevant now as they were in 1908, when the book was written:

Social expectations: What are people in Avonlea like at the beginning of the story? How do people new to Avonlea feel?

Imagination: What kind of things does Anne imagine?

Adjustment: How do people change after Anne arrives at Green Gables? What things does Anne learn about herself?

Friendship: How important are friends in life?

Loss: Who does Anne lose in her life? How does she feel each time?

Growth: How does Anne change from the beginning of the story to the end?

Discussion activities

Chapter 1

Before reading

- 1 **Guess:** In pairs, have students look at the cover. Have them do the following.
 - a Describe the picture.
What is the girl doing?
How old is she?
What color is her hair?
 - b Look at the map on page 1.
Where is Prince Edward Island?
What sea is that?
What do you think people on Prince Edward Island do?

While reading

- 2 **Discuss:** Have students talk about gossip.
Why does Mrs. Lynde want to know about other people's lives? Do you know anyone like her?
- 3 **Discuss:** Have students talk about orphans.
Why do Matthew and Marilla want a child?
What does Mrs. Lynde think about orphans?
Do people think differently nowadays?
- 4 **Discuss:** Have students talk about homelessness.
How does Anne feel when she learns that she is not wanted? Is it the first time that Anne feels like this?

After reading

- 5 **Write:** Have students write about Anne's thoughts. Have them suppose they are Anne and write down her thoughts after she is told they were expecting a boy.
- 6 **Artwork:** Get students to write Anne's classified ad asking for adoptive parents.

Chapters 2–3

While reading

- 7 **Discuss:** Have students discuss changing one's mind.
Why does Marilla agree to have Anne? Because Matthew asks her? Because Anne had a sad life? Because she fears that Blewett will not want Anne after a short time? Because Mrs. Blewett is an unkind woman?
- 8 **Discuss:** Have students talk about hair.
Anne hates her red hair. Do you like your hair? Why (not)? Do you dye it? Is it important that your hair looks good? Can women show their hair in your country?

After reading

- 9 **Write:** Have students think about feelings. Tell them to suppose they are Anne and write down her feelings after she is told that she can stay with Matthew and Marilla.
- 10 **Research:** Have students consider discipline. Have them ask their parents and grandparents questions about what they were allowed to do when they were children and compare it to what the students are expected to do today.

Chapters 4–5

Before reading

- 11 **Research:** Have students think about fashion. Have them look at the pictures in the book and use the Internet.
What did men and women wear in Anne's times? Do you like those clothes?

While reading

- 12 **Discuss:** Have students talk about clothes.
Do you remember any clothes that you hated when you were a child?

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13 Read carefully: In Chapter 4, we see that Marilla starts to like Anne. Have students underline the parts of the text where this can be seen.

14 Write: Have students write Anne's prayers. The day the brooch gets lost is the day before the party. Have students write what Anne asks God that night.

After reading

15 Write: Have students write a short letter from Marilla to Anne saying how sorry she feels.

16 Write: Tell students to suppose they are Anne and write two lists: "The Five Things I Love about Diana Barry" and "The Five Things I Hate about Gilbert Blythe."

Chapters 6–7

Before reading

17 Guess: Have students imagine what things can go wrong if they invite somebody to tea.

While reading

18 Role play: In pairs, ask students to imagine the following situation and act it out.
You are Mrs. Barry and your daughter is back home drunk from Anne's house. What do you say to Marilla?

19 Discuss: Have students talk about making mistakes.
Anne makes lots of mistakes in these chapters. Do you remember making the same mistakes?

After reading

20 Write: Have students write Mrs. Barry's letter of apology to Anne after Anne saved Minnie May's life.

21 Write: Have students write Mrs. Allan's invitation to tea with Anne.

Chapters 8–9

Before reading

22 Read carefully and guess: Write cards with the following phrases: "top of Diana's house," "green hair" and "boat in the river." Have students guess what happens to Anne.

While reading

23 Discuss: Have students talk about their hair.
Do you remember doing something wrong to your hair?

24 Discuss: Have students talk about pride.
Why is Anne still angry with Gilbert? Is she right?

After reading

25 Role play: Have students act out Anne and Gilbert's parts when Anne is in the river.

Chapters 10–11

While reading

26 Discuss: Have students talk about studying.
Are/Were you a good student at school? Is it important to be a good student? Why (not)?

27 Discuss: Have students talk about becoming friends.
Are you friends with somebody who was your enemy first?

After reading

28 Write: Have students write newspaper headlines. On page 52, Diana arrives with a newspaper in her hand. Have students write 3 headlines.

29 Discuss: Have students think about what might happen after the story ends. Anne thinks at the end, "I know I'm going to be happy ... Everything is going to be all right."
Get students to discuss what will happen after this and write some ideas for the next book about Anne.

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Before reading

- 1 Look at all the pictures in the book. What will happen to Anne?
- 2 Using books or the computer, find out about Prince Edward Island.

While reading

Chapter 1

- 3 Match the sentences with the names below.

Matthew Cuthbert Marilla Cuthbert

Mrs. Rachel Lynde Anne Shirley

- a sits by her kitchen window to see the Avonlea road.
- b is busy in her kitchen.
- c doesn't smile much.
- d 's heart isn't very strong.
- e wore an ugly dress.
- f read a story in the newspaper about an orphan.
- g looked at the child in surprise.
- h doesn't say much.
- i thinks Anne is a very good name.
- j thinks Anne is a nice little girl.

- 4 Guess and choose a name. Why do you think that is the right answer?

a If Anne stays, Matthew / Marilla will buy her a new dress.

b If Anne stays, Matthew / Marilla will talk to Anne.

c If Anne stays, Marilla / Mrs. Lynde will not like her because she is an orphan.

d If Anne stays, Marilla / Mrs. Lynde will ask Anne to help her to cook.

e If Anne stays, Marilla / Mrs. Lynde will talk badly about her.

f If Anne stays, it will be Matthew / Marilla's idea.

- 5 Work with another student. Write the conversation. Then, have the conversation.

Marilla goes to Mrs. Spencer's house. What does she tell her? And what does Mrs. Spencer tell Marilla?

Chapters 2–3

- 6 What are Anne, Mrs. Blewett, Mrs. Spencer, and Marilla thinking?



- 7 Mrs. Lynde says to Anne that her hair is "as red as carrots." What are the different parts of your body like?

- a My face is as as
- b My eyes are as as
- c My mouth is as as
- d My legs are as as
- e My feet are as as

Then write about somebody you love.

His/Her face is as as

Chapters 4–5

- 8 Use the words *before*, *after*, and *when* to complete the sentences.

a Anne went to church, she put on her new hat.

b Marilla was sick, Anne went by herself to church.

c Anne saw the flowers, she put them on her hat.

d church, Anne ran back home.

e Anne and Diana met for the first time, they immediately became best friends.

f school started, Anne and Diana played every day.

g school started, Gilbert Blythe came back.

h Mr. Phillips got angry with Anne, Gilbert tried to help her.

i Anne stood in front of the class all afternoon, she didn't speak to Gilbert again.

- 9 Is it better to study at home or to study at school? Write your ideas and discuss them with your classmates.

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Chapters 6–7

10 Finish the story with words from the box.

cried smiled beautiful good
 happy well excited funny wonderful
 sad sorry unhappy bad
 thirsty drunk sick late

Anne invited Diana for tea. Diana was **a** and she drank three glasses of cordial. Diana didn't feel very **b** and when she arrived home, she was **c** Mrs. Barry said **d** things about Anne and Anne was very **e** One day Minnie Mae was **f** and the doctor was **g** Anne helped Minnie May and Mrs. Barry was **h** about the fruit cordial and let Diana and Anne be friends again. Anne was **i** because Mr. and Mrs. Allan were coming to tea. She made a cake and it looked very **j** She felt very **k** because the table looked **l** Mrs. Allan **m** but when she put the cake in her mouth, she looked **n** Anne **o** in her room. Mrs. Allan told Anne not to cry because it was a **p** mistake. A week later Mrs. Allan invited Anne to have tea and they had a **q** time.

11 Look at Anne on page 38. Get her to stop crying. What can you tell her?

12 There are many stories in Chapters 3–7. Which one do you like best? What do you like about it?

- Write a few words about the story you like best and discuss why you like it with the class.
- “Anne’s Hat”
 - “The Missing Brooch”
 - “Anne Breaks a Slate on Gilbert’s Head”
 - “Diana Comes to Tea”
 - “Minnie May has Croup”
 - “Anne Makes a Cake”

Chapters 8–9

13 Look at Anne on page 42. She must stop climbing to the top of Diana’s house! What can you tell her?

14 Look up the word *poster* in your dictionary. Then make a poster for the Christmas concert.

15 Read Elaine’s story and discuss it with other students. Who is like Elaine in *Anne of Green Gables*? Why? Is there a Sir Lancelot in the book?
Elaine was in love with Lancelot, one of King Arthur’s men, but he loved Guinevere, Arthur’s wife. Elaine cried and cried and was so sad that she got into a boat on the river and died of love. The boat carried her to the town of Camelot.

Chapters 10–11

- 16 Which word is right?
- a Anne and Gilbert Blythe were the *smartest / smallest* in the class.
 - b The Queen’s College Class was very *interesting / boring*.
 - c The examinations were very *easy / difficult*.
 - d Anne’s and Gilbert’s names were at the *bottom / top* in the newspaper.
 - e Anne *enjoyed / hated* her time at Queen’s College.
 - f Anne did very *well / badly* in her examinations.
 - g Gilbert Blythe *can / can’t* go to college, because his father *doesn’t / does* have the money.
 - h Matthew was having problems with his *heart / face*.
 - i Marilla has to *sell / buy* Green Gables.

After reading

17 Watch Kevin Sullivan’s *Anne of Green Gables* (1985) and write notes. Is the movie different from the book? Are the changes good or bad?
 The people:
 The place:
 The story:
 Good or bad?

18 Make a brochure.
 Look up the word “brochure” in your dictionary. With another student, make a brochure for Prince Edward Island. You can draw, use photographs, and tell parts of the story.

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Chapter 1

1 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)? If the sentence is wrong, write the right answer.

- a Matthew Cuthbert went up the road on his horse in the afternoon.
- b Mrs. Lynde thought it was a good idea to bring a strange child into the house.
- c When Matthew arrived at the station there was only one person there.
- d The child was silent on the way home.
- e Matthew didn't like the child talking all the time.
- f When the orphan girl went to bed she cried and cried.

Chapters 2–3

2 Put Anne's sad story in the right order.

Number the sentences, 1–8.

- a After Mr. Thomas died in an accident, Mrs. Thomas didn't want Anne any more. So she went to live with Mrs. Hammond.
- b When Anne was at the orphanage Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert took her home by mistake.
- c Anne's parents died when she was a baby.
- d As Mrs. Thomas had four children, Anne helped her with them.
- e Mrs. Hammond's children were hard work.
- f So their cleaner, Mrs. Thomas, and her husband took Anne home.
- g When Marilla saw that Mrs. Blewett wanted her, she decided to keep Anne.
- h When Mrs. Hammond moved away, Anne had to go to the orphanage.

3 Match the first half of the sentence with the second half.

- a You can stay ...
- b You're a very rude woman ...
- c Please go and say sorry ...
- 1 to Mrs. Lynde.
- 2 and you're fat!
- 3 at Green Gables.

Chapters 4–5

4 Who's who? Write the right name to complete the sentences. You can use one name twice.

- Mrs. Lynde Anne and Diana Mr. Philips
Diana The minister The children
The girls at school Marilla Anne

- a made Anne three new dresses.
- b talked for a long time.
- c said that Anne was crazy.
- d lost the brooch.
- e thought of a story about the brooch.
- f was the same age as Anne.
- g met every day.
- h liked Gilbert.
- i didn't listen to Gilbert.
- j told Marilla to leave Anne alone.

Chapters 6–7

5 Underline the mistakes. There is one mistake in each sentence.

- a The bottle of fruit cordial was on the table.
- b The cordial wasn't fruit cordial, it was white wine.
- c Diana was feeling well when she left Anne's house.
- d Mrs. Barry said that Anne was a big bad girl.
- e One day Diana ran in through the door. Her face was very red.
- f Anne put vanilla in the cake.
- g Mrs. Allan thought it was a sad mistake.
- h Anne had a bad time at Mrs. Allan's house.

Chapters 8–9

6 What happened first? Put the sentences in order, 1–14.

- a She stayed home for several weeks.
- b She fell down.
- c Diana had a party.
- d Anne climbed to the top of the house.
- e She could not walk.
- f They climbed up a tree.
- g A man sold her black hair dye.
- h She dyed her hair green.
- i She caught a tree with her hands.
- j Marilla had to cut Anne's hair.
- k Anne's arms hurt and she felt tired.
- l Anne stayed home for a week.
- m Gilbert pulled Anne into his boat.
- n Anne got on an old boat.

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Chapters 10–11

7 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (✗)?

- a At school Anne was always the first.
- b Anne studied during the vacation.
- c Anne and Gilbert were the best students on the island.
- d Anne cried because Gilbert was her best friend.
- e Gilbert went to Redmond College.

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Book key

Check that this is up to date

1.1 Open answers

1.2 1 Canada

2 the 1800s

3 by horse and buggy

4 eleven

5 a stranger

6 happy

7 surprised

8 sad

2.1 Name: Matthew

Age: 60

Problems: weak heart

Wants: a boy to help him

Name: Anne

Age: 11

Hair: red

Eyes: gray

Wants: a home

Name: Marilla

Hair: gray

Doesn't want: a girl

Lives at: Green Gables

2.2 1 a X b X c ✓ d X e X f ✓ g X h X

2 Open answers

2.3 1 loves watching

2 likes being

3 likes listening

4 hates wearing

5 loves talking

6 likes working

2.4 Open answers

3.1 1 lived 2 came 3 died 4 wanted 5 was

6 didn't go 7 was

3.2 1 B, D, A, C

Miss Cuthbert's

2 a Mrs. Lynde to Marilla

b Anne to Mrs. Lynde

c Marilla's aunts

d Matthew to Anne

e Mrs. Lynde to Marilla

3 Open answers

3.3 2 Possible answer: The sky was blue and the sun shone. There were birds in the trees and they sang beautiful songs. The horses drank from the little river.

There were chickens in the flowers. The flowers were red, orange, and yellow.

3.4 Open answers

4.1 1 b 2 c 3 b

4.2 1 good, different from other children, has strong feelings, gets angry too quickly

2 Open answers

4.3 1 Marilla looks for the brooch but she can't find it.

2 Anne has to tell Marilla about the brooch before she can go to the party.

3 Anne tells Marilla a story so she can go to the party.

4 Marilla says sorry to Anne after she finds the brooch.

5 Anne is excited because she can go to the party.

4.4 Open answers

5.1 1 The fruit cordial, medicine, red wine, best vanilla, and cake were important.

2 a red wine

b fruit cordial

c medicine

d medicine

e medicine, vanilla

3 Marilla

5.2 1 d 2 c 3 e 4 b 5 a 6 g 7 f

5.3 1 a can't

b has to

c will

d has to

e has to

f can

2 Open answers

5.4 Open answers

6.1 1 a exciting

b the same as

c loves

d old, fast

e a tree

f can't

6.2 Possible answers:

1D When Marilla comes home, there is no fire and no tea on the table.

2A Anne's hair is green after she uses the black hair dye.

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3C Anne washes her hair every day but her hair is green.

4B Marilla cuts Anne's hair very short.

6.3 1 a boys' b Anne's c Anne's, friends' d man's, Anne's

2 a more beautiful b shorter c faster d friendlier / more friendly

6.4 Open answers

Talk about it Open answers

Write about it Open answers

Project Open answers

Discussion activities key

- 1 a The girl is playing. The girl is very young. Her hair is red.
b Prince Edward Island is in Canada. The sea is the Atlantic Ocean. People on Prince Edward Island fish or work the land.

While reading

- 2 Mrs. Lynde wants to know about other people's lives because she has nothing to do. Open answer.
3 Matthew and Marilla want a child because they want somebody to help Matthew with the farm. Mrs. Lynde thinks that orphans are dangerous because you don't know anything about them. Open answer.
4 Anne feels very sad. She often felt like this.

After reading

- 5 Open answers. Anne's tone must be sad.
6–10 Open answers
11 Open answers
12 Open answers
13 On page 23, Marilla says, "I'm starting to love this child." On page 25, Marilla doesn't want Anne to miss the party.
14 Possible answer: "Dear God, please make Marilla find the brooch and let me go to the party."
15 Open answers
16 Possible answers:
"The Five Things I Love about Diana Barry"
She likes talking.
She likes playing in the woods.
She likes reading books.
She likes telling stories.
She is my best friend.
"The Five things I Hate about Gilbert Blythe"
He is rude.

I stood in front of the class all afternoon because of him.

He sat next to me.

He pushed some candy under my arm.

He wants to be my friend.

17 Open answers

18 Possible answers:

Mrs. Barry: My daughter came home drunk from your house.

Marilla: I can't believe it!

Mrs. Barry: Anne gave her wine.

Marilla: That's impossible.

Mrs. Barry: I told Diana that she can't be Anne's friend.

Marilla: Please, listen to me! She probably thought it was cordial!

19 Open answers

20 Open answer. Mrs. Barry's tone must be apologetic.

21–23 Open answer

24 Possible answer: Because he hurt her a lot.

25–29 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

1–2 Open answers

- 3 a Mrs. Rachel Lynde
b Marilla Cuthbert
c Marilla Cuthbert
d Matthew Cuthbert
e Anne Shirley
f Mrs. Rachel Lynde
g Marilla Cuthbert
h Matthew Cuthbert
i Marilla Cuthbert
j Matthew Cuthbert

4 Possible answers:

a *Matthew* will buy her a new dress.

b *Marilla* will talk to Anne.

c *Mrs. Lynde* will not like her because she is an orphan.

d *Marilla* will ask Anne to help her to cook.

e *Mrs. Lynde* will talk badly about her.

f It will be *Marilla's* idea.

Justification: Open answers

5 Open answers

6 Possible answers:

Anne: I don't like Mrs. Blewett. I want to stay with Marilla and Matthew.

Mrs. Blewett: This girl will help with my new baby. She will work very hard.

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Mrs. Spencer: I made a big mistake.

Marilla: I don't like Mrs. Blewett. Anne will stay with Matthew and me.

7 Open answers

8 a Before b When c When d After e When
f Before g After h When i After

9 Open answers

10 a thirsty

b well

c drunk

d bad

e sad

f sick

g late

h sorry

i excited

j good

k happy

l beautiful

m smiled

n unhappy

o cried

p funny

q wonderful

11 Possible answers:

Don't cry!

The same happened to me.

The cake was not that bad.

12 Open answers

13 Possible answers:

We are going to eat the cake.

We are going to tell stories.

Mr. Barry is coming.

14 Open answer

15 Possible answer:

Anne is like Elaine because the river carries her on the boat. Lancelot is not like Gilbert because Gilbert likes Anne very much.

16 a smartest b interesting c difficult d top

d enjoyed f well g can't, doesn't h heart i sell

17–18 Open answers

Progress test key

1 a **X** – Matthew Cuthbert went up the road in the buggy in the afternoon.

b **X** – Mrs. Lynde thought it was a bad idea to bring a strange child into the house.

c ✓

d **X** – The child talked and talked on the way home.

e **X** – Matthew liked the child talking all the time.

f ✓

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

3 a 3 b 2 c 1

4 a Marilla b The minister c The children

d Marilla e Anne f Diana g Anne and Diana

h The girls at school i Mr. Philips j Mrs. Lynde

5 a The bottle of fruit cordial was **in the kitchen closet**.

b The cordial wasn't fruit cordial, it was **red** wine.

c Diana was feeling bad when she left Anne's house.

d Mrs. Barry said that Anne was a bad **little** girl.

e One day Diana ran in through the door. Her face was very **white**.

f Anne put **medicine** in the cake.

g Mrs. Allan thought it was a **funny** mistake.

h Anne had a **wonderful** time at Mrs. Allan's house.

6 1 c

2 f

3 d

4 b

5 e

6 a

7 g

8 h

9 l

10 j

11 n

12 i

13 k

14 m

7 a **X** – sometimes Anne was first and sometimes Gilbert was.

b **X** – she wanted to enjoy the summer.

c ✓

d **X** – Anne was sorry that Gilbert was not her friend.

e ✓