

## Questions on "Cranford."—For Grade IX.

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1. Find out some interesting facts about Mrs. Gaskell, such as her dates, home, contemporaries, etc. What else has she written? Compare her other works with "Cranford." Give the date of the publication of "Cranford." How was it received by the public? Is there any other writer whose works resemble "Cranford"? Find out a few important facts about this writer.
2. Locate Cranford as nearly as you can from what is said of it in the story. Give reasons for your answer by using quotations.
3. Who were the Amazons? What Latin poet speaks of them? What does he say of them? In which one of Shakespeare's plays is the Queen of the Amazons married to a Greek hero?
4. What is verbal retaliation? Which of the characters in this story was particularly good at it? Any other literary character mentioned in "Cranford" who shone at it?
5. What is a gigot? Is it worn now? What is worn instead? How about pattens? calashes? Paduasoy? a Brutus wig? (What French monarch was very particular about his wig?) How do you make sponge biscuit? tea-bread? bread-jelly?
6. What were the rules and regulations for visiting and making calls in Cranford? What are they in your own town?
7. A native of Cranford was called a——? How about natives of New Brunswick? Halifax? Yarmouth? Isle of Man? Wales? Holland? Norway? (Add more yourself.)
8. How is elegant economy practised? What was Miss Watty's pet economy? the author's? yours?
9. Give reasons for Captain Brown's popularity—also for his being unpopular at times.
10. How were the Cranford ladies lighted home at night? Quote something similar from Longfellow's "Baron of St. Castin"—also from Scott's "Rob Roy."
11. Describe a typical party in Cranford. Also, such guests as Captain Brown and his daughters.
12. What was the popular card game among the Cranford ladies? How about the popular card game of today? For how much a point did the Cranford ladies play? The ladies of today?
13. What unguarded admission did Miss Jessie make to Miss Jenkyns? Why was this a dreadful thing to mention?
14. Why did Miss Jenkyns consider herself literary? What author did she prefer? Give reasons for that preference. Tell a dozen or more important facts about Dr. Johnson.
15. What writer did Captain Brown prefer? Why? Who came out on top in the argument between Captain Brown and Miss Jenkyns? What makes you think so?
16. Write a few (6) Johnsonian sentences. Is the

Doctor regarded as "a writer of light and agreeable fiction"? What is the lightest fiction he wrote? What has preserved and always will preserve the memory of Johnson?

17. The year 1809 was called a "Johnson year." Why? How about 1912? (Look up the dates of Thackeray and Browning and see if you find anything interesting.)
18. What works of Johnson and Dickens are mentioned in this story? Name others not mentioned. Which have you read? What author do you prefer? Why? Which particular work do you prefer? Why?
19. Tell some uses made of fragments and small opportunities in Cranford.
20. What is said about letter writing? Do you agree? Name six of the best letter-writers the world has produced. Name books in which the story is told by means of letters.
21. Describe the desert at Miss Jenkyns. Why do you think Captain Brown didn't care for Cranford wine? Other opinions on the subject?
22. Examples of "pride apes humility." Who lived at Woodley? Give familiar names of a dozen English homes.
23. Describe the dinner at Woodley and tell what compliment Mr. Holbrook paid Miss Watty.
24. Give a beautiful quotation from each of the following: Shakespeare, George Herbert, Goethe, Byron.
25. Pronounce: Appurtenances, *sotto voce*, admonitory, sesquipedalian, Goethe, requisite, tacit, aristocratic, Shrewsbury conjurer, benignant.
26. Who was Amine? Tell about her feast with the Ghoul.
27. From whom was Mr. Holbrook quoting when he said:  
"The cedar spreads his dark-green layers of shade."  
"Black as ash-buds in March."  
Who wrote "Locksley Hall"? What else did he write?
28. What magazines are mentioned? Name six standard English magazines. Canadian, etc.
29. About what time are the events recorded in this story supposed to have taken place? Collect all the internal evidence on the date. What was happening in the outside world at the time?
30. Describe the stamp on some of the old letters. Who was Miss Edgeworth? How did Miss Edgeworth's "Patronage" banish wafers from polite society? What are wafers? How were they used? What is sometimes used today instead of wafers? What are franks? Are they still in use? By whom?
31. What is the "Fable of the Boy and the Wolf"? How does it apply here?
32. Which of all the letters in Miss Watty's collection are the most interesting? Why do you think so?
33. Write a few lines on each of the following: Queen Adelaide, King William, Queen Charlotte, Drury Lane, Fitz-Roy, Duke of Wellington, Madame de Stael, General Burgoyne, Don Quixote.