

The Red and the Black

Stendhal

- 1 Any two of the following: because he wanted to impress his neighbours; because he knew Julien Sorel was clever; and because he didn't think he was a Bonapartist or Jacobin as he had been studying to become a priest.
- 2
- a by learning the whole of the New Testament of the Bible by heart.
 - b by kissing her hand.
 - c by reciting pages from the Bible from memory.
- 3
- 1 Julien has contempt for de Rênal and his friends because he strongly disagrees with their opinions, but cannot say so as he is a servant. De Rênal and his friends have contempt for Julien because he is a servant and does not know how to behave in polite society.
 - 2 Louise de Rênal is jealous of her maid because she is in love with Julien and has asked him to marry her.
- 4 Various answers possible, but here are some suggestions
- 1
 - a Julien is more confident and less foolish, sullen and resentful.
 - b The mayor of Verrières is an important and powerful man and wants to impress everyone.
 - c Mme Derville is intelligent and amusing.
 - d Fouqué speaks about women all the time as he has had many mistresses.
 - 2
 - a Julien hates M. de Rênal because he treats him like a servant, but he also wants power over him, which he gradually gets.
 - b Mme de Rênal is in love with Julien and he thinks his life will be better and less boring if she becomes his mistress.
- 5 Various answers possible, but here are some suggestions:
- 1 During the royal visit, the mayor makes Julien a member of the guard of honour and gives him a new blue and silver coat and a horse to ride so that he is admired by everyone. Julien meets the aristocrat Marquis de La Mole and his nephew the Bishop of Agde and understands the power of the aristocracy and the church. He also comes to see how performing a blessing can be just like acting.
 - 2 Because it is about the passionate affair between Julien and Louise and about the guilt that Louise de Rênal feels when her son becomes ill.

- 6** 1 a to trick, a trick – to do something to someone to annoy them or make people laugh at them, often by making them believe something that is not true.
- b anonymous – something done or written by someone whose name you don't know.
- c secretly – doing something without telling other people.
- 2 Various answers possible, but here are some suggestions:
- a Louise tricked her husband into thinking she and Julien were innocent.
- b Valenod wrote an anonymous letter to de Rênal to tell him that his wife was having an affair.
- c Louise and Julien met secretly at night.
- 7** a M. de Rênal decides if Valenod sends him one more letter, he will have to fight him for his honour rather than send Julien away and lose his wife's money.
- b Éliisa decides to betray Julien because her plan for revenge has failed.
- c Julien decides to go to Besançon and be a priest because he believes that priests have all the power in France.
- d Curé Chélan decides to give Julien some advice and a warning because he wants to remind him about God's law.
- 8** Life is difficult for Julien in the seminary because he is bored and unhappy.
- 9** a He uses the poems of Horace to impress the Bishop of Besançon.
- b He uses the ladder to visit his lover, Louise, at night.
- 10** a He must remember his position as M. de La Mole's secretary and serve him well and not talk about his work.
- b Norbet is a major in the army and he will be kind and polite.
- c Mathilde is a very proud young woman.
- 11** They have become attracted to each other because they are both interested in the revolution and are similar in character, as they are both very proud.
- 12** a He is not sure if Mathilde really loves him or whether she wants to mock him or punish him.
- b So he sends her letters to his friend, Fouqué, with instructions about what to do if he is killed or arrested.

- 13** He's going to Strasbourg to deliver to an important person the memorised summary of a meeting he attended.
- 14** He hears that Mathilde is pregnant with his child.
- 15**
- a Mathilde asks for money and help.
 - b Mme de Rênal tells secrets and betrays Julien.
- 16** Because he tried to kill Mme de Rênal, he's going to be executed.
- 17**
- 1
 - a He asks Mathilde to give Louise their son after his death and to forget about him. He asks Fouqué to take Louise and Mathilde to another town on the day of his execution and he asks him to bury him outside the cave where he sat and wrote his thoughts. He asks Mme de Rênal to promise not to kill herself after his death and to take care of his son.
 - b Mathilde de la Mole buries Julien's head. Fouqué keeps his promise to his friend and buries him near the cave. Louise de Rênal doesn't try to kill herself, but dies of a broken heart.
 - 2 Students' own answers.