

# Anna Karenina

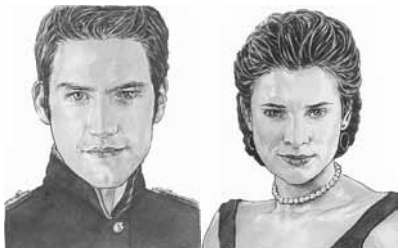


Leo Tolstoy

## A Before Reading

- 1 Do this quiz about the author, Tolstoy. Then check your answers on pages 4–5 in the book.
  - 1 Leo Tolstoy was a member of the Russian  
a middle class      b nobility      c peasants
  - 2 He studied  
a Astronomy and Physics      b History and Politics      c Oriental Languages and Law
  - 3 He kept diaries which he later published as  
a *Childhood, Boyhood and Youth*      b *Infancy, Adolescence and Maturity*  
c *Youth, Adulthood and Old Age*
  - 4 He married and had  
a six children      b nine children      c thirteen children
  - 5 His first great novel, *War and Peace*, is set against the background of the  
a French Revolution      b Napoleonic wars      c Russian Revolution
  - 6 His second novel, *Anna Karenina*, deals with the  
a conflict between church and state      b pleasures and problems of family life  
c politics and espionage
  - 7 His third novel, about the conflict between the individual and society, is called  
a *Destruction*      b *Interaction*      c *Resurrection*
  - 8 During his life, Tolstoy was very critical of the  
a Church      b Nobility      c State
- 2 The industrial revolution and the railway lines are important to the story of *Anna Karenina*. What effects have trains and industrialisation had in your own country? Think about:
  - Culture
  - Work
  - Food
  - Travel
  - Communication
  - Trade

## B While Reading

- 3 The three couples in this novel have very different relationships. What do you think are the positive things and the negative things about each relationship? What is your overall opinion of each kind of relationship?

	Positive things	Negative things	Overall opinion
 <p><b>Vronsky and Anna</b></p>			
 <p><b>Stiva and Dolly</b></p>			
 <p><b>Levin and Kitty</b></p>			

- 4 There are a lot of words which relate to what is socially right or wrong in *Anna Karenina*. Here is a crossword puzzle with some of them. Work in pairs: Student A and Student B. You and your partner have half the words each. All of the words are from the story. Read your instructions and try to fill in the gaps. Don't show each other your crosswords!

**Student A**

Complete the crossword by asking your partner questions (example: 'What's 2 down?'). Then explain the words in your crossword to your partner, without saying the actual words.

1	B	E	2	T	R	A	Y	E	D											
																			4	R
									5	A										I
								6	F											V
									F				7							A
8	S	I	N						A											L
					9				I											
									R											
10	D	E	S	P	A	I		11	R											
									E											
									J											
						12			E											
									C											
									T											
	13	H	U	M	I	L	I	A	T	E	D									
									O											
									N											

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### Student B

Complete the crossword by asking your partner questions (example: 'What's 1 across?'). Then explain the words in your crossword to your partner, without saying the actual words.

1		2 T	3 A															
		O	D														4	
		R	U			5												
		M	L		6 O	F	F	E	N	D								
		E	T								7 O	U	T	C	A	S	T	
8 S		N	E															
C		T		9 R	E	S	I	S	T									
A				Y														
N																		
10 D						11												
A																		
L																		
				12 D	U	E	L											
	13																	

## C After Reading

- 5 Levin writes love messages to Kitty using just the first letter of every word. Match the imaginary modern-day SMS messages with their meaning. Then decide who would have most likely sent them to whom and when. Can you think of any more?

Text message	Meaning	from ... to ...	When
CW2CY 2nite			
ICCL			
IDK who ILUV			
ILUVUMED			
MYOB			
NTT ASAP!			
PPL R TLKING			
RUOK?			
Thx 4 ur help			
U R L8!			

- 6 Imagine that you are an agony aunt for a conservative nineteenth-century Russian women's magazine. You receive a letter from Anna Karenina. She tells you:
- She is having an affair with Vronsky.
  - She is pregnant with his baby.
  - She is terrified about what her husband will do if he finds out.
  - She doesn't want to lose her other child, Sasha.
  - She is afraid if she does leave her husband that Vronsky will leave her too.

Write a reply to Anna, giving her advice on what she should do.

- 7 How are attitudes towards men and women different in *Anna Karenina*? Imagine you are going to rewrite the novel set in the 21st century, maybe in the style of a soap opera. How would the story be different? Write a summary of a modern-day *Anna Karenina* with all the appropriate plot changes.