

## UPPER LEVEL

### Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier

#### A Before Reading

- 1 Look at the cover. Who might this woman be? Write down three adjectives which describe her or the way you think she is feeling.
- 2 Read the description of the story on the back cover and look at the illustrations inside the book. Look at the people, their clothes, their faces, the setting. Now explain what you think the story will be about and explain what clues you found in the illustrations.

#### B While Reading

- 3 Read to the end of Chapter 4. Imagine Mrs Van Hopper is talking to her daughter, Helen. Pretend you are Mrs Van Hopper. Write a letter to Helen saying what happened in Monte Carlo. You must show how Mrs Van Hopper feels about what has happened.
- 4 Find out about the Narrator. While you are reading Chapters 5 to 17 make a list of the words or phrases that describe how the narrator feels. An example is given for you.

Word or Phrase	Chapter	Page
lonely and afraid	5	26

- 5 At the end of Chapter 17.
  - (a) Look at your answers to Question 2. Did you make any good guesses?
  - (b) You now know what happened to Rebecca and you have read the *Introduction* which is set twenty years after the end of the story. Write a list of ten things that might happen, or things that the characters might do, between the end of Chapter 17 and the end of the story. All your guesses should be good ones now!

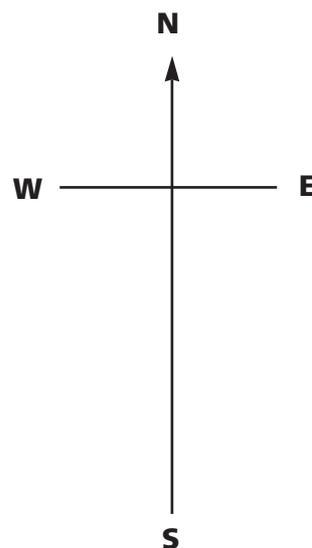
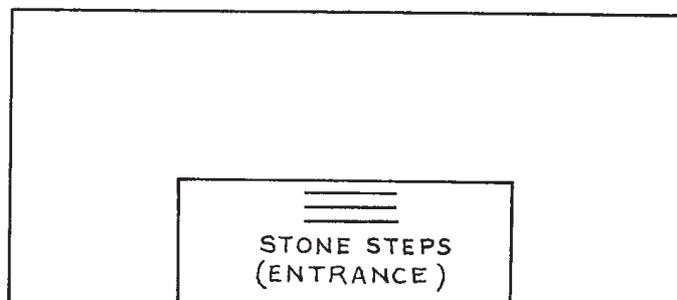
#### C After Reading

- 6 Draw a line to join the name of the character to the right description.

Frank Crawley	her fat, heavy body swayed above her short, fat legs.
Max	A tall, thin woman dressed in black.
Beatrice	His face was fat and round and he had thick, red lips.
Frith	tall, broad-shouldered and very much like Maxim.
Mrs Van Hopper	awkward and shy . . . straight hair and badly fitting clothes.
Ben	. . . big, handsome man . . . and his eyes were a hard blue.
Favell	a dark-haired, handsome man. His face was pale.
Mrs Danvers	An old man with a kind face . . .
Narrator	. . . a thin man with a pleasant, worried face.

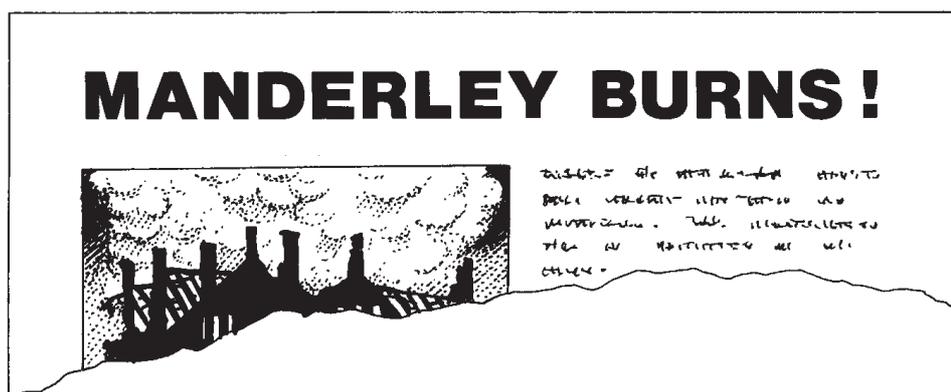
7 Here is a plan of Manderley and a compass. Make your own plan of the house and the area around it and show where these places could be. Use the book to help you.

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| the sea           | the hall     |
| the lodge         | the drive    |
| west wing         | the library  |
| Rebecca's cottage | east wing    |
| the rose garden   | Happy Valley |



8 Why do you think that the author never gives the Narrator a name?  
Do you think it was a good idea not to give the Narrator a name?

9



Write an exciting front page newspaper story about the burning of Manderley. Include details about Rebecca's death, the wreck, the body in the boat, the inquest, and Maxim's second marriage.

10 Pretend you are going to direct a film of *Rebecca*. Make a list of all the characters and choose the actors who are going to play these characters in your film. Explain briefly why you have chosen each of these actors.

Daphne du Maurier also wrote *My Cousin Rachel*, another Heinemann Guided Reader which you might enjoy (Intermediate Level). At Upper Level, try reading these romances:  
*The Return of the Native* by Thomas Hardy, and *Precious Bane* by Mary Webb.