

Judging *Jane Eyre* by Its Cover

When we go to a bookshop, book covers help us choose what to buy. Book covers are designed to attract readers and give them an idea of what the story will be like. So, we can say that book covers **translate** the story — or at least part of it — into images. In this worksheet, you'll be translating the different components of book covers from some French versions of *Jane Eyre*.

1. Warm Up

- What does the phrase 'never judge a book by its cover' mean?

.....

2. Translating Book Titles

When books and films are released in new countries, their titles will often change. Titles can even change within English. For example, do you know what the first *Harry Potter* book is called in the United States? When *Jane Eyre* first appeared in 1847, it was published with the subtitle 'An Autobiography'.

- What are the key features of autobiography?

.....

Over 20 French-language translations of *Jane Eyre* have been published, some of which have used different titles. In the table below, there are four titles. Using the glossary, translate the titles into English and think about the differences between them.

	French	English
Title 1	<i>Jane Eyre ou Mémoires d'une gouvernante</i> (1849, 1855)	
Title 2	<i>Jeanne Eyre ou les mémoires d'une institutrice</i> (1854)	
Title 3	<i>La Vie passionnée de Jane Eyre</i> (1946)	
Title 4	<i>Jane Eyre: Une autobiographie</i> (1948)	

autobiographie	autobiography
d', de	of
gouvernante	governess
institutrice	schoolteacher

la, les	the
mémoires	memoir
passionnée	passionate
vie	life

- What different words are used to describe what type of book it is?

.....
.....

- What is the focus on each title?

.....
.....

- How does the title depict the character, Jane?

.....
.....

- *If you have read Jane Eyre*, which title do you think most reflects the story?

.....
.....

3. Creating a Book Cover

Choose one of the above titles and create a book cover for it.

Tip: if you're looking for inspiration, check out the book cover page on the Prismatic *Jane Eyre* website: <https://prismaticjaneeyre.org/maps/covers/>

