“The Pulse” (Oxford ed. pp. 42-4) and “The Husband” (Oxford ed. pp. 44-5)

1. What does the pulse scene suggest about the nature and origins of sensibility or generosity?
2. What do you learn about the relation of commerce to sentiment in Yorick’s remarks on male and female shop owners in France?

“The Fille de Chambre” (Oxford ed. pp. 54-56)

1. What do you make of Yorick’s encounter with the *fille de chambre*? Yorick perceives her in terms of what literary convention (look particularly at paragraph 4)? What are the effects of perceiving her thus?
2. Look in particular at the discussion of the purse and the pocket. Do you detect any double meanings in those exchanges? What do these exchanges suggest about the relationship between the two characters? What does it suggest about the nature of sentiment or sensibility? For what later scene does it prepare us?

“The Temptation” (Oxford ed. pp. 76-8) and “The Conquest” (Oxford ed. pp. 78-9)

1. What do you make of the discussion of blushing on pages 76-7? What things seem to be associated with blushing? Why might the phenomenon of blushing be of interest to a man of sentiment?
2. What double meaning lies in the description of the girl sweetly holding the ink after Yorick has cast down his pen? What does it suggest about the relation of writing to sensibility and the role of gender in both?
3. What is the conquest? What or who is conquered?