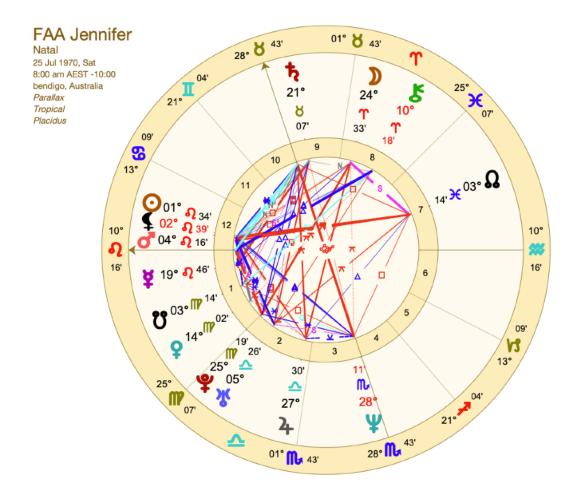
FAA - Dynamics exam - Question 1 - Jennifer

Jennifer: 25 July 1970 8am Bendigo, VIC Ascendant: close to 10 Leo

Jennifer consults with you in January 2021 for guidance in relation to her marriage and family. Over the last few years, she has come to the realisation that she and her husband are on different paths. She is seeking a partnership where emotional intelligence, spiritual connection, and like-minded interests promote togetherness and joint goals. Alternatively, her husband is pragmatic, a workaholic, is motivated to build financial wealth, and discounts spirituality. Jennifer has made the decision to discuss separation and divorce with her husband and she is hopeful your astrological guidance will support an understanding how to best approach a discussion with her husband about her decision to leave the marriage. Additionally, Jennifer is also mindful of their two primary school children and the impact the separation will have on them. She is realistic in understanding that a mediation process may need to be considered and wonders what the year ahead holds for successful negotiation of both the separation/divorce and shared parenting/ custody of the children.

Using any major outer planetary transits (i.e., Jupiter, Chiron, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto) from the period of 1 January 2021 to 31 June 2022 in addition to solar and/or lunar eclipses, help Jennifer understand the activations (i.e., outer planetary transits and eclipses) to her natal chart. Based on these activations, include guidance on the processes she may be experiencing in navigating the life decision to separate from her husband. What hurdles/barriers may Jennifer need to be mindful of and what guidance might you provide to approach these possible impediments in a constructive way?



Jennifer is at a crossroads and seeks astrological insight. She is questioning her marriage and seems keen to divorce. Mindful of minimising harm to her kids, she seeks guidance around her decision making process and how to approach her husband about her decisions. Jennifer's natal chart is extremely fire-oriented, so with major outer planet transits from Pluto, Uranus, Chiron and Saturn all underway, it's no surprise that she's seeking change and personal growth as a way of acting on her inner disquiet. A session at this point can provide her with an intellectual and emotional pause, enabling greater clarity in how she wants to move forward. Before she undertakes any major changes, it may prove beneficial to guide Jennifer through her natal chart, to empower her with self knowledge and help clarify her personal and relationship needs. Armed with a broader perspective, decision making may feel easier. From there, we can analyse current astrological activations and help her to understand the hurdles and barriers that lie ahead. This will allow her to prepare for upcoming challenges so they can be met in a constructive way.

I'll approach Jennifer's session with two goals - 1. To dig more deeply into her current problems, to discover if she is tackling the correct issue, or merely trying to solve the symptoms of deeper personal matters. Astrology clients, like all counselling clients, often report a presenting problem that is 'seldom the real problem'. I'll do this with a few minutes of deeper questioning around the topic, using both open-ended and direct questions to ascertain Jennifer's self-awareness and ownership of her current situation. Active listening and reflecting Jennifer's communication style can build rapport and lead to a more productive session. With her strong Fire chart, including a Leo Mercury, Jennifer is probably comfortable with a direct conversation style. She may seek personal validation.² I'll dig into the history of the marriage (noting Neptune's position when she married), and when and why it started to decline. After clarifying issues, we can head

¹ Perry, W. (2008). Basic Counselling Techniques. Page 50.

² Jones, M (2015). The Soul Speaks. Page 116.

towards Goal 2. - that Jennifer leaves our session feeling empowered and hopeful that 'things can be better'3.

I'll keep in mind that astrologers shouldn't make judgements or give opinions. Our role is to provide guidance and empower Jennifer via self-knowledge, regarding her natal and dynamic charts. I'll aim for a neutral counselling stance, opening the client to all possibilities for their future⁴. Whether she chooses to remain in her marriage, or seek fulfilment elsewhere, a better understanding of her personal astrological needs will be helpful.

Jennifer's natal chart is dominated by Fire, with a Leo Sun, Leo Ascendent and Aries Moon. There is an abundance of yang planets and an emphasis in the Eastern Hemisphere. The 1st quadrant of 'I am' takes precedence, which all contributes to the picture of a strongly independent and instinctive person, who tackles life directly, as she seeks freedom of action and self-development. With fixed angles and a single mutable placement, Venus, it's likely that Jennifer prioritises her needs first and is reluctant to yield to others. The chart-ruler, Sun's usual push for self-expression is softened by its placement in the 12th house, bringing an awareness of spirituality and need to locate the self within the non-material world. This placement may be beneficial for such a strong personality whose methods of meeting the world may sometimes be perceived as heavy-handed.

The natal Aries Moon should be discussed since it is currently being triggered by transit. Jennifer is passionate about engaging with life directly and needs personal freedom to live her truth. She may instinctively express her emotions defensively or in a combative way that causes drama (Intercepted Aries, 8th house, ruled by Mars conjunct Ascendent). Jennifer's identity, emotions and motivations are aligned in their pursuit of

³ Perry, W. (2008). Basic Counselling Techniques. Page 55.

⁴ FAS notes - Article 2.2

action, power and influence over her own life (all Fire).⁵ Her disseminating Moon phase will seek to share her perspectives with others.

Adding the Fire triad to the strong-willed fixed angles may reveal a tendency for Jennifer to be unaware of the impact she has on those around her. This is a good opportunity to discuss both the gifts of downfalls of approaching the world with so much strength, and how it may impact her relationships.

There may be a pattern of holding her opinions strongly and personally. There's also a motivation to master self-knowledge and seek 'right' philosophical information. (Fixed square, Mercury 1st - Saturn 9th). She may encounter blocks, inhibitions or fears around communicating her thoughts. For example Jennifer seems to have reached a decision to leave her husband without consulting him. Exploring this aspect could provide insight, highlighting the importance of clear communication in successful relationships.

Exploring Jennifer's communication habits in partnerships may bring a cognisance that enhances her relating skills in the future - whether with her husband or new partners. Her current husband may rarely have received a clear memo from his wife about her inner thoughts and development (Mercury square Saturn).

Our charts give clues for what attracts us to a partner and Jennifer's husband fits her natal promise well. Due to her independent emotional nature (Aries Moon), she may seek detached, practical, stable partners (Descendent co-ruler Saturn in Taurus) who focus on income and materialism (Descendent co-ruler Uranus in 2nd). She may seek practical, helpful people who can assist her (Venus in Virgo, 1st). All of which adds up to a character quite unlike herself. There is the potential that such a steady person becomes stultifying to Jennifer who is so forward focused.

Having partners bring contrasting personal qualities can be both beneficial and difficult. Jennifer may like to spend time contemplating how this works for her and

⁵ George, D. (2008) Astrology and the Authentic Self. Page 88.

question why she is drawn to someone so different. Does he balance her, or is the difference too much of a gap?

Jennifer's attitude to relationships may fluctuate (Venus is her only Mutable placement). Her instinctive emotional responses may be combative and staying calm may feel difficult (Jupiter in Libra, opposite Aries Moon, intercepted). Trying to balance her values with her partner's may feel frustrating (2nd/8th axis). So it may often seem easier to make changes in the relationship rather than within herself (Mutable Venus versus her Fire & Fixed placements).

It's possible that Jennifer is idealistic about what 'family' should look like (Neptune conjunct IC) and at times she may project her frustration about not being able to attain those ideals, onto her husband (Neptune opp Saturn, Descendent co-ruler). Debunking any of her 'perfect world' myths could provide insight and relief, and help her recognise and understand her search for these elusive, greener pastures. We could reframe this to explore the spiritual dimension found in personal service to family (Sun 12th trine Neptune conjunct IC).

She desires to connect with a partner at a deeply spiritual level (North Node in Pisces, 7th). This could be a source of great satisfaction for her if she can resist her innate tendency to focus on herself (South Node in Leo, 1st). She seeks emotional intelligence and may attract more of it by endeavouring to practice it herself (lack of Water).

Jennifer may reflect that current unsettled feelings reach back to January 2019 (total Lunar eclipse conjunct Sun, 12th), when a chapter of her life may have closed somehow. Dissatisfaction may have grown steadily since, to a point where she now finds herself itching to revamp her life and relationship (t.Uranus square Ascendant/Descendent). She will need to liberate herself from patterns that have become oppressive. Quick and unexpected actions may test her relationship. A strong marriage should readjust quite

well, but weaker ones can break under this transit.⁶ Intense emotions are signalling deep psychological shifts that can't be ignored. Emotional transformation is inevitable and she may find herself focusing on it obsessively (t.Pluto square Moon - 5 direct hits over 2020-2021). Power plays and relationship frustrations are a natural focus for this energy (t.Saturn conjunct Descendent, Uranus - 7th co-rulers).

All three of her triad of fire placements are being activated. She may feel 'called' to resolve unfinished business and shift to a life more aligned with her spirituality and deep searching for truth and healing (Chiron return, 8th). This may feel like the right time for her to take control of her life and to create meaningful progress towards her life goals and aspirations (t.Jupiter & t.Saturn trine MC [Dec 2020]).

There is plenty of buoyancy around her motivations, as she dreams of opportunities to escape her current bonds (t.Neptune sextile Saturn - Descendent co-ruler).

While all of these energies settle around her for many months, it is the urge to expose and regenerate her emotions and liberate herself that will take precedence (t.Pluto square Moon, t.Uranus square Ascendent). These transits will insist on change and indicate that 2021/2022 will be important.

These deeply personal urges converge with the Chiron cycle, when many people reach their early 50s seeking true healing for old wounds that keep reappearing. This can be a time of 'intensive reorientation' as we embrace the ageing process, seek spiritual answers and integrate these discoveries into a recalibrated life. Jennifer will experience this influence particularly strongly and will welcome life transformation (natal and transiting Chiron trine Ascendent, 8th house).

By January 2021, Jennifer may be feeling ready to commit to change and control her life narrative (t.Saturn sextile Neptune/IC - 29 Nov 2020, trine MC - 4 Dec 2020, t.Saturn conjunct Descendent - 31 Dec 2020). There is a strong urge that THIS is her time.

⁶ Hand, R. (1976) Planets In Transit. Page 421.

⁷ Reinhard, M (2009) Chiron and the Healing Journey. Page 289.

So it's decision time for Jennifer.

Her confusion around decision making and inability to communicate clearly with her husband is likely from the same astrological source. It's been strong in 2020 and continues into the first quarter of 2021 (t.Neptune quincunx Mercury - triggering natal Mercury square Saturn). Her thinking may be blurry and decisions may feel unattainable. She may experience anxiety around how a separation would disadvantage both her and her children⁸.

A new reality may be settling around her perception of her husband and this will continue to unfold throughout 2021 (t.Saturn, Descendent co-ruler, conjunct Descendent, Mar, Aug, Dec 2021). This may also indicate that despite her optimism regarding how the marriage will play out (t.Jupiter in 7th, Feb 2021 - Apr 2022), he may be more difficult to deal with than she is anticipating. In fact just as she has felt awakened and impulsive regarding her needs, he too may be providing some shocks and acts of rebellion (t.Uranus square Ascendent/Descendent axis 2020 and into Quarter 2, 2021).

The need to communicate with her husband is urgent. All stages of discussions around the health of their marriage, possible separation and mediation over custody, can be assisted by a trained marriage counsellor, particularly since Jennifer is unsure about how to approach the discussion. Adjustments may be needed in how she shares information with him (t.Neptune quincunx Mercury) and a professional third party seems crucial for them to successfully negotiate their situation moving forward.

Many factors indicate that this is a momentous opportunity for deep and permanent change and growth in Jennifer's life (t.Pluto trine Pluto, all 2021, t.Saturn sextile Chiron). that has the chance to liberate and upend the way she relates to others (t.Uranus trine Venus).

⁸ McCue, Dr. J (2020) Decisions, Decisions.

Jennifer will be eager for change to take place quickly (t.Uranus). But events may stretch out longer than a triple-fire person would like. She may like to remember that major life changes are a journey of recognition, responsibility and recalibration (multiple hit transits from Chiron and Saturn throughout 2021).

As her world shifts and her personal security is shaken, Jennifer may want to prepare for a sense of isolation or disempowerment in early to mid 2021 (t.Jupiter quincunx Sun - multiple hits). This can be viewed as a spiritual opportunity where meditation and seclusion could be extremely soothing.

Hurdles and barriers could come in the form of her husband's unexpected responses (t.Uranus square Descendent) and he might be more opinionated or more of an adversary than she is expecting (t.Saturn conjunct Descendent, t.Mars in the 7th [April/May 2022]). Emotional power struggles are possible (t.Pluto square Moon).

After mid November 2021, there should be a quickening of matters as her inner processes emerge into the world (Lunar eclipse conjunct her MC on 22nd Nov, Jupiter transits all have final hits 24th Nov - 22nd Dec, 2021). Her status and goals are particularly highlighted and energised for several months and change is possible, particularly in early 2022. (Solar Arc. Pluto sextile MC ruler, Venus, Solar arc Moon square Venus - late 2021, t.North Node Conjunct MC - Feb 2022, t.Pluto trine MC - Apr 2022 - t.Mars also crosses her Descendent [20 March] and goes on to conjunct the North Node, 7th [20 April]). The astrology cannot know what actions Jennifer will choose to take, but it does show an active few months of change around her life path, reputation, home and family.

If she does progress to separation and legal negotiations, there are suggestions that she will do well and feel positive about any custody outcome (t.Jupiter in 7th [Feb 2021, Apr 2022], t.Jupiter sextile Moon and trine Jupiter - rules 5th - indicating a generally

favourable outcome⁹ [Nov/Dec 2021]). Although some adjustments may be required to her familiar surroundings and home (t.Jupiter quincunx Pluto - rules 3rd/4th - Jupiter square MC/IC [Dec 2021]).

Major life recalibration requires some tenacity and grit as we work with delays and problems (t.Saturn sesquiquadrate Pluto). It's possible that watching an emotional toll on her children could be intensely humbling (t.Pluto square Jupiter - rules 5th). Using third party professionals to help mediate between parents to keep the tone civil and focusing on the children's welfare should minimise the emotional impacts. Providing children with counselling is also advised.

Momentum seems to pick up into 2022 (t.South Node conjunct IC [Feb 2022]). Whichever path Jennifer chooses, the first half of 2022 brings relief and a sense that all is going to be ok (multiple easy Jupiter transits to Neptune, MC, Sun, Mars).

Our aim for the end of this session is for Jennifer to feel empowered with new perspective around her circumstances. Gaining a greater self awareness can help her to reconsider her approach to partnerships both now and in the future. To give Jennifer new tools that could help reshape her habits around communication and awareness of others, we could ask her what skills she needs to learn in order the achieve her best possible relationship outcomes¹⁰. After discussion she may like to seek professional counselling either for herself or as a couple. A list of resources for organisations such as Relationships Australia can provide Jennifer with a 'next step'. They can supply legal advice, mediation and counselling.

Throughout this session, I will seek to endorse Jennifer's innate desire to transform and change, 11 as matches her natal blueprint. I will also help her gain self awareness of her traits and values so that she can acknowledge and take personal responsibility for any

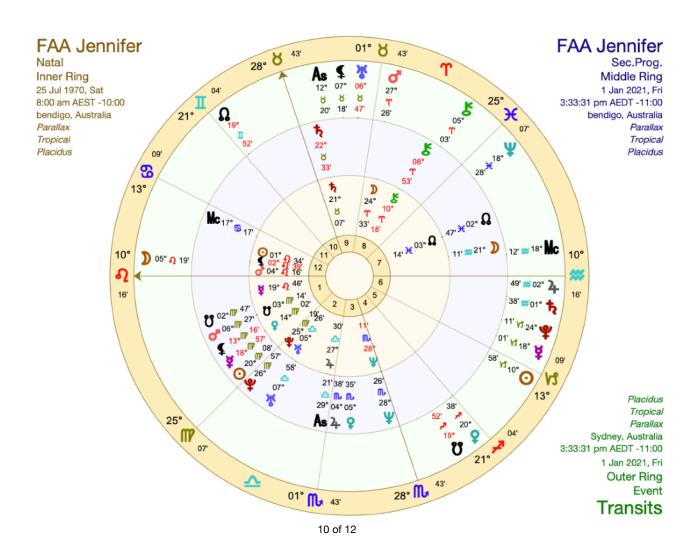
⁹ Brady, B. *Predictive Astrology*. Page 37.

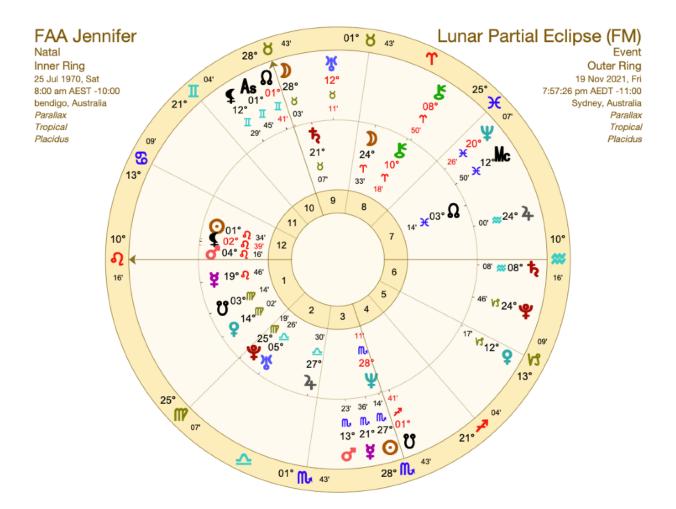
¹⁰ Cunningham, D. (2006). Counseling Principles for Astrologers.

¹¹ Jones, M (2015) The Soul Speaks. Page 116.

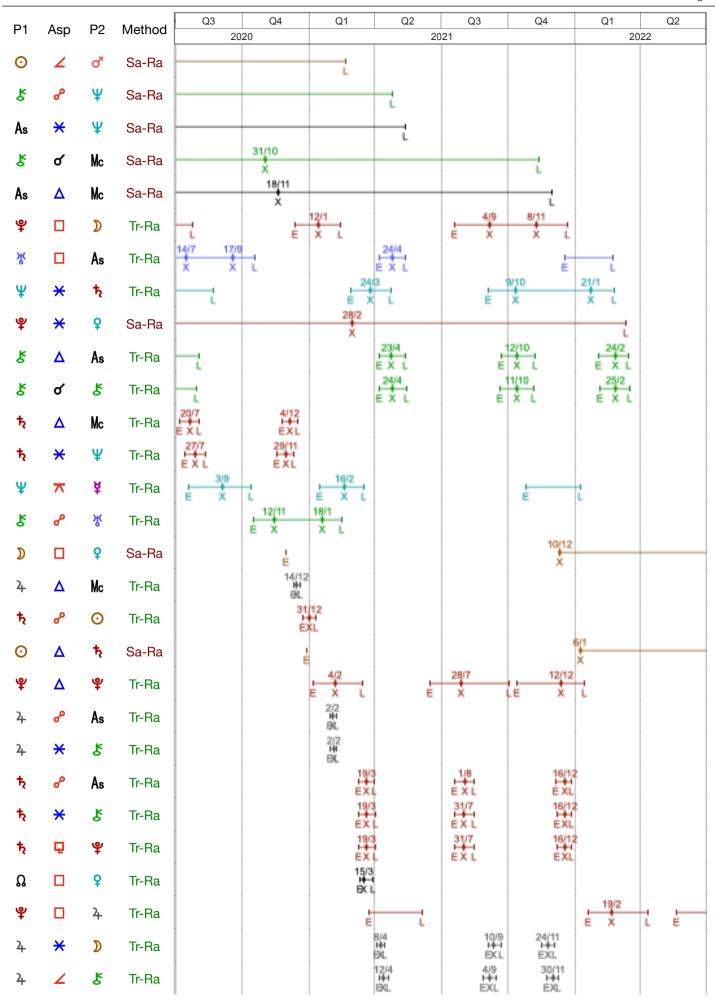
attitudes, ideals and projections that are hindering rather than helping her personal growth and relationships. I will provide guidance that enables her own change process, and give realistic astrological forecasting around the timing and activations in her chart. Marriage and family relationships are tricky and making decisions that impact those you love can feel overwhelming (t.Pluto square Moon). Hopefully Jennifer leaves the session feeling confident and clearer about her choices. Practical assistance can be provided - contacts for marriage counselling services - that give her direction and professional help for the next stage of her story. Discussion of the energy forecasts for this time period, can help her to prepare for what lies ahead, and reassure her that any difficulties in 2021 will ease in 2022.

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For FAA Jennifer Page 2

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