

# PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

By Jane Austen

HIGH SCHOOL HONORS BOOK STUDY

## *Answer Key*

Created by Breckyn Wood

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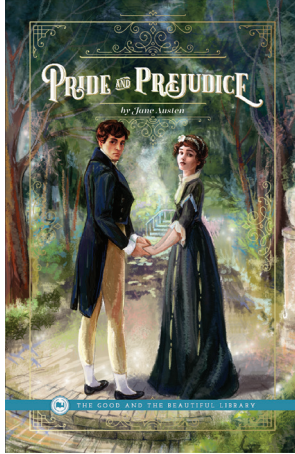
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# SECTION 1

## Chapters 1–12

### Introduction

Welcome to the *Pride and Prejudice* Honors Book Study! You will use this book study as a guide while you read *Pride and Prejudice*, a story full of sly humor and loving, though sometimes frustrating, family relationships.



The goal of The Good and the Beautiful Book Studies is to strengthen both your mind and your heart. This book study is broken into six sections. Complete each section as you read the corresponding chapters in the book. Using the book study as a guide will give you a greater appreciation for the rich language, meaningful messages, and well-developed characters in the story.

Mark off the Section 1 activities below as you complete each one **in order**. When all four are completed, you are ready to begin Section 2.

- Complete the Vocabulary activity in this section.
- Read “Why Great Literature Endures” (pages 9–10).
- Read chapters 1 through 12 of *Pride and Prejudice*.
- Complete the Short Answer Questions in this section.

### Vocabulary

Write the correct word in the blank using the word bank on the following page. Use the vocabulary key on pages 4–6 when needed.

1. The actress would not deign to get out of her limo and speak to the adoring crowd.
2. I lost my purse in the tumult of everyone leaving after the concert.
3. Parents like to conjecture about what their children will be when they grow up.
4. The teacher’s stern countenance kept his students in line.
5. The woman’s easy and pleasant mien made everyone like her.
6. George is an amiable man who is kind to everyone he meets.
7. The nicely dressed man was too supercilious to sit on the ground at the picnic with everyone else.
8. Lily is so impertinent that she actually told a perfect stranger that he needed a haircut!
9. It is pedantic of you to always correct your friends’ grammar in conversation.
10. I’m sorry, what did you say? I was lost in a reverie.
11. She was too indolent to bother doing the dishes.
12. Do you think the author will condescend to attend our book club?
13. Albert Einstein was the most eminent physicist of the twentieth century.
14. This laudable young woman saved my life today!
15. It is your filial responsibility to obey your parents’ wishes.

## Word Bank

AMIABLE  
CONDESCEND  
CONJECTURE  
COUNTEenance  
DEIGN

EMINENT  
FILIAL  
IMPERTINENT  
INDOLENT  
LAUDABLE

MIEN  
PEDANTIC  
REVERIE  
SUPERCILIOUS  
TUMULT

## Short Answer Questions

Answer the following questions. Use a short quote from the book to support each answer.

- In the first two chapters, what does Mrs. Bennet want her husband to do and why?
- What reason does Mr. Darcy give for not wanting to dance at the ball in chapter 3? What reason does he give for not wanting to dance with Elizabeth in particular?
- Describe Jane Bennet's personality. How is she different from her sister Elizabeth?
- How do Kitty and Lydia, the two youngest Bennet sisters, spend most of their days? In contrast, what does Mary spend her time doing?
- "Vanity and pride are different things, though the words are often used synonymously. A person may be proud without being vain."  
"Yes, vanity is a weakness indeed. But pride—where there is a real superiority of mind, pride will be always under good regulation."  
Identify the speaker of each quote. What do you think the speakers mean by the difference between vanity and pride?

*Answers will vary slightly. Here are some examples.*

- Mrs. Bennet wants her husband to visit their new neighbor, Mr. Bingley, so that her girls can be introduced to him. She is "thinking of his marrying one of them."*
- Mr. Darcy says he "detests" dancing, "unless [he is] particularly acquainted with [his] partner." He then says Elizabeth is "not handsome enough to tempt" him into dancing.*
- Jane is quiet and reserved but filled with warmth and kindness. She unites "with great strength of feeling, a composure of temper and a uniform cheerfulness of manner." Lizzie is more playful and outgoing and a little more cynical.*
- Kitty and Lydia are silly and idle and spend most days walking to Meryton to gossip with their aunt. Mary, on the other hand, reads and studies "human nature," morality, and music.*
- The first quote is said by Mary and the second by Mr. Darcy. In general, vanity means caring too much about what other people think of you, particularly your looks or status. Pride means caring (perhaps too much) about your own status or accomplishments. Mr. Darcy, since he is a rich gentleman in 1800s England, naturally believes himself to be better than the poor, uneducated people who are socially beneath him and thus is proud but not vain.*

## SECTION 2

### Chapters 13–23

Mark off the Section 2 activities below as you complete each one **in order**. When all are completed, you are ready to begin Section 3.

- Complete the Vocabulary activity in this section.
- Read chapters 13 through 23 of *Pride and Prejudice*.
- Read the Themes and Messages portion of this section.
- Complete the Literary Analysis activity in this section.
- Read and analyze the Example Response Paper. You will be writing a response paper of your own in Section 3.



### Vocabulary

Use the vocabulary key on pages 4–6 to write your own example sentence for each vocabulary word below. Use the pronunciation guide [in brackets] to say each word aloud.

1. Amiable:
2. Condescend:
3. Conjecture:
4. Countenance:
5. Deign:
6. Eminent:
7. Filial:
8. Impertinent:
9. Indolent:
10. Laudable:
11. Mien:
12. Pedantic:
13. Reverie:
14. Supercilious:
15. Tumult:

*Answers will vary.*

## Literary Analysis



Analyzing literature can be an eye-opening experience, especially as you compare widely popular books of low literary value with “good and beautiful” books. As you learned in the last section, too often books are chosen by entertainment value alone, but with good analytical skills, you will be able to draw conclusions for yourself on whether a book is worth reading.

There are several categories to consider when analyzing a book:

- *entertainment value*
- *moral value*
- *educational value*
- *literary value*

It is very common for *entertainment value* to be placed high on the list of importance. However, being entertained is not the greatest purpose for literature. It’s also important to recognize that a book can be entertaining in many different ways. There is the instantly gratifying, constantly thrilling type of entertainment, more like a video game; then there is entertainment that makes you work for it, diving deep into beautiful descriptions, complex characters, and profound insights, more like taking a long walk in the woods while looking for a rare type of flower. When you are not used to the latter type of entertainment, it may take some time and persistence to come to fully appreciate and enjoy it. If you persist, your mind and heart will become more cultivated to a deeper, more fulfilling type of entertainment.

In Section 1, you read about *moral value* of literature. The importance of the moral value in books cannot be exaggerated. List some of the moral messages you have already discovered in *Pride and Prejudice*:

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*Answers will vary.*

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*Educational value* is how much the reader learns from the book. Historical fiction, for example, is frequently used to educate the reader on a certain time, geographical area, person, and/or event through a story. Not all historical fiction is equally educational, though. Accuracy and detail play a big part in the educational value of a book.

Finally, the *literary value* is determined by how well-written a book is. This can be analyzed by paying attention to the sentence structures, literary devices, descriptive writing, and the author’s ability to create believable characters and engage the reader in the story.

Jane Austen’s works have tremendous literary value. The way she subtly wields her extensive vocabulary; her use of irony, humor, and other literary devices; and her ability to engage the reader in a complicated social environment with multifaceted characters all combine to create masterpieces.

One important rule in good writing is “Show, Don’t Tell,” which means you should try to immerse your audience in the world of your writing through descriptive language and compelling scenes instead of just giving a list of facts. For example, Austen doesn’t just tell us that Caroline Bingley is a self-centered, tedious person who loves to hear herself talk. Instead, she gives us multiple scenes wherein Caroline taunts Mr. Darcy about his admiration for Elizabeth:

*He listened to her with perfect indifference while she chose to entertain herself in this manner; and as his composure convinced her that all was safe, her wit flowed long.*

That simple phrase, “her wit flowed long,” says so much about Caroline Bingley in so few words. As Shakespeare wrote, “Brevity is the soul of wit,” so any wit that flows long isn’t really wit at all; it’s just a lot of hot air.

Let’s analyze other examples of “Show, Don’t Tell” in *Pride and Prejudice*:

### Pages 1–3:

Think back to the very first scene of the book: the conversation between Mr. and Mrs. Bennet about the Bingleys’ arrival at Netherfield Park. It is full of quick, clever quips on Mr. Bennet’s side:

*“I will send a few lines by you to assure him of my hearty consent to his marrying whichever he chooses of the girls;”*

and lengthy, fretful exhortations on Mrs. Bennet’s side:

*“Mr. Bennet, how can you abuse your own children*

*in such a way? You take delight in vexing me. You have no compassion for my poor nerves."*

We learn so much about who Mr. and Mrs. Bennet are from this brief conversation and get a feel for their personalities and motivations, far more than if Austen had spent time describing what they looked like and how they were dressed. What impressions do you get about Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's marriage from this first conversation?

*Answers will vary but may include some of the following ideas: Mr. and Mrs. Bennet are very different people who argue a lot. They don't really understand each other well and are not the best communicators. Mr. Bennet likes teasing Mrs. Bennet because she's so silly, and Mrs. Bennet takes everything he says too seriously. Their marriage might not be the happiest.*

**Page 71:**

*[T]he agreeable manner in which he immediately fell into conversation, though it was only on its being a wet night, made her feel that the commonest, dullest, most threadbare topic might be rendered interesting by the skill of the speaker.*

What do we learn about Mr. Wickham from this first encounter? What do we learn about Elizabeth's feelings toward him? Austen could have written, "Mr. Wickham was an interesting speaker, and Elizabeth enjoyed listening to him," telling us instead of showing. Why is it better to "show" like Austen does, instead of just "tell"?

*Answers will vary: Mr. Wickham is smooth and charming and can easily make people like him. Elizabeth clearly likes him, probably because he makes such a strong contrast to the boring Mr. Collins. When Austen "shows" instead of "tells," the reader enjoys the pleasure of reading between the lines and seeing more that's going on beneath the surface.*

**Page 92:**

*She concluded with many good wishes that Lady Lucas might soon be equally fortunate, though evidently and triumphantly believing there was no chance of it.*

What do we learn about Mrs. Bennet's character from this quote? How could Austen have written a similar line, but in a way that was "telling" instead of "showing"?

*Answers will vary: Mrs. Bennet is rather petty and small minded if this is how she acts towards her friends. Austen could have just said "Mrs. Bennet, being petty and selfish, wished Lady Lucas equal good fortune without truly meaning it." It's more enjoyable for the reader that Austen shows us Mrs. Bennet's character flaws instead of spelling them out for us.*

Wordy, redundant, or overly flowery writing is not good, but using a variety of sentence lengths and a variety of the following sentence structures helps avoid chopiness and predictability. However, using more complex sentence structures exercises your brain, giving reading the benefits of increased memory, focus, and attention span.

- **Simple Sentence:** consists of only one clause
- **Compound Sentence:** consists of two or more independent clauses
- **Complex Sentence:** has at least one independent clause, plus at least one dependent clause
- **Compound-Complex Sentence:** contains more than one independent clause and at least one dependent clause



From the chapters you just read, write down one of the sections you highlighted that has high literary value:

*Answers will vary.*

Circle the following items that the section contains: “show, don’t tell”; a variety of sentence lengths and structures; personification, simile, or metaphor; sensory language.

As you continue to read *Pride and Prejudice*, try to recognize the entertainment, educational, moral, and literary value.

## Example Response Paper

A response paper discusses your reaction to a text. A response paper is not a summary of the text; it is your own personal analysis and impressions of what you read. Response papers are written from the first person point of view, which means you may have phrases such as “I believe” or “I feel.”

Writing a response is a wonderful exercise for subjective thinking, organization, and writing. One of the best ways to learn to write well is to read model writing. Read and analyze the following short response paper, making a checklist in your notebook of items needed for a successful response paper.

### *Pride and Prejudice Response Paper*

by Breckyn Wood

People say you shouldn’t judge a book by its cover. However, you can judge something about a person based on whether or not he or she likes books. At least, Jane Austen seems to think so, and I agree with her. In *Pride and Prejudice*, Austen often uses a love of books and reading as an indication of good character and a lack of it as an indication of bad or deficient character. Since Austen was herself a voracious reader and a writer of novels, it makes sense that she would be preferential to people who like to read and give that valuable trait to her best characters.

Let’s look at the evidence. On page 10, we learn the following about Mr. Bennet: “With a book he was regardless of time.” What a lovely way of telling us he likes to read! All bibliophiles (fancy word for book-lovers) have had the experience of getting so caught up in a good book that they don’t realize how much time has passed. When I read that about Mr. Bennet, I immediately felt a connection to him and knew he must be an interesting, thoughtful person.

Start with an attention-grabbing opening, such as a question, quote, short personal experience, or—as in this case—an interesting statement.

Use transitions.

List the title and author of the book in the opening paragraph.

Thesis statement

Use specific examples from the text, paraphrased or quoted.

## SECTION 3

## Chapters 24–34

Mark off the Section 3 activities below as you complete each one **in order**. When all are completed, you are ready to begin Section 4.

- Complete the Vocabulary activity in this section.
- Read chapters 24 through 34 of *Pride and Prejudice*.
- Complete the Writing a Response Paper activity in this section.

## Vocabulary

Write the correct word in the blank using the word bank provided. (Change the verb tense as necessary.) Use the vocabulary key on pages 4–6 when needed.

1. Avarice is an affliction of the soul. It takes the joy out of being rich.
2. Don't repine about the bad weather. Tomorrow will be sunny and warm.
3. High school romances are so transient, often ending before school starts again in the fall.
4. His duplicity shocked me. I thought he was such an honest man.
5. It is mercenary of you to expect pay when the rest of us are just volunteers.
6. My grandmother's abode lay nestled in the woods: a sweet cottage by a lake.
7. My husband managed to procure tickets to see my favorite play for my birthday.
8. Straight-laced Sarah always plans ahead and is never subject to a random caprice.

9. Terrified of public speaking, Cara stepped onto the stage with much trepidation.
10. The ostentation of the palace's golden decorations was amazing, if a bit ridiculous.
11. The king gave his acquiescence to having his portrait hung in the national gallery.
12. The mom was incredulous when she came home to a house cleaned perfectly by her children.
13. The woman's candor was refreshing. I prefer to hear the truth without any sugarcoating.

ABODE	DUPLICITY	PROCURE
ACQUIESCENCE	INCREDULOUS	REPINE
AVARICE	MERCENARY	TRANSIENT
CANDOR	OSTENTATION	TREPIDATION
CAPRICE		



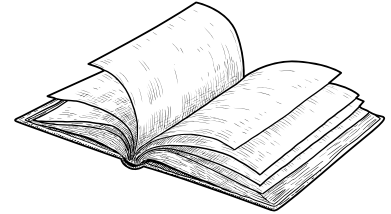


## SECTION 4

### Chapters 35–42

Mark off the Section 4 activities below as you complete each one **in order**. When all are completed, you are ready to begin Section 5.

- Complete the Vocabulary activity in this section.
- Read chapters 35 through 42 of *Pride and Prejudice*.
- Complete the Literary Analysis activity in this section.



### Vocabulary

Use the vocabulary key on pages 4–6 to write your own example sentence for each vocabulary word below. Use the pronunciation guide [in brackets] to say each word aloud.

1. Abode:
2. Acquiescence:
3. Avarice:
4. Candor:
5. Caprice:
6. Duplicity:
7. Incredulous:
8. Mercenary:
9. Ostentation:
10. Procure:
11. Repine:
12. Transient:
13. Trepidation:

*Answers will vary.*

“fine eyes,” we’ve had no hint that Darcy is brimming with love and admiration for Elizabeth, certainly not so much so that he would overcome his distaste for her family’s low connections and bad manners. His proposal to her is in sharp contrast with his previously arrogant, standoffish behavior.

This quote from Lady Catherine is a good example of **dramatic irony**: “They were excessively sorry to go! But so they always are. The dear Colonel rallied his spirits tolerably till just at last; but Darcy seemed to feel it most acutely, more, I think, than last year. His attachment to Rosings certainly increases” (page 198). We in the audience know why Darcy had such low spirits while bidding farewell to his aunt, and it wasn’t because he was going to miss her or her house. It was because Elizabeth had just scorned him and refused his offer of marriage!

## Assignment

Identify the type(s) of irony in the following scenes/quotes and explain what the competing ideas or meanings are.

**Page 17:** “I believe, ma’am, I may safely promise you *never* to dance with him.” (Elizabeth talking about Mr. Darcy)

*Dramatic irony. Elizabeth thinks she hates Darcy and hopes to never see him again, but we in the audience know they will eventually grow to love each other. Elizabeth will probably dance with him many times as his wife!*

**Pages 22–23:** Mr. Darcy says to Sir Lucas, “Every savage can dance,” and that dancing “is a compliment which I never pay to any place if I can avoid it.” Then on the very next page, he asks Elizabeth to dance.

*Situational irony. Since Mr. Darcy seems to hate dancing so much, it’s surprising to the audience that he changes his mind so quickly and offers to dance with Elizabeth.*

**Page 24:** “Nay, if you are serious about it, I shall consider the matter is absolutely settled. You will be having a charming mother-in-law, indeed; and, of course, she will always be at Pemberley with you.” (Caroline Bingley to Mr. Darcy)

*Verbal irony. Caroline wants Darcy for herself and is jealous of Elizabeth, so she’s speaking sarcastically here, because she doesn’t really believe the marriage will happen. It’s also a bit of dramatic irony, because Mrs. Bennet does become Darcy’s mother-in-law!*

**Page 92:** “[Mrs. Bennet] concluded with many good wishes that Lady Lucas might soon be equally fortunate, though evidently and triumphantly believing there was no chance of it.”

*Verbal irony. It says right in the text that Mrs. Bennet is saying one thing [I hope your daughter will find a good match too] but means and believes the complete opposite [Your daughter will stay a spinster].*

Provide your own example of irony from the book:

*Answers will vary.*

## SECTION 5

## Chapters 43–50

Mark off the Section 5 activities below as you complete each one **in order**. When all are completed, you are ready to begin Section 6.

- Complete the Vocabulary activity in this section.
- Read chapters 43 through 50 of *Pride and Prejudice*.
- Complete the Short Answer Questions in this section.
- Read and analyze the Example Analysis Paper. You will be writing an analysis paper of your own in Section 6.

## Vocabulary

Write the correct word in the blank using the word bank provided. (Change the verb tense as necessary.) Use the vocabulary key on pages 4–6 when needed.

1. Benevolent people take time to volunteer and give money to charity.
2. A therapist can help you discover the cause of your perturbation.
3. Abby was censured by her teacher and sent to the principal's office.
4. Anna tried to impute the accident to sun in her eyes, but she had been texting.
5. Candy and toys are frivolous purchases considering we barely have money for groceries.
6. Having lived in France, I have a strong partiality for croissants.
7. I scarcely have time to rest these days, with a new baby at home.
8. I don't want an extravagant birthday celebration. A simple dinner at a nice restaurant would be enough.
9. Joshua wanted to buy a house, but he had other pecuniary matters to take care of first.
10. Owen has always had strong scruples and tried to do the right thing.
11. Philip's imprudent behavior could one day lead him to jail.
12. The Department of Transportation is obliged to post signs before beginning road work.
13. The salesman was so impudent in trying to force me to buy a car that I was shocked.

BENEVOLENT	IMPUDENT	PECUNIARY
CENSURE	IMPUTE	PERTURBATION
EXTRAVAGANT	OBLIGED	SCARCELY
FRIVOLOUS	PARTIALITY	SCRUPLES
IMPRUDENT		



## Short Answer Questions

Answer the following questions. Use a short quote from the book to support each answer.

1. Who is Mrs. Reynolds, and what is her opinion of Mr. Darcy?
2. “Pray, Miss Eliza, are not the — — —shire Militia removed from Meryton? They must be a great loss to your family.” Who says this and what are the speaker’s secret, malicious intentions in saying it?
3. What reasons does Elizabeth give for believing that Lydia would run away with Wickham without marrying him?
4. What does Elizabeth think would have spared her “one sleepless night out of two”? (page 278)
5. How does Mrs. Bennet react to the news of Lydia and Wickham’s marriage, and how is it an example of irony?

*1. Mrs. Reynolds is Mr. Darcy’s housekeeper. She thinks he is a kind, wonderful master and says he has been “good-natured” and “generous-hearted” ever since he was a boy.*

*2. Caroline Bingley says it, and her intention is to “discompose” Elizabeth and make her look bad in front of Mr. Darcy and Georgiana by associating her with Wickham. She’s also hoping to remind Darcy “of all the follies and absurdities by which some part of her family were connected” with Wickham’s regiment.*

*3. Elizabeth says Lydia is “very young” and “has never been taught to think on serious subjects.” Instead, Lydia has spent the last year of her life “given up to nothing but amusement and vanity.” All this, combined with Wickham’s easy charm and persuasiveness, would make Lydia an easy target for Wickham.*

*4. “Had she known nothing of Darcy, she could have borne the dread of Lydia’s infamy somewhat better.” Now that Elizabeth has grown to care for Darcy, she is tormented by how Lydia’s fall from grace must make him think poorly of her (Elizabeth) and her family.*

*5. She’s overjoyed and proud, which is situational irony considering she’s been weeping and complaining and keeping to her room for weeks, shouting “invectives against the villainous conduct of Wickham.”*

## Example Analysis Paper

When we analyze something, we break it down into smaller parts, discuss each part, and explain how each contributes to the whole. Within an analysis paper, you will practice comparing, contrasting, explaining, asserting an opinion, and defending your opinion, among other analytical skills.

Like with most other kinds of papers, your analysis

paper needs a thesis—the central idea that you will be explaining and defending. Each supporting paragraph should provide evidence for the thesis, just as the body of each paragraph should support the idea stated in the topic sentence.

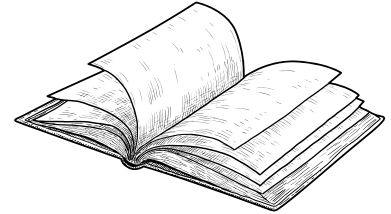
An analysis paper, unlike a response paper, is more formal and objective. It shouldn’t contain phrases like “I believe”

## SECTION 6

### Chapters 51–61

Mark off the Section 6 activities below as you complete each one **in order**. When all are completed, you have finished the *Pride and Prejudice* Book Study!

- Complete the Vocabulary activity in this section.
- Read chapters 51 through 61 of *Pride and Prejudice*.
- Complete the Themes and Messages portion of this section.
- Complete the Writing an Analysis Paper activity in this section.



### Vocabulary

Use the vocabulary key on pages 4–6 to write your own example sentence for each vocabulary word below. Use the pronunciation guide [in brackets] to say each word aloud.

1. Benevolent:
2. Censure:
3. Extravagant:
4. Frivolous:
5. Imprudent:
6. Impudent:
7. Impute:
8. Obligated:
9. Partiality:
10. Pecuniary:
11. Perturbation:
12. Scarcely:
13. Scruples:

*Answers will vary.*