

WORKSHEET 2 – THE HISTORICAL SETTING OF THE NOVEL



1 Match the words in column A with their meaning in B.

- | A | B |
|---------------|---|
| 1 marsh | a country controlled by another |
| 2 protestor | b person who owes money |
| 3 debtor | c prisoner |
| 4 colony | d ships used for transporting prisoners |
| 5 prison hulk | e person who publicly demands change |
| 6 convict | f wet and muddy area of land |

2 Read page 156 of your book and decide whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F):

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1 <i>Great Expectations</i> is set in the early nineteenth century. | T / F |
| 2 The Industrial Revolution led to a rise in crime all over England. | T / F |
| 3 The majority of long-term prisoners at Newgate owed money. | T / F |
| 4 One form of punishment was to send prisoners to live in another country. | T / F |
| 5 The ships which took the prisoners to the colonies were very comfortable. | T / F |

3 **Open Cloze.** Read the passage below and choose **one** suitable word to fill each gap.

Children in Dickens's England

In the nineteenth century, factory owners regarded children (1) _____ a source of cheap labour. There were (2) _____ child labour laws until the 1860s, so the children were forced to work long hours, doing unpleasant and often dangerous jobs. Children as young as five were sent to work in coal mines, pushing trucks of coal to the surface, (3) _____ others, like Dickens himself, worked in factories, where many were injured or became ill. A particularly unpleasant job for young orphans was that of a chimney sweep. Small boys (4) _____ be forced to climb up the chimneys of large houses to clean them. Charles Dickens was active in the campaign to stop child labour and (5) _____ writing highlighted many of the terrible conditions under which Victorian children were forced to live.

Education was available, (6) _____ few children attended school, as the money they earned from working was too important to the family. 'Dame' schools (7) _____ the one run by Mr Wopsle's great-aunt in *Great Expectations* were little more than childcare centres. Dickens's own education (8) _____ been interrupted (9) _____ he was forced to go and work in a shoe-blackening factory. He became successful (10) _____ to his own determination to acquire an education and improve himself. In *Great Expectations*, Pip feels certain that an education (11) _____ help him become a gentleman and it is believed that he reflects (12) _____ of the writer's own childhood ambitions.

4 Today it is still acceptable for children to work. For example, many teenagers have part-time jobs to earn pocket money. Do you think this is a good idea?

WORKSHEET 3 – THE STORY AND MAIN CHARACTERS

- 1 Read the summary of the central story below. Six sentences have been removed. Decide which missing sentences (a–f) best fit each gap (1–6).

Pip is a young boy whose parents have died. He is being brought up by his sister, who is married to the local blacksmith, Joe Gargery. Mrs Joe is cruel to her brother, but Joe cares for him. (1) _____. Magwitch gets caught, but doesn't tell anyone that Pip helped him.

A rich old lady, Miss Havisham, asks Pip to go and play with her adopted daughter Estella. (2) _____. Pip is fascinated by Estella and becomes dissatisfied with his own situation. Miss Havisham is a strange bitter woman who wants to take revenge on men by making Estella hate them. When Miss Havisham tells Pip she no longer needs his services and makes him Joe's apprentice, Pip is unhappy. (3) _____. He is ashamed of his poor home and his rough, dirty job. Then Pip's sister is attacked, and Biddy comes to live with them to care for her.

Pip's life suddenly changes when he learns that he has inherited a fortune from someone who wishes their identity to remain a secret. He must go to London and become a gentleman. (4) _____. Pip meets Estella in London, and knows he loves her dearly, but she keeps telling him that she cannot love anyone. Pip learns a lot in London, but he becomes ashamed of his background and is cold towards Joe when he visits him. Pip learns the truth about his inheritance when Magwitch appears. He tells him that he never forgot Pip's kindness on the marshes and has spent his life making money in Australia so that Pip could become a gentleman. (5) _____.

At first he hates Magwitch, but comes to care for him as he realises how good the old convict really is. He and his friend, Herbert, decide to help Magwitch escape from England, but they are caught and Magwitch is put in prison. Magwitch dies and Pip loses his wealth. (6) _____. On arriving, he discovers that Joe and Biddy are married. Estella is also to marry, so Pip has no reason to stay. He goes abroad to work for Herbert.

When he returns years later, he finds that Joe and Biddy have a family, Miss Havisham has died and Estella's marriage was unhappy, but that her husband has now died. He is drawn to Miss Havisham's old house, where he finds Estella. She is no longer cold and cruel, but sad. They renew their old friendship and the story ends with them walking away together hand in hand.

- a Pip's dreams are shattered.
- b Estella is beautiful, but thinks she is too good for Pip and laughs at him.
- c He regrets his treatment of Joe and returns to the village to try to make it up to him.
- d He tells his friend, Biddy, that he wants to be a gentleman so that Estella might accept him.
- e One day Pip helps an escaped convict, called Magwitch, taking him food and a file to cut through his leg-irons.
- f Pip believes that his benefactor is Miss Havisham and that she is preparing him to marry Estella.

- 2 Based on your reading of the plot, write a brief description of the following characters.



1 Magwitch



2 Joe Gargery



3 Pip



4 Estella



5 Miss Havisham

WORKSHEET 4 – SOCIAL CLASSES IN THE NOVEL

1 Read the text and choose the best answer to the questions that follow.

The characters and events in *Great Expectations* reflect the social attitudes and changes that affected British society in the nineteenth century. As a direct result of the Industrial Revolution, self-made businessmen could also become rich.

No longer were there simply the upper class of landowners and the working class, based on birth, but a middle class of educated professionals and businessmen was emerging. This middle class also had several levels, according to the kind of work one did and the amount of money one earned. Charles Dickens, a self-made man, strongly believed in the virtue of an education and hard work. This attitude is represented in the novel by the characters that do well because they work hard.

Pip's journey of discovery brings him into contact with all levels of society. Both his meeting with an escaped convict at the beginning of the story and his own simple beginnings influence how he sees the world. He moves from the working-class world of a blacksmith's apprentice to Miss Havisham's world of the very rich. In London he gets a taste of life as a middle-class gentleman, but is forced back to his humble beginnings before settling in the middle-class world of a respectable, hardworking businessman. On the way, he experiences the prejudices and attitudes of each social level and is taught a valuable lesson about his own prejudices.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 In the nineteenth century, British society . . .</p> <p>a was made up of two main classes.</p> <p>b was changing dramatically.</p> | <p>3 In the story, Pip belongs to a . . .</p> <p>a middle-class family.</p> <p>b working-class family.</p> |
| <p>2 Charles Dickens was a member of . . .</p> <p>a the new middle class.</p> <p>b the upper class.</p> | <p>4 Towards the end of the story, Pip . . .</p> <p>a is forced to revise his social views.</p> <p>b becomes ashamed of his background.</p> |

2 The following characters are some of the people Pip encounters on his journey. Place them in the most suitable position on the social scale below.

- Rich upper class _____
- 'Self-made' upper middle class _____
- Middle class _____
- Lower middle class _____
- Upper working class _____
- Lower working class _____
- Underclass _____



Dolge Orlick: works as an unskilled labourer for Joe Gargery, in the forge



Matthew Pocket: Pip's schoolteacher in London



Miss Havisham: rich, due to her father making money brewing beer



Joe Gargery: skilled craftsman – blacksmith



Bentley Drummle: member of a rich family of landowners



Magwitch: criminal, deported to Australia where he works hard and makes money



Uncle Pumblechook: shop owner

WORKSHEET 6 – VOLUME I, CHAPTERS I–VI – A FATEFUL MEETING

RESEARCH

- 1 Books open. Listen to Chapters I–III and read along in your book. Fill each gap with one suitable word from the box to complete the summary below.

steal	prisoner	blacksmith	hulk	brought
forge	fired	file	leg-iron	orphan

It's 1812, and a young boy called Pip lives in the Marshlands of south-east England. Pip is an (1) _____ and is looking at the graves of his parents and brothers when he meets a stranger. The stranger is a (2) _____ who has escaped from a prison (3) _____ on the river nearby. When Pip tells him that he lives with the local (4) _____, Joe Gargery, the man immediately orders him to bring food and a (5) _____. Pip runs home and is very frightened. His sister, who has (6) _____ him up, is strict, and he wonders how he is going to (7) _____ food for the prisoner.

That evening, a gun is (8) _____ as a warning that a prisoner has escaped from the prison ship. Pip does not sleep well, but wakes up very early the next morning, takes some food from the kitchen and the file from Joe's (9) _____ next door, and runs to meet the man. He finds another man at first, who runs away without speaking to him. Then he finds the one he is looking for, who eats the food hungrily. When Pip tells him about the other man, he stops eating and grabs the file to cut his (10) _____.

Pip is frightened of him and runs home.

THINK

- 2 Books closed. What do you think happens to Pip when he gets home? Do you think the prisoner gets caught?



WORKSHEET 6 CONTINUED – VOLUME I, CHAPTERS I–VI – A FATEFUL MEETING

3  Books closed. Listen to Chapters IV–VI and decide whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1 When Pip gets home, his sister has discovered that food is missing. | T / F |
| 2 When Uncle Pumblechook drinks some brandy, it tastes horrible. | T / F |
| 3 The soldiers come to arrest Joe. | T / F |
| 4 Pip tells the soldiers where to find the prisoner. | T / F |
| 5 The soldiers catch the prisoner. | T / F |



DISCUSS

- 4**
- 1 Books open. How do Joe and Pip seem to feel about the prisoners? Why?
 - 2 What are your first impressions of the following characters? Discuss and make notes:

Pip 	
Joe 	
Mrs Joe Gargery 	
The prisoner 	

WORKSHEET 7 – VOLUME I, CHAPTERS VII–XIII – UNSETTLING EVENTS

RESEARCH

 **1** Books open. Listen to and read Chapters VII–X. Choose the best answer to the following questions.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Pip is taught to read by . . .
 a Mr Wopsle's great-aunt.
 b another orphan, called Biddy.</p> <p>2 Miss Havisham is a rich old lady who knows . . .
 a Uncle Pumblechook.
 b Joe.</p> <p>3 When Pip arrives at the house, Estella is . . .
 a rude to him.
 b quite friendly towards him.</p> <p>4 Miss Havisham is dressed in . . .
 a a white nightdress.
 b an old wedding dress.</p> | <p>5 Estella makes Pip feel . . .
 a angry with her.
 b ashamed of himself.</p> <p>6 At home, Pip lies about his visit because he . . .
 a is upset about it.
 b wants to trick his sister.</p> <p>7 The man in the pub has . . .
 a something for Pip.
 b a message for Joe.</p> <p>8 What is Mrs Joe's reaction to the appearance of the money?
 a Excitement.
 b Suspicion.</p> |
|--|--|

THINK

 **2** Books open. Listen to and read Chapters XI–XIII. Think about the following:

- 1 How does Estella treat Pip? Why?

- 2 Why does Pip react in the way he does? What does this tell us about his character?

- 3 Why has Miss Havisham asked Pip to visit Satis House? Choose the best answer:
- a** To play with Estella.
b So that Estella can hurt him.
c To keep Miss Havisham company.
d Another reason.



DISCUSS

3 When Pip takes Joe to visit Miss Havisham, Joe does not talk directly to her.

- 1 Why?

- 2 How does Pip feel about this?

WORKSHEET 8 – VOLUME I, CHAPTERS XIV–XVIII – PIP’S EXPECTATIONS

-  **1** Books closed. Listen to Chapters XIV–XVI. Match the quotations in column A with the characters who say them in column B.

A

- 1 'I did not think he was good enough for me.'
- 2 'You'd be everybody's master if you could.'
- 3 'I know what to do with all kinds of lying, cheating men!'
- 4 'She's learning to be a lady, far away. Do you feel that you have lost her?'
- 5 'Something's happened at your place, Pip!'

B

- a Mr Wopsle
- b Mrs Joe
- c Orlick
- d Miss Havisham
- e Pip

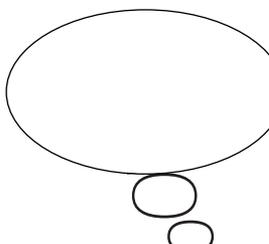
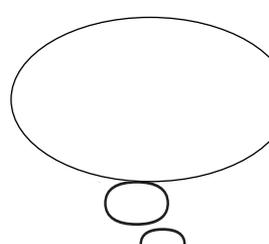
- 2** Who are they talking about?

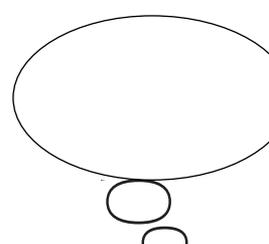
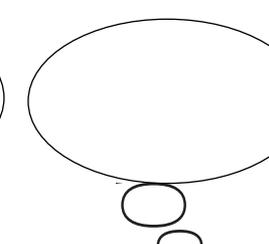
- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

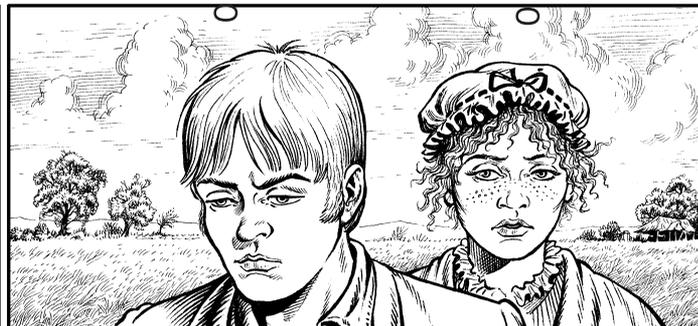
-  **3** Books open. Listen to and read Chapters XVII–XIX. Complete the summary of what happens to Pip.
Pip accepts life as a blacksmith's apprentice and notices some pleasant changes in Biddy, but cannot forget Estella. He tells Biddy of his feelings, not realising that he is hurting her. Suddenly, one evening, a man comes up to him in the pub . . .

- 4** We know what they say, but what are they thinking?

Read what Pip and Biddy say on pages 45–46 of your book. Then imagine what they are thinking and write their thoughts.

WORKSHEET 9 – VOLUME II, CHAPTERS I–VI – NEW EXPERIENCES

RESEARCH

-  **1** Books open. Listen to and read Volume II, Chapters I and II. Using the words in the box below, complete the table with Pip's first impressions of London, Mr Jaggers and Wemmick.

dark	unpleasant	snobbish	frightening	dirty	cold
distant	ugly	unpredictable	rude	formal	polite

Pip's First Impressions

London	
Jaggers	
Wemmick	

-  **2** Books closed. Listen to Chapters III and IV. Correct the following statements.

1 Estella is Miss Havisham's niece.

2 Handel was a famous blacksmith.

3 Miss Havisham had no brothers or sisters.

4 The man she fell in love with gave her lots of money.

5 Miss Havisham stopped the clocks when her fiancé was killed.

THINK

-  **3** **1** Books open. Listen to and read Chapters V and VI. Compare Wemmick's behaviour at the office and at home in the table below.

Wemmick at the Office	Wemmick at Home

2 What reasons could Wemmick have for this difference in behaviour?

DISCUSS

4 Why do you think Mr Jaggers likes it if people do not understand him?

WORKSHEET 10 – VOLUME II, CHAPTERS VII–XII – RISING EXPECTATIONS



THINK

- 1 Books closed. Listen to Chapter VII. Decide how probable the following statements are and circle the most suitable auxiliary.
- 1 Mr Jaggers *must* / *can't* have invited Pip and his friends to dinner because he wants to be friends with Pip.
 - 2 Mr Jaggers *should* / *may* want to show his guests his housekeeper's hands to embarrass her.
 - 3 Mr Jaggers *can't* / *must* enjoy controlling people.
 - 4 Molly, the housekeeper, *might* / *can't* have been one of Mr Jaggers's clients.
- 2 1 Books open. Listen to and read Chapter VIII. Joe visits Pip in London. Compare their attitudes and feelings towards each other. Use the words below to help you.

shame snobbishness embarrassment frustration sadness awkwardness

Joe's Attitude towards Pip	Pip's Attitude towards Joe

2 Why does Pip feel this way?

- 3 Books open. Listen to and read Chapters IX–XII. Pip visits Miss Havisham and sees Estella. His hopes and expectations increase. Make notes in the table below on what Pip thinks is true about the characters and what actually is true. Use the words below to help you.

inheritance common marry wealth benefactor

Pip's Expectations	The Truth Is . . .
Miss Havisham	
Estella	
Joe	

WORKSHEET 10 – CONTINUED – VOLUME II, CHAPTERS VII–XII – RISING EXPECTATIONS

DISCUSS AND WRITE

4 Discuss the reasons the characters have for acting in the following ways:

1 When Pip returns to the village, he stays at the Blue Boar.

Why? _____

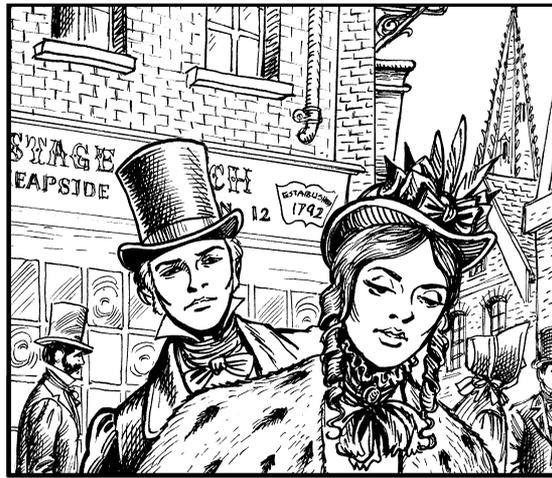
2 Miss Havisham lets Pip believe she is his benefactor.

Why? _____

5 Imagine you are Mr Jaggers. Pip's benefactor has asked you to report to him about Pip's progress in London. Write him a letter telling him about Pip's personality and what he has been doing since he arrived in London. You could also comment on the people he has met.



WORKSHEET 11 – VOLUME II, CHAPTERS XIII–XVI – WARNING SIGNS!



- 1** Books open. Listen to Chapter XIII and read along in your book. Imagine you are Pip. You describe your visit to Newgate Prison to Herbert that evening. What do you say to him? Use the pictures on page 79 and some of the words in the box below to describe the prison cell and the people in there.

overcrowded	dark	damp	noisy	unpleasant	cold
cramped	dirty	worn clothes	tired	unhappy	sick

- 2** Books closed. Listen to Chapters XIV and XV. Decide whether the following statements are True (T) or False (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1 When she arrives, Estella seems very happy to see Pip. | T / F |
| 2 Pip tries to tell her how he feels about her. | T / F |
| 3 Estella tells Pip that people are praising him to Miss Havisham. | T / F |
| 4 Pip and Herbert owe a lot of money. | T / F |
| 5 Pip receives some good news in a letter. | T / F |

- 3** Books open. Listen to Chapter XVI and read along in your books. Read the questions and decide which answer best describes how the characters feel.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 How does Pip feel about his sister's death?
a angry b sad c heartbroken | 3 How does Pip seem to feel about Joe's situation now?
a indifferent b concerned c guilty |
| 2 At dinner, after the funeral, how does Joe seem to feel in Pip's company?
a awkward
b relaxed
c pleased | 4 What is Bidley's attitude towards Pip?
a cold and disapproving
b warm and affectionate
c honest and realistic |

- 4** How do the following in Chapters XIV–XVI warn Pip against having expectations that are unrealistic and too great?

- The 'gentleman' prisoner who is in the debtors' prison at Newgate.
- Estella's cold attitude on arriving in London – 'We must obey our instructions.'
- Pip's realisation that he and Herbert are spending too much money.
- The awkwardness between Joe and Pip after Mrs Joe's funeral.

WORKSHEET 12 – VOLUME II, CHAPTERS XVII–XX – THE COLD TRUTH

- 1 Books closed. Listen to Chapters XVII and XVIII. Complete the summary below with suitable words or short phrases to fill each gap.

On Pip's twenty-first birthday, Mr Jaggers announces that he will be given (1) _____ a year until his anonymous benefactor reveals himself. Jaggers refuses to tell Pip (2) _____ is. Pip must now (3) _____ himself. Pip visits (4) _____ at his home and asks him how he can help Herbert become successful, without his friend knowing. With the clerk's help, Pip anonymously pays for Herbert to become (5) _____ with a shipping broker called Clarriker. Herbert is delighted and suspects nothing.

- 2 Books open. Listen to and read Chapter XIX. Make notes on how Estella treats the following people.

Pip	
Her admirers	
Miss Havisham	



- 3 Books open. Listen to and read Chapter XX.
How does Pip react to Magwitch's news that he is the mysterious benefactor?

4 Pip's budget

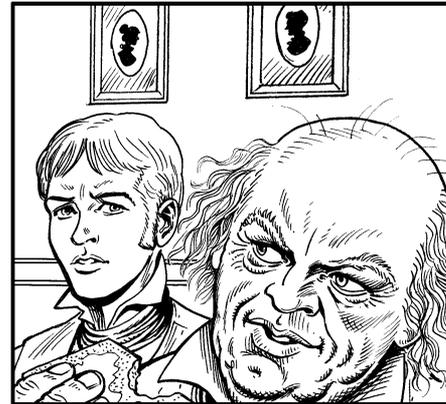
Imagine you are Pip. You have been given £500 to live on for the next 12 months and have just paid Clarriker half of it to sponsor Herbert. You must live on £250 for 12 months. Below is a list of your basic weekly expenses. How much money can you afford to spend each week? What other expenses are missing from the table?

Item	Pounds (£) (£1 = 20 shillings)	Shillings (s) (1 = 12 pence)	Pence (d)
rent		8	6
soap and candles		2	4
coal for the fire		2	6
cleaner		2	

WORKSHEET 13 – VOLUME III, CHAPTERS I–VII – PROTECTING MAGWITCH

1 Books closed. Listen to Volume III, Chapters I–III. Form a synopsis of the story by placing the events listed below in the correct order.

- a Herbert knows the name and tells Pip that this was the man who pretended to love Miss Havisham.
- b First, though, they want to hear his life story. Magwitch tells them of his fight for survival as a child and how it became necessary for him to steal. He talks of being in and out of prison regularly, until he met an educated thief called Compeyson, who tricked him. This was the man he fought with on the marshes all those years ago.
- c Then Herbert returns home and agrees to help. Pip and Herbert decide they must get Magwitch out of the country, and that Pip must go with him.



- d Pip disturbs an intruder on the stairs, he then learns from Jaggers that if the convict is caught, he will be sentenced to death. He realises that it is not safe for Magwitch to be there. He arranges a disguise and accommodation for the convict.

Read Chapters I–III in your book to check your answers.

2 Books open. Listen to and read Chapters IV and V. Things are going wrong for Pip. Answer the following questions.

- 1 What does Pip discover when he arrives at the Blue Boar? _____
- 2 What does he learn at Satis House? _____
- 3 How does he react? _____
- 4 What message does he receive on his return to London? _____

3 Books closed. Listen to Chapters VI and VII. Match the quotations in column A with the characters who say them in column B.

- | A | B |
|--|------------|
| 1 'I told him that if there was anyone in the rooms or nearby, he should move him somewhere else.' | a Pip |
| 2 'We could take him down the river ourselves . . .' | b Wemmick |
| 3 'I don't know when we may meet again, but I don't like goodbye. Say goodnight!' | c Herbert |
| 4 'Have you heard of a man called Compeyson? Is he alive? Is he in London?' | d Magwitch |

4 1 Which of the following words describe Abel Magwitch? Can you think of others?

intelligent	loving	dangerous	proud	determined	heroic
generous	brave	ambitious	afraid	cruel	frightened

2 Write a description of Abel Magwitch's character. Think about the following:

- 1 Why has he chosen to give all his money to Pip?
- 2 What does he hope to receive in return?
- 3 Why does Pip react so negatively towards him at first, but then decide to help him, placing himself in danger?

WORKSHEET 14 – VOLUME III, CHAPTERS VIII–XIV – DETECTIVE PIP

 **1** Books closed. Listen to Chapters VIII–X. Choose the best answer for the questions below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 At the theatre, the person sitting behind Pip is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Miss Havisham's brother b Pip's rival, Bentley Drummle c Miss Havisham's ex-fiancé <p>2 At dinner with Mr Jaggers and Wemmick, Pip notices something familiar about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a the lawyer b the housekeeper c the clerk <p>3 When Pip visits Satis House, Miss Havisham is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a pleased to see him b filled with regret c angry at Estella | <p>4 Miss Havisham agrees to give £900 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Herbert b Mr Jaggers c Pip <p>5 How does Pip feel towards Miss Havisham now?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a He's angry with her. b He forgives her. c He wishes he'd never met her. <p>6 In the fire, how does Pip save Miss Havisham?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a He runs out and calls for help. b He throws a bucket of water over her. c He covers her with the old tablecloth. |
|---|---|

 **2** Books open. Listen to and read Chapters IX–XII. What does Pip learn from each of the following that leads him to his conclusion about Estella's parents?



1 Dinner with Jaggers and Wemmick



2 Herbert



3 Mr Jaggers

 **3** Books open. Listen to and read Chapters XIII and XIV. Pip has a narrow escape from Orlick, when Herbert and Startop rescue him. What do we learn from Orlick?



WORKSHEET 15 – VOLUME III, CHAPTERS XV–XX – UNEXPECTED REUNIONS

1 Books open. Listen to and read Chapters XV and XVI. Answer the following questions:

1 How are Pip and Magwitch going to escape?

2 Why do they need Startop's help?

3 Who chases after them?

4 What is going to happen to Magwitch?

5 How does Herbert try to help Pip afterwards?

6 What surprise does Wemmick have for Pip the next day?

2 Books open. Listen to and read Chapters XVII and XVIII. Who says the following and who are they talking to?

Quotation	Who says this?	Who are they talking to?
1 'I have already received my sentence of death from God, but I accept yours.'		
2 'Your daughter is alive. She found powerful friends.'		
3 'Well, sir, you're arrested. You owe £123 to a jeweller.'		
4 'I thought you would be among strangers and that you would like a visit.'		
5 'Biddy, I think you liked me once. If you can like me again, will you spend your life with me?'		

3 What do you think happens next?



WORKSHEET 15 CONTINUED – VOLUME III, CHAPTERS XV–XX – UNEXPECTED REUNIONS

4 Books open. Listen to and read Chapters XIX and XX. How is Pip reunited with (a) Joe (b) Estella? Make notes under the pictures.



Joe



Estella

5 Now you have reached the end of the story, discuss the following questions:

- 1 How has Pip's life been?
- 2 Are you disappointed by the ending? Why / Why not?
- 3 Do you think Pip will find happiness with Estella?

6 1 Compare Pip's relationships with Joe and Magwitch. Use the vocabulary in the box to help you, then answer the questions below.

understanding	sensible	need to love someone	brotherly love
desire to do good	desire to see Pip happy	need to be loved	kind

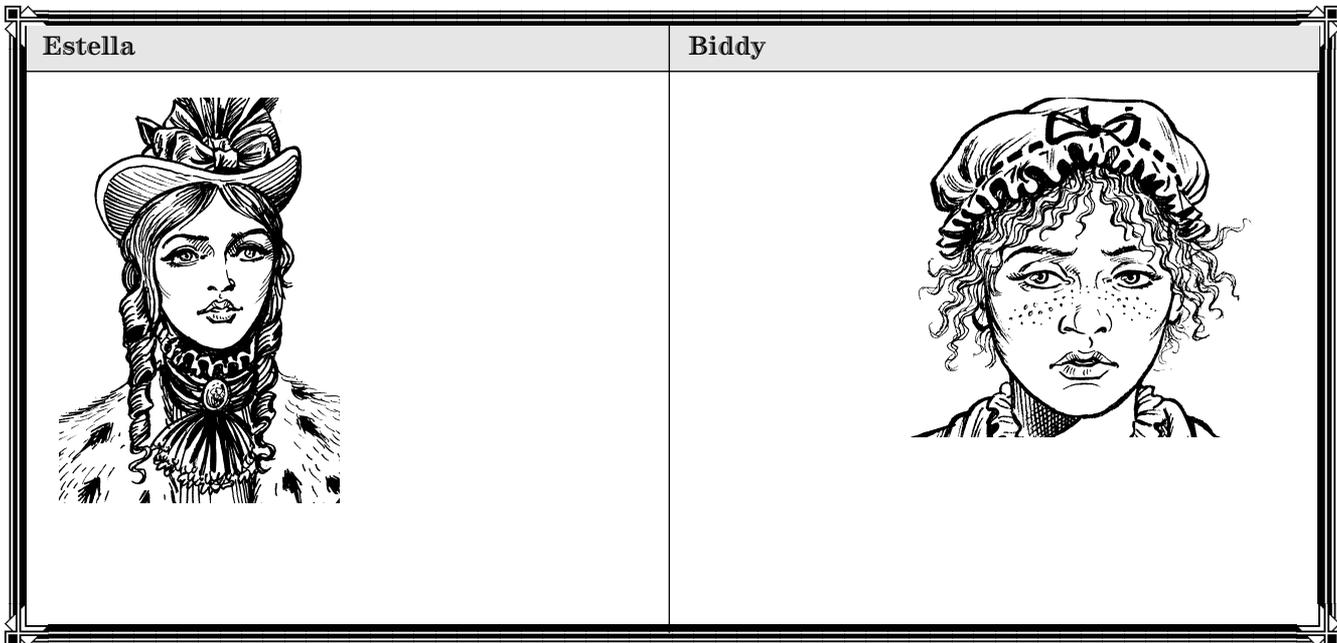
	Joe	Magwitch
In what ways do they help Pip?		
Who does Pip appreciate more? Why?		
What has Pip learned from these men about values by the end of the novel?		

2 Based on your answers to the questions in the table above, write an essay comparing Pip's relationship with Joe to his relationship with Magwitch.

WORKSHEET 16 – DOUBLE TROUBLE

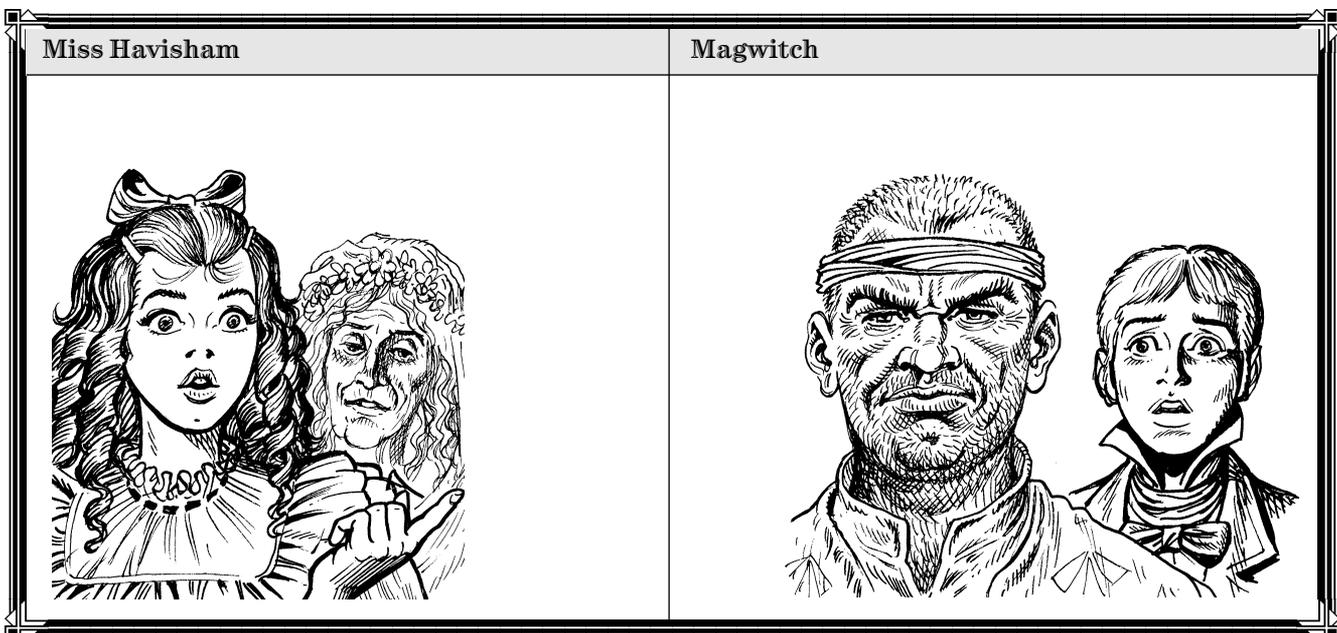
- 1 Many of the characters in *Great Expectations* can be placed in pairs. Compare the two women in Pip's life and how they influence him.

Biddy and Estella: two young women who interest Pip



- 2 Compare the motives these two characters have for treating Estella and Pip as they do, and the positive and negative effects their actions have on them.

Miss Havisham and Magwitch: two adults who try to shape children for their own purposes



- 3 There are other 'pairs' of characters in the novel. Look at the list of characters on pages 4–5 to help you. How many can you find?

- 4 Why do you think Dickens presents his characters in this way?

WORKSHEET 17 – ‘ALWAYS THE BEST OF FRIENDS’

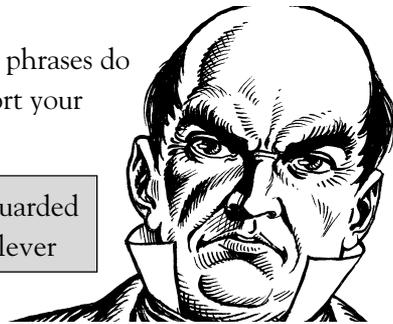
1 Three characters prove to be loyal friends to Pip in the story – Joe, Herbert and Wemmick. Describe their friendship and answer the question ‘Is Pip a good friend to him?’

	His friendship with Pip	Is Pip a good friend to him?
<p>JOE GARGERY</p> 		
<p>HERBERT</p> 		
<p>WEMMICK</p> 		

2 Mr Jaggers

1 Based on your reading of the story, which of the following words and phrases do you think best describe Mr Jaggers’s character? Give reasons to support your ideas.

cold	calculating	friendly	kind	secretive	guarded
cautious	stern	honest	manipulative	caring	clever



2 Is he a friend to Pip?

3 Imagine you are Biddy. Pip is finally going to marry Estella, and he has written you a letter to ask for your help in choosing his best man. Should he choose Herbert, Wemmick or Joe? Write a reply to Pip, telling him who you think would be the best choice and why.

WORKSHEET 18 – EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY

THINK

- 1 At the beginning of the story, Pip and Biddy are in the same position: both are orphans, living with relatives whose social status is similar. Both have hopes and expectations of a better future, but in different ways. Pip dreams of becoming a gentleman and marrying Estella, while Biddy wants to become a teacher and have a family. Compare their expectations, using the words and phrases below.



socially ambitious
immature
realistic goals
intelligent
honest
desire to learn
ashamed
arrogant
down-to-earth
snobbish
sensible
desires material wealth
aware of own identity



- 2 Who is more successful in their life? Give reasons for your choice.

- 3 The following characters have expectations of others. In what way are these expectations harmful?

	Expectations	How They are Harmful
Pip's expectations of Estella		
Miss Havisham's expectations of Estella		
Magwitch's expectations of Pip		
Pip's expectations of Joe		
Pip's expectations of Herbert		

4 Guilty or not guilty?

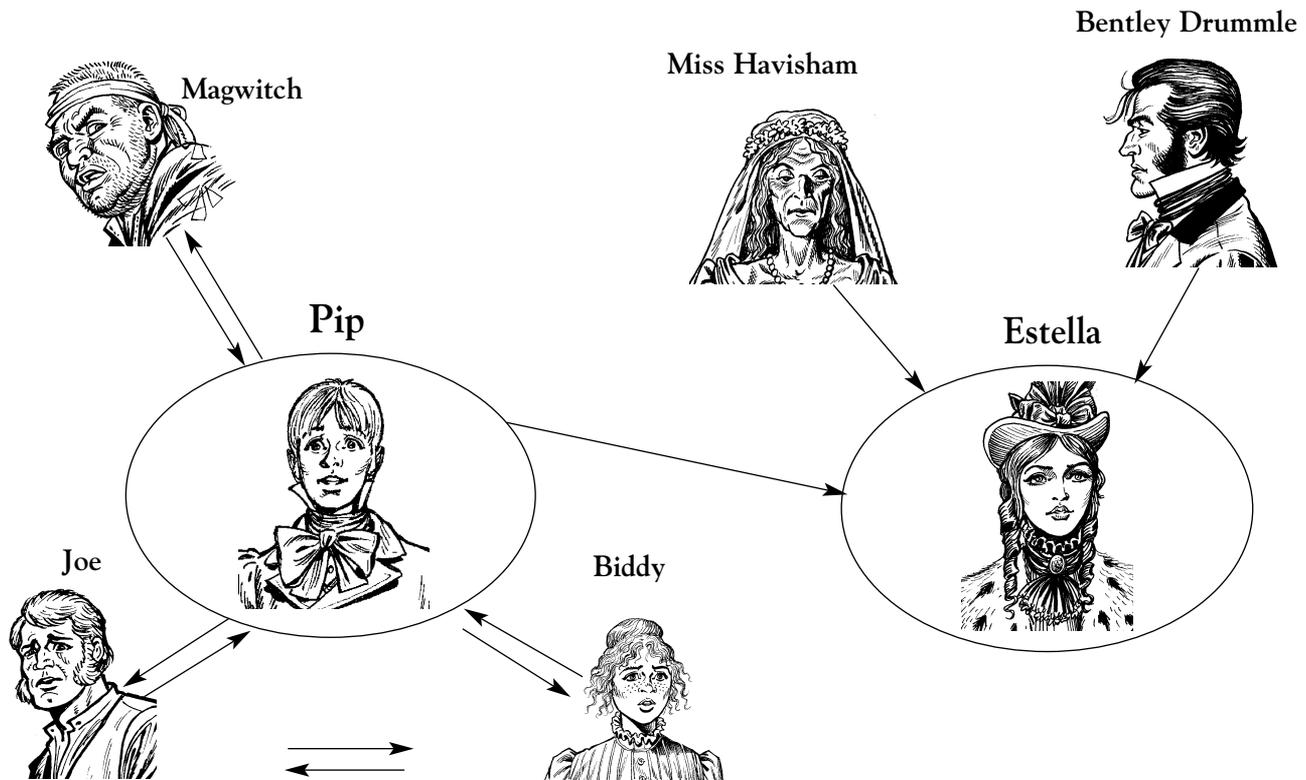
Throughout the story, Pip feels a sense of guilt and shame – over his poor circumstances in the beginning, then over the way he behaves towards Joe and Biddy. In what way is Pip responsible for the following?

- 1 He believes that Miss Havisham is his benefactor. _____
- 2 He thinks Estella is meant for him. _____
- 3 He wants Joe to change and become a gentleman before he will accept him in London. _____

WORKSHEET 19 – ‘... AND I LOVE HER!’

THINK

1 Look at the diagram below. It shows the role of love in the relationships between key characters in the story. Use it to help you compare the kind of love that surrounds Pip and Estella, and how this affects their own ability to give love. Who is the ‘richest’ in love? Make your notes in the table below.



	Kind of Love Given to...	Ability to Give Love
Pip		
Estella		

WRITE

- 2 1 ‘In *Great Expectations*, the quality that saves Pip is his ability to love.’ Do you agree? Give examples from the book to support your views. Write your essay.
- 2 Your local bookshop’s website is asking for customers to send in a review of a book they’ve read recently which contained a strong love theme. You have decided to write a review of *Great Expectations: The ELT Graphic Novel*, examining the importance love plays in affecting what happens in the story. Write your review.

APPENDIX

Extra Writing Tasks

These are designed to be used whenever you feel students would benefit from some extra writing practice. There are suggestions in the Teacher's notes for use of questions 1-3, but please feel free to use them whenever.

- 1** You are a reporter for a society gossip column in a London newspaper. You have been asked to write an article about the arrival on the London social scene of a beautiful young lady known as Estella of Richmond. Write your article, describing Estella and the impression she is making, and mention something of the mystery surrounding her background.
- 2** When Miss Havisham's will was found by Jaggers, following her death, he also discovered a sealed letter for Pip, hidden within the package of papers. The letter was a record of the ways in which her actions had harmed both Pip and Estella. It ended by her begging their forgiveness for all the damage she had done. Imagine you are Miss Havisham and write this letter.
- 3** Imagine you are Pip. You have returned to London after learning that Estella is going to marry Bentley Drummle. You are hurt and angry and decide to write a letter to Miss Havisham blaming her for the way Estella has become, and begging her to stop the marriage. Use the notes you have made on Miss Havisham to help you write your letter.
- 4** The website of your local bookshop has invited readers to send in a review of their favourite story involving the central character's journey of self-discovery. You have decided to write about *Great Expectations: The ELT Graphic Novel* by Charles Dickens, adapted by Brigit Viney. State briefly what Pip learns in the story, whether or not you like the way the story develops, and how successful the comic format is in helping the reader understand the story. Remember to say if you would recommend it to others or not.
- 5** A student magazine is doing a survey on the value of reading literature in the language classroom. They have invited readers to send in reports of books they have read with their class. You have decided to write about *Great Expectations: The ELT Graphic Novel* by Charles Dickens, adapted by Brigit Viney. Comment on the effectiveness of the comic format – the pictures, dialogue, etc. – and also the value of having the audio CD to accompany the book. Say whether you think the class benefited from reading the book. To whom would you recommend it, and why?
- 6** Your teacher has asked everyone in the class to write an essay on the character they find most interesting in *Great Expectations: The ELT Graphic Novel* by Charles Dickens, adapted by Brigit Viney. Include a description of the character and the role he / she plays in the novel. Comment on why you find this character interesting. Use examples from the story to support your views.