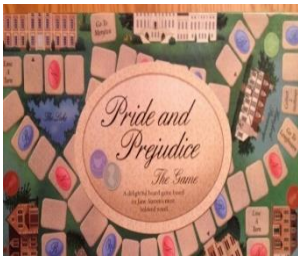




INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: Grade VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: NOVEMBER-2022
Worksheet No:20	Topic: PRIDE & PREJUDICE (STUDY NOTES)	Note: FOR REFERENCE

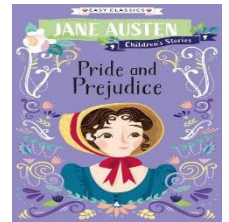


❖ MEANING:

- Pride is a constant presence in the characters' attitudes and treatment of each other, coloring their judgments and leading them to make rash mistakes.
- Prejudice refers to the tendency of the characters to judge one another based on preconceptions, rather than on who they really are and what they actually do.

❖ BACKGROUND OF THE NOVEL 'PRIDE AND PREJUDICE':

- ✓ Pride and Prejudice is an 1813 novel of manners written by Jane Austen. Though it is mostly called a romantic novel, it is also a satire. The novel follows the character development of Elizabeth Bennet, the dynamic protagonist of the book who learns about the repercussions of hasty judgments and comes to appreciate the difference between superficial goodness and actual goodness.
- ✓ As the book's title implies, prejudice goes hand in hand with pride. Austen's gentle way of mocking Elizabeth's and Darcy's biases gives the impression that such mistakes could, and indeed do, happen to anyone; that faulting someone else for prejudice is easy while recognizing it in yourself is hard. Prejudice in the novel is presented as a stage in a person's moral development, something that can be overcome through reason and compassion. Austen only condemns those people who refuse to set aside their prejudices, like the class-obsessed Lady Catherine and the scheming social climber Caroline. Though Pride and Prejudice is a social comedy, it offers a powerful illustration of the damaging effects to people and to society that prejudice can inflict.
- ✓ Mr. Bennet, owner of the Longbourn estate in Hertfordshire, has five daughters, but his property is entailed and can only be passed to a male heir. His wife also lacks an inheritance, so his family is becoming very poor upon his death. Thus, it is imperative that at least one of the girls marry well to support the others, which is a motivation that drives the plot. The novel revolves around the importance of marrying for love rather than money or social prestige, despite the communal pressure to make a wealthy match.



❖ CHARACTERS:

- ✓ **Jane Bennet:** The eldest of the Bennet sisters, Jane seems almost too good to be true: beautiful, sweet-tempered, and modest. Her sole fault is that she refuses to think badly of anyone.
- ✓ **Elizabeth (Eliza, Lizzy) Bennet:** The novel's heroine and the second eldest of the five Bennet sisters, Elizabeth is smart, lively, and attractive. She prides herself on her ability to analyze other people, but she is very often mistaken in doing so.

- ✓ **Charles Bingley:** Bingley is Darcy's best friend and the brother of Caroline Bingley. Unlike Darcy, however, Bingley is down to earth. Despite his huge wealth, he is humble and modest, placing no great weight on social standing.
- ✓ **Caroline Bingley:** Charles Bingley's sister. She cares only about social status and tries to underestimate Elizabeth because she wants Darcy for herself.
- ✓ **Fitzwilliam Darcy:** Bingley's closest friend, the brother of Georgiana, and the nephew of Lady Catherine de Bourgh. Darcy is very wealthy and a person of great integrity, but is extreme class-conscious.

❖ **SUMMARY:**

The arrival of the wealthy **Mr. Bingley** to the estate of Netherfield Park causes a commotion in the nearby village of Longbourn. In the Bennet household, **Mrs. Bennet** is desperate to marry Bingley to one of her five daughters—**Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty, Lydia**. When Bingley meets Jane at a ball, he seems immediately smitten with her. Yet Bingley's snobby friend **Darcy** is rude to Elizabeth. When Jane is caught in the rain while traveling to visit Bingley, she falls ill and must stay at Netherfield. Elizabeth comes to Netherfield to care for Jane, and though Bingley's sisters are rude and condescending to her.

❖ **STYLE, TONE AND FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE:**

- ✓ *Pride and Prejudice*, on the whole, employed with irony and wit. Austen through the speeches of various characters employed irony that draws a clear line between what is being said and what the readers interpret about the reality of the situation.
- ✓ The tone of *Pride and Prejudice*, is ironic towards various characters and events in the novel. The ironical is employed to demonstrate the foolishness of characters, the attitude of pretensions social class, and the criticism on gender roles.
- ✓ Austen exaggerated situations and phrases, also used comparisons to satirize some of the ridiculous courting rituals of her time. Jane Austen's use of irony, which is common in her novel is highlighted in the novel. She has employed all forms of irony namely: verbal, thematic, situational, and dramatic.

WEB RESOURCES:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWMwtGERINA>