**PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (P310/3) By Teacher Deo - 26th May 2020**

**A brief introduction to the novel pride and prejudice.**

As you all know this novel was written by Jane Austen - it's one of her first novels - first published in 1813 and it's considered as one of her most mature novels.

It was first titled sense and sensibility.

**Plot summary of Pride & Prejudice.**

**A NEW TENANT AT NETHERFILD**

pride and prejudice opens with the news that a wealthy young man, Charles bingley, is arriving at NETHERFILD park, a large estate. The news is met with great excitement by the memers of the bannets family, who live in the neighbouring estate I longbourn, in a village of the same name.

To Mrs.Bennett, the news is especially welcome. As the mother of five harried daughters, her most pressing goal ist to see each of the offspring married

The sisters Jane, Elizabeth, Mary and catherine (kitty) and Lydia are intrigued by this new arrival and thrilled when the family is invited to attend a ball where Mr bingley will appear

At the ball, Jane the eldest bennet daughter and Mr. Bingley from a mutual attraction. One I Mr. Bingley's friends fitzwilliam Darcy, also attends the ball

How aloofness and insulting behaviour towards Elizabeth, the second oldest bennet's daughter stand in contrast with bingley's gracious and cheerful manner.

As weeks unfold, at various events, Mr Darcy I intrigued by Elizabeth but she maintains a poor impression of him based on his earlier behaviour.

However, a courtship between Jane and Charles Bingley seems to be developing and the Bingley sisters invite Jane to visit NETHERFILD. On her way there she is caught in a rainstorm and subsequently falls ill.

Elizabeth sets out for NETHERFILD to tend to her sister. Her appearance and stay at NETHERFILD creates some tension for me Bingley sister Caroline who jealously notices me darcy's growing intrest in Elizabeth. Caroline considers herself a better match for the wealthy gentleman.

**COURTSHIP AND COMPLICATIONS (**the beginning of the second part in the summary**)**

One of Mr bennet's cousins, visits the bennet home. Mr. Collins, a clergyman from hunsford, stands to inherit the bennets estate, longbourn.

This arrangement, called an entail, is the result of laws requiring estates to be passed down to male deprives. Last Catherine de bourgh, Mr Collins patroness - the person who has helped him achieve his position as a clergyman

Has instructed him to marry one of the bennet daughters. He proposes to Elizabeth. She finds him pompous and obnoxious and flatly turns him down, against her own mother's wishes.

Deeply offended, Mr. Collins next proposes to Elizabeth’s best friend Charlotte Lucas.

She accepts his proposal. The bennet sisters meet a group of militia officers who are stationed near their home. Elizabeth becomes interested in a handsome soldier George Wickham who tells her about his past relationship with me Darcy.

Wickham explains how cruel Darcy was to him even cheating him out of money

This information confirms Elizabeth's bad impressions of Mr. Darcy

Mr. Darcy and the Bingley’s leave NETHERFILD unexpectedly to go to London. Jane is upset because she had hoped her relationship with me Bingley would blossom. When Jane travels to London shortly thereafter, Caroline Bingley treats her rudely and Jane fails to see Mr. Bingley at all.

**JOURNEYS (The third part)**

Elizabeth travels to visit a friend Charlotte who is now married to Mr. Collins. While visiting her friend, Elizabeth sees lady Catherine de bourgh Mr. Collins patroness, who is also Mr. Darcy's aunt.

During Elizabeth's visit to Collins home, Darcy makes several appearances. During one of his visits, he shocks Elizabeth with a clumsy marriage proposal.

She refuses him, telling him that she finds his superior attitude and his intervention in Jane's affair intolerable. She also accuses him of conspiring to keep Jane and Mr. Bingley apart.

Finally, she scolds him for his cruel behaviour to Wickham.

After Elizabeth's refusal Darcy appears with a letter that explains everything. He tells her that he did encourage Bingley to separate from Jane because he did not think they were truly serious about each other. He also reveals Wickham as a scoundrel.

Once reassured that Darcy is not anywhere near by Elizabeth feels free to explore Pemberley and its exquisite buildings and grounds.

Just as her attitude about him becomes even more favourable, Darcy shows up unexpectedly. He treats Elizabeth and the Gardiniers graciously and encourages Elizabeth to spend time with his sister Georgiana Darcy.

During the course of this visit Elizabeth receives shocking news from home. Her younger sister Lydia has apparently eloped with Wickham.

Knowing that Lydia’s actions could potentially disgrace the bennet family, Elizabeth confided her news to Darcy, then rushes home

**A SCANDAL (**the last part of the plot summary**)**

Mr. Gardiner and Mr. Bennet search for Lydia and Wickham. Eventually Gardiner locates them and reports that a benefactor has arranged for Wickham to marry Lydia in exchange for receiving an annual income.

Thus saving the bennet family from a scandal. The family is relieved. Elizabeth later learns that Mr. Darcy is the source of the money that will be paid to Wickham

She is mortified that her family has caused such a scandal but also touched by Darcy’s intervention.

After a brief return to longbourn George and Lydia Wickham leave for the north of England where Wickham is now stationed.

Soon after Mr bingley returns to NETHERFILD and seeks out jane once again. He proposes to her and the family is thrilled. Darcy has also appeared and seems uncomfortable around Elizabeth.

Lady Catherine de bourgh comes to longbourn and to Elizabeth's astonishment tries to extract a promise from her to refuse any proposal from her nephew.

Elizabeth does not agree to this even though no proposal has been made. A short time later Darcy tells Elizabeth that his feelings for her have not changed and I ask her to marry him. She gladly accepts. The two older bennet’s sisters are married to the two friends and settle near each other making a happy ending to the novel.

**CHARACTERIZATION**

**Darcy**

Extremely wealthy aristocrat

Proud

Haughty

Extremely conscious about class differences

Has a strong sense of honor and virtue.

**Jane**

oldest daughter of the Bennets

good tempered

Amiable

Humble

Selfless

Naive

Etc

**Elizabeth**

Second oldest daughter to the Bennets

Lively

Quick witted

Sharp tongued

Proud

Values property

Good mannerd

Vatuous etc

**Mrs. Benet**

Frivolous

Naive

Dim wited

Careless etc

**Bingley**

Naive

Etc

Someone can add on characters

**Theme.**

Pride

Prejudice

Love vs marriage

Family

Social class

Individual vs society

Reputation etc

**Narrative techniques**

Use of letters

Irony

Symbolism (focus on the journeys)

Flashbacks

Foreshadowing etc

**Sample Questions**

1. Discuss the significance of letters to the plot of Pride and Prejudice.

2. How does Jane Austen use Darcy and Elizabeth to attack the human vices of pride and prejudice?

3. Jane Austen introduces Collins in the story through a letter. How effective is this technique in developing Mr. And Mrs. bennet's character?

**Quick recommendations**

- If the population of your class has a bigger number of girls I suggest you take this novel however, the story can also be interesting to a boys’ class because its enjoyable for both "sexes"

- It is one of the best works ever presented by Austen

-The characters in this novel are somewhat believable and comical like we leave with them

- there is a lot of information about this text that one can read and enrich him/herself

- advise your learners to read and complete it without skipping any chapter cause out of my personal research such texts are usually rich for context questions.

I THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY.