1. Pip’s guilty conscious because of his cowardly weakness to do what’s right is the cause of his unhappiness even though he had assumed that he would be filled with joy at being wealthy.

* “In a word, I was too cowardly to do what I knew to be right, as I had been to cowardly to avoid doing what I knew to be wrong” (Dickens 41).
* “We spent as much money as we could, and got as little for it as people could make up their minds to give us. We were always more or less miserable” (Dickens 275).
* Pip states that they were always pretending to be happy.

1. Estella has the same problem as Pip. She knows what she does is wrong but she’s afraid to turn around and do what’s right. She blames Miss Havisham for her cold heart. She could choose to change because individuals have the power to make themselves be who they want to be, even if someone influenced them.

* “I have never forgotten your wrongs and their causes. I have never been unfaithful to you or your schooling.” (Dickens 306).
* Estella is always telling Pip she has no heart and is in capable of love.
* “For you were not brought up in that strange house from a mere baby- I was.” (Dickens 268).

1. Pip has abused or acted snobbishly to not only to Joe or Biddy, but to other smaller characters like The Avenger, Trabb’s boy, and Orlick in order to make himself feel more powerful, or out of contempt. The old Pip used to be abused very much himself, and when he saw someone else in his situation, he took pity for them. His change represents how Dickens doesn’t like people who better themselves at others expense.

* The old pip actually helped the convict in his tough his situation (during this time he had been abused himself by Mrs. Joe).
* Pip gets Orlick fired by informing Jaggers of his past because Pip does not trust him.
* Pip gets himself a boy as servant “in bondage and slavery” (Dickens 218) and calls him a monster and and hassle.
* Pip never objected to Mr. Trabb’s treatment of his own son when he was demanding that his son respect Pip because he was now rich.

1. Pip returns the treatment that he receives from people that are in his same status. If he is being abused by someone higher than him, he doesn’t defend himself.

* “If he had shown indifference as a master, I have no doubt I should have returned the compliment as a pupil” (Dickens 196).
* “I do not recall that I felt any tenderness of conscience in reference to Mrs.Joe” (Dickens 40).
* “I suffered every kind and degree of torture that Estella could cause me” (Dickens 301).
* Pip still worships Estella and fancies Miss Havisham even though their intentions are to break his heart.
* Commentary: Pip needs to learn two wrongs don’t make a right. Act consistent throughout all no matter how treated like Joe and Biddy who still do good even though they have been hurt by pip.

1. Pumblechook, the Hubbles, Mrs. Pocket, Mrs. Joe, and Mr. Pocket’s relatives are examples of people who have allowed their endless pursuit of money make themselves unhappy or brings out the worst in themselves. Pip dislikes all these people for this reason, yet it’s ironic how he’s become just like them.

* Even though Mr. Pocket’s relatives hate his wife they “allowed the poor soul to have been heavily disappointed in life, because that shed a feeble reflected light upon themselves.” (Dickens 203).
* At Mrs. Joe’s funeral, the Hubbles where showing “excessive pride” and were “surpassingly conceited and vainglorious in being members of so distinguished a procession” (Dickens 282).
* Pumblechook lies to the entire town that he was Pip’s earliest benefactor.
* Pumblechook tried to claim that he was part of Pip’s success in earning money from Miss Havisham when Pip received it for his apprenticeship with Joe.
* Mrs. Joe had yelled at Joe because he got to have an appointment with Miss Havisham and she was jealous.
* Mrs. Joe and Pumblechook only were waiting for some property or reward to come from Pip’s visits to the strange lady and they cared nothing for how he was treated there.

1. Pip has a low self esteem. He’s always trying to impress the upper class and always looking for self improvement. However, Pip is blaming his hate for Bentley, his love for Estella, and his great expectations for his misdeeds. If he learned to be happy with himself, he wouldn’t end up acting like someone else that is cold in order to impress others or himself.

* “Yet Estella was so inseparable from all my restlessness and disquiet of mind that I really fell into confusion” (Dickens 273).
* “Their influence on my own character I disguised from my recognition as much as possible, but I knew very well that it was not at all good (Dickens 273).
* “So throughout life our worst weaknesses and meanesses are usually commited for the sake of the people whom we most despise.” (Dickens 218).
* Pip distances himself from the people he loves the most in order to not feel embarrassed if he is seen with them by Estella or Drummle.

1. The wealthy seem to be more selfish than the poor even though they have a lot of money. They have lost empathy or sympathy for others since they only think of themselves all the time.

* Bentley is niggardly and wouldn’t let Startop borrow money even though Startop had gladly lent him some.
* When Pip entered his expectations he wouldn’t give the man who ran the coach extra money.
* When Joe and Pip were poor, they gave a poor convict food and didn’t mind even though they had very little themselves.
* When Pip had return to visit Miss Havisham to see Estella, Miss Havisham would ask “very angrily if [Pip] expected more?” (Dickens 125).
* Commentary: When you are rich, you forget what it’s like to be poor and can’t seem to put yourself in someone else’s shoes. When you are in that someone else’s shoes also or remember it clearly you feel more empathy and understand so you help.