

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Choose **ONE** question.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

EITHER

- 9 Explore how Austen presents Charlotte Lucas's attitude to marriage as different from Elizabeth's, in this extract and elsewhere in the novel.

[40]*

In this extract, Charlotte Lucas has accepted Mr Collins's offer of marriage.

5 Sir William and Lady Lucas were speedily applied to for their consent, and it was bestowed with a most joyful alacrity. Mr Collins's present circumstances made it a most eligible match for their daughter, to whom they could give little fortune; and his prospects of future wealth were exceedingly fair. Lady Lucas began directly to calculate, with more interest than the matter ever
10 excited before, how many years longer Mr Bennet was likely to live; and Sir William gave it as his decided opinion that, whenever Mr Collins should be in his possession of the Longbourn estate, it should be highly expedient that he and his wife should make their appearance at St James's. The whole family, in short, were properly overjoyed on the occasion. The younger girls formed hopes
15 of *coming out* a year or two sooner than they might otherwise have done, and the boys were relieved from their apprehension of Charlotte's dying an old maid. Charlotte herself was tolerably composed. She had gained her point, and had time to consider it. Her reflections were in general satisfactory. Mr Collins, to be sure, was neither sensible or agreeable: his society was irksome, and his attachment to her must be imaginary. But still he would be her husband. Without thinking highly of either men or of matrimony, marriage had always been her object: it was the only honourable provision for well-educated women of small fortune, and however uncertain of giving happiness, must be their pleasantest preservative from want. This preservative she had now obtained; and at the age of twenty-seven, without ever having been handsome, she felt all the good luck of it.

OR

- 10 'Mrs Bennet is a bad mother who is responsible for her daughters' problems.' How far do you agree with this view?

Explore at least two moments from the novel to support your ideas.

[40]*

"You will never be as pretty
as your sister Jane"
- (reads) time w/out a
coat to stay at
Bingley's house.

Mrs Bennet
forces
Lizzy to marry
Collins.

Mrs Bennet allows
Lydia to go to
Brighton
with Wickham.

"Three daughters
married".

⑩ I agree with this statement as Mrs Bennet appears to be very careless and less in control with her ~~day~~ daughters. She tends to make snide comments - "You will never be as pretty as your sister Jane" - She states this to Elizabeth, A mother would not bring her daughter's confidence down, her role is to care and nurture her daughters however she is careless about the comments she brings along that could potentially ^{hurt} her daughters' feelings. Jane Austen represents Mrs Bennet as a superficial and materialistic person, it is quite clear that she only cared about the looks of her daughters rather than to improve their persona. "He is a man of large fortune" Again, the quote proves that her daughters should marry a man that ~~that~~ is rich and wealthy. ~~Mean~~ Jane Austen here is clear at depicting that marriage was a financial decision in those days.

Another moment would be when Mrs Bennet gave permission to Lydia to allow her to go to Brighton, causing a catastrophic disaster of Mr Wickham marrying Lydia. Mrs Bennet was careless of what the consequences were to be to send ^{her} 15 year old daughter ~~for~~ up to an area on her own. This can also correlate to the reason why Lydia is so chatty and flirty amongst older men. ~~For~~ Jane Austen describes the results of not setting ~~your daughter~~ a child boundaries. Mrs Bennet is very oblivious to Lydia's extrovertedness amongst people who have quite a lot of power to persuade her into running away with them.

Additionally Mrs Bennet is so fond with the idea ~~that~~ of marriage that she forced Jane to ~~go~~ travel without a coat in the rain - so she could get a fever. Her intentions were to let the Bingley's offer Jane to stay at their

house. ~~The~~ Again Mrs Bennet is extremely unaware of the consequences that are involved in this scheme. She enforces the idea despite the fact that Jane will get a severe fever, she is willing to risk her daughter's health just so she can get married, and achieve her satisfaction, which is a selfish act to do.

Mrs Bennet's persona struggles to accept, when situations ~~to~~ do not go her way, when Elizabeth refused to accept Mr Collins's hand in marriage, Mrs Bennet is furious with the response, inclining she is so desperate for Elizabeth to marry. She takes ~~to~~ no regard to the fact that Elizabeth does not love Mr Collins as she is ~~to~~ only wary with ~~to~~ the fact he can financially support her. For Elizabeth this is a vast problem as this causes immense tension between her mother and herself.

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Choose **ONE** question.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

EITHER

- 9 Explore how Austen presents Elizabeth's opinion of Darcy in this extract and elsewhere in the novel.

[40]*

In this extract, Mrs Reynolds, Darcy's housekeeper, shows Elizabeth and Mr and Mrs Gardiner around Darcy's home. Mrs Reynolds praises Darcy as she conducts the tour.

"I say no more than the truth, and what everybody will say that knows him," replied the other. Elizabeth thought this was going pretty far; and she listened with increasing astonishment as the housekeeper added, "I have never had a cross word from him in my life, and I have known him ever since he was four years old."

- 5 This was praise, of all others most extraordinary, most opposite to her ideas. That he was not a good-tempered man had been her firmest opinion. Her keenest attention was awakened; she longed to hear more, and was grateful to her uncle for saying – "There are very few people of whom so much can be said. You are lucky in having such a master."

- 10 "Yes, sir, I know I am. If I was to go through the world, I could not meet with a better. But I have always observed, that they who are good-natured when children, are good-natured when they grow up; and he was always the sweetest-tempered, most generous-hearted boy in the world."

Elizabeth almost stared at her. "Can this be Mr. Darcy!" thought she.

"His father was an excellent man," said Mrs. Gardiner.

- 15 "Yes, ma'am, that he was indeed; and his son will be just like him – just as affable to the poor."

- 20 Elizabeth listened, wondered, doubted, and was impatient for more. Mrs. Reynolds could interest her on no other point. She related the subject of the pictures, the dimensions of the rooms, and the price of the furniture, in vain. Mr. Gardiner, highly amused by the kind of family prejudice to which he attributed her excessive commendation of her master, soon led again to the subject; and she dwelt with energy on his many merits as they proceeded together up the great staircase.

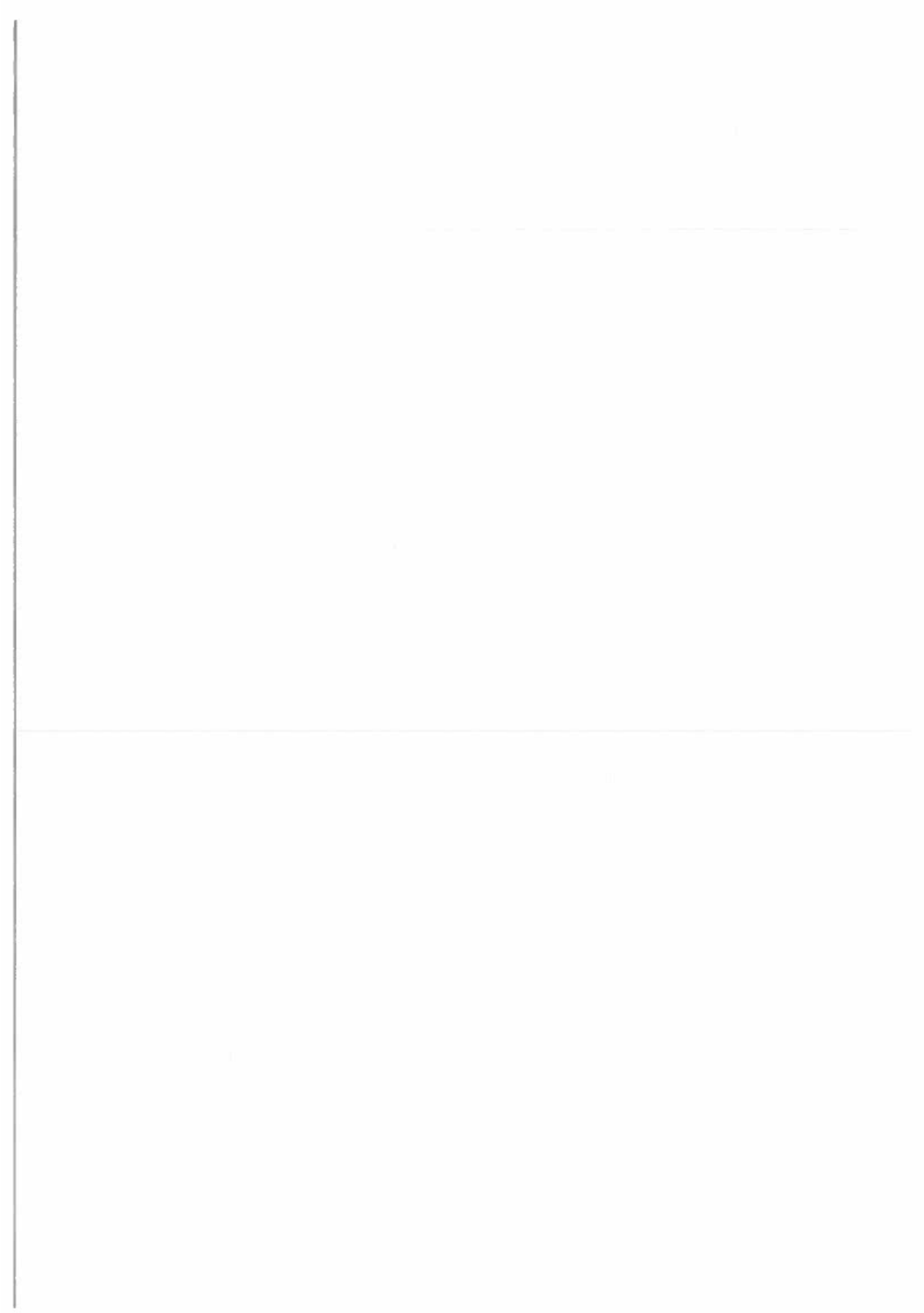
- 25 "He is the best landlord, and the best master," said she, "that ever lived; not like the wild young men nowadays, who think of nothing but themselves. There is not one of his tenants or servants but what will give him a good name. Some people call him proud; but I am sure I never saw anything of it. To my fancy, it is only because he does not rattle away like other young men."

OR

- 10 'The Bennet family are an embarrassment to Elizabeth.' How far do you agree with this view?

Explore at least two moments from the novel to support your ideas.

[40]*



9

In the extract Mrs Reynolds states that Mr Darcy was always "sweet tempered, most generous-hearted boy in the word". Elizabeth follows with a reply - "can this be Mr Darcy!" Jane Austen represents Elizabeth as shocked and dumb-struck by Mrs Reynolds words due to the fact, Lizzy has always perceived Mr Darcy as impertinent and "disagreeable". The writer Jane Austen has also used an exclamation mark at the very end of the quote indicating the amount of disbelief and surprise Lizzy is feeling at this moment. Elizabeth's body language also shows her mood - "Elizabeth almost stared at her". Jane Austen depicts her actions as well as her words; the writer here desires her readers to understand the true feelings of Elizabeth towards Mr Darcy. "Elizabeth listened, wondered, doubted and was impatient for more". Jane Austen has taken many verbs to use in this quote to fully represent how Elizabeth is perceiving the situation currently. She is her mind is filled with a vast amount of emotions as she tries to understand that Mr Darcy is indeed an amiable man. In the quote it states that Elizabeth was "doubted", she is questioning whether or not she is listening to the truth as she apart of her instill belief that Mr Darcy is disagreeable. "Mrs Reynolds could interest her in no other point" Elizabeth is intrigued with the way Mr Darcy has been depicted by someone who has watched him grow up. Jane Austen represents Elizabeth to take an interest in Mr Darcy and now he is a kindhearted person. The ~~author also expresses~~ ^{author} writing here Jane makes Elizabeth alter her view of Mr Darcy since she is continuing to listen to the kind words spoken about him.

If her opinion were to stay as it were then she would have not ~~have~~ ~~listen~~ listen to another sweet word about Mr Darcy.

Another segment in the play that would represent ~~the~~ way Elizabeth feels about Darcy is when Mr Darcy proposes to her. "You are the last man I would ever marry on this earth" Jane Austen perceived Elizabeth as someone who has shown great hatred for what Mr Darcy has done, and thus states she will never marry him.

Another moment in the play would be when Mr Wickham elucidates why him and Mr Darcy are no longer close anymore - "I ~~thought~~ never thought he was as bad as this". Austen ~~shows~~ depicts that Elizabeth has already thought ill of Mr Darcy but the hatred ~~has~~ has increased due to Mr Wickham.