

Great Expectations Study Guide Questions – Chapters 20-29

Chapter 20-21

1. Why do you think Jaggers believes Pip will not make anything of his new good fortune?
2. What kind of lawyer is Jaggers?
3. What does Jaggers' office reveal about him?
4. How is Wemmick characterized?
5. What did you think when you found that Pip's roommate was the "pale young gentleman"? What effect does the appearance of this young man have on Pip's belief that Miss Havisham is his benefactor?

Chapter 22

6. Describe Herbert and Pip's interactions. How do they relate?
7. What does Herbert call Pip? Why does he call him by this name?
8. What is Herbert's profession? What does he aspire to do?
9. Why did Miss Havisham order Matthew Pocket to leave her house?
10. How would you describe the Pocket household?

Chapters 23-24

11. Who has the real power in the Pockets' house?
12. Who is Mrs. Coiler? What other characters does she remind you of?
13. How are Pip and Mrs. Pocket alike?

14. What kind of lessons is Mr. Pocket supposed to give Pip?
15. Who are Drummle and Startop? How do their names seem to fit their personalities?

Chapters 25-26

16. What does Pip share with Herbert besides a place to live?
17. How does Walworth reflect Wemmick's personality?
18. How does Jaggers' home reflect his personality?

Chapters 27-28

19. Why does Joe call Pip "Sir"?
20. Why does Joe come to London?
21. The second to the last paragraph of Chapter 27 is very important to the rest of the novel. Reread the paragraph. What feelings does it create? Explain Joe's metaphor, "Life is made of ever so many parting welded together...Divisions amongst such must come, and must be met as such." Do you agree with this philosophy?
22. Why is Pip unable to recognize Joe's intelligence?

Chapter 29

23. What role does Pip imagine for himself as he returns to Satis House?
24. How has Estella changed?
25. Explain the apparition, or ghost, that Pip sometimes sees when he looks at Estella (any guesses?).
26. Why does Miss Havisham want Pip to love Estella so much?