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## Victorian Age in the Great Expectations

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### Abstract

Within the novel, Great Expectations depicts Victorian society and the values of the day. These were the manners that the Victorians held in high regard.

Throughout "Great Expectations," Dickens portrays various Victorian personalities that we have seen in good working condition or not at all. However, the protagonist, Pip, was dynamic and through several transformations as well as facing various and major ethical concerns. Pip abandoned all the ideals he was raised with when Miss Havisham and Estella shattered his prosperous existence. Greed, beauty, and arrogance were all characteristics of an immoral existence. Other characters, such as Joe and Biddy, remained consistent throughout the narrative and have come to represent what we call idealistic Victorians.

Estella, with whom Pip thought he had a romance, was the most prominent heroine in this tale. As a result, Estella has been portrayed as excellent in the sense of potential and transformed into ethically evil. Miss Havisham, the novel's central character, was fundamentally a crooked lady.

The Great Expectations illustrated how Victorian society was positioned by major aspects such as social class and the corrupt system that separated rural and urban England.

Dickens covered various key topics in Victorian society, ranging from the saddest criminal named Magwitch to the destitute in swamp country, with Joe and Bede serving as emblems of that order .

sound principles. In short, the idea of a "noble man" as depicted in the novel was influenced by the contemporary idea of a Victorian gentleman.

In England, the main conflict was between the poor and the affluent. This distinction between the lower and upper classes emerged from a comparison of the two parties' lives. We'll start with the agricultural folks, who were quite basic and naive.

They were also trustworthy, kind, and obedient. People in a metropolis like London, on the other hand, are growing more phony and sophisticated. For example, every time Pip arrived in town, he glanced about and was unimpressed with the town in which Mr. Jaggers had his office, as well as the area's name. "Little Britain" (Dickens, Charles. 2004) and also the area was also called a polluted place. Mr. Jaggers' office was located in a desolate neighborhood. There was a middle-aged housekeeper in her forties at Jaggers' residence who was usually busy keeping her eyes on her master, especially when she was in the dining room. While visiting the Jaggers' house, Pip realized the Jaggers were concerned about everything, so he refused to do things his own way and posted everything himself. Jagger was one of the clever lawyers who obtained whatever information he desired from each of his visitors. The description of rural area in this work *Great Expectations* is introduced through the Joe Household, Pip's sister's family.

When we first started reading the story, we were introduced to Pip, an orphan who lived

## 1. Introduction

History has created an innumerable age. They enriched our past in their unique way. He had a strong sense of society, culture and beliefs of his time. However, his most obvious influence may be on modern literature. This effect is particularly evident in the novel by English writer Charles Dickens, "Great Predictions". Victorian understanding of "man" was mixed in this novel. In this era, the real man was separated by his virtues, not his reputation. He was able to maintain a delicate balance between social and moral characteristics, and he was a respected and supervising man - a man of high moral value. Dickens in his novel is amazed at the characteristics of integrity man through different characters challenges the role of childbirth and education and good morality in creating gentleman. It is clear in Herbert Pocket case despite social position, highness, and good education He is also a man of sound ideals. He teaches the right table manners at the point, not in superior behavior but on an equal footing. This status makes him a gentleman. Herbert and Matthew Pocket's views are an illustration of an authentic Victorian man. According to them: Pip himself is also undergoing a transformation at the end of the novel, when he realizes how much Joe and Beddy have always supported him. The ideals instilled in young Pip are renewed as an adult. Dickens is therefore in line with Victorian society by helping his main character realize his dream of becoming a gentleman not through society, but through

middle-class families usually had a domestic helper.

In contrast, there's the very fact that Gargerys' relatives are in an exceedingly quite satisfactory social position and also the family isn't poor, even Joe is in a position to recover Pip's debts within the half of the novel. Miss Havisham Pip finds a decent enough victim of her cruel game. It follows from these circumstances that although Pip's ancestry oscillated between two social classes, he belonged more to the center class in spite of everything. This view is confirmed by the way Pip behaves and his life after earning the quantity of cash. On a par with the previous two writings, the story of the novel of the nice expectations within the country begins.

The thing is, Pip associates the country along with his sister's unfair upbringing and also the necessity to figure even in his early years. So even during these novel children's work appears, albeit during a different form from the previous David Copperfield novel. Pip doesn't see of the need of providing for the family as real children did in Victorian England, but out of his sister's motive to not spoil. David works shifts during a warehouse. Pip infrequently does various sorts of work for his or her neighbours. Nowadays it will be said that Pip's business may be a part-time style of business while David's business may be a full-time business. The village and also the surroundings of the Gargerys'

with his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gargery, in a swamp by the river. On the other hand, we noticed that the wealthy were strong and self-centered. The most of the traits of Victorian society may be found here. Some characters in Great Expectations were enriched with qualities of avarice and people's realized power. Pip returned to Miss Havisham's house for the second time and discovered a lot of Miss Havisham's relatives, but Pip thought that these individuals were not Miss Havisham's relatives, but Pip felt that these people were "full and deceitful". (Backer W, Womack K. 2002) Of these relatives were searching for money. All of them wished for financial advantages from Miss Havisham. Once all of them head to her birthday to earn her kindness, then they felt contempt from within their hearts towards Miss Havisham due to her fortune. Their stay to Miss Havisham was nothing but greedy, as they hoped to please her sufficient toward present her certain money upon Miss Havisham's passing.

## **1. The Concept of Victorian Age**

### **1.1 Characteristics of the Victorian age**

The main character Pip came from the Haddad family. A blacksmith's job oscillated between social class and socio-economic class in Victorian society, on the one hand it absolutely was a craft and successful artisans were from the lower socio-economic class, and on the opposite hand blacksmiths were usually toil.

Additionally, the Gargery family employed no servants until Mrs. Gargery was injured, and

concerns, the gap between rural and concrete England, and hence the immorality of the social class, are revealed in *Great Expectations*. He also displays various educational options in *Great Expectations*, highlighting the scarcity of decent education available to the lower classes.

Dickens tackles the Victorian class system in *Great Expectations*, from the most despicable criminals (Magwitch) to the impoverished peasants of marshy country (Joe and Biddy) through the middle class (Pumblechook) to the extremely affluent (Miss Havisham). There are not just numerous strata, but also class discrimination or class consciousness. The social class, the so-called gentleman, did not associate with the members of the social class. He's seen by Pip's unease upon Joe's arrival in London.

This is Dicken's pointed condemnation of phony Victoriana. Pip is embarrassed to see his old boyhood pal Joe in his London home. Pip cannot be joyful when Beddy informs him, through letter that Joe is coming to London; instead, he becomes increasingly irritated. Internally, he does not expect Joe to visit him in London, where Pip lives in a civilized culture. Pip's hubris grows to the point where he believes he could offer Joe money if it were feasible. Pip was cold and indifferent towards Joe when they first met.

Joe's sloppy manner, big coat, and old hat embarrass him. Joe, on the other hand, recognizes Pip's treatment of him and decides to retire to his room for the night. Similarly, Pip's arrogance is on display when he returns to his

house are described somewhat pessimistically. The swamps and marshes look miserable; cold, wet and harsh weather is commonly depicted, and Miss Havisham's range in the nearby town evokes unpleasant feelings. Pip describes it as a bleak old house with windows covered or locked with rusty pillars.

The character of the fugitive convict joins all the gloom; With relation to the wild landscape and also the fear of Pip, it creates a powerful romantic atmosphere. Abel Magwitch is that the typical member of rock bottom socio-economic class. Typically, he will be compared to the character of Fagin in *Oliver Twist*. There's a typical aspect between the two characters: a specific impossibility to choose whether these characters are completely passive or not.

In Magwitch's case, there's a contradiction between the very fact that he was a convicted fugitive, so he had to commit a significant crime also as being guilty of absconding and also the incontrovertible fact that he never forgot the insignificant little child he once helped decided to support him financially and wanted to satisfy him again within the end. These personality traits don't seem to be testimony to a really sinister criminal nature.

## **1.2 Victorian Society in Great Expectations**

Dickens' negative ideas regarding Victorian society, such as its basic structure, judicial

meet Pip, an orphan kid who lives with his sister, Mrs. Joe Gargery, who is married to the blacksmith Joe Gargery. The family consists of a blacksmith, his wife, and therefore the latter's younger brother Pip, and they sleep in the marshland, twenty miles down the river.

People grew immoral, particularly members of the class. Greed for money rules the lives of many of the characters in *Great Expectations*. When Pip returns to Miss Havisham's residence for the second time, he discovers a slew of Miss Havisham's relatives, whom he dubs "princes and deceivers."

Every relative is looking for money. Miss Havisham is expected to provide them with financial benefits. To gain her favor, they all pay her a visit on her birthday. Internally, they despise it because of its success. Their visit to Miss Havisham is motivated by avarice, with the hope of satisfying her sufficiently to award her some money upon her death. Miss Havisham is that the victim of her lover's greed for money. Her lover stole her lots of cash and so dumped her. Miss Havisham knew that having money failed to guarantee the avoidance of cruelty and unhappiness.

Individuals' mercenary attitudes are mirrored in Miss Havisham's relatives. Her connection with her relatives is based on money and power. They'll perceive her to despise her, yet they can't resist demanding superfluous favors from her. The hunger of such people reflects the time's materialistic society.

hometown, instead of mourning with Joe and booking a room in an inn.

The surprising reality was that the system treated the upper crust or gentlemen differently as well. They were harshly punished, but members of the social class received a less severe punishment. Magwitch was the victim of an enforcement agency's unfairness and harshness. They awarded Magwitch a stiffer punishment (14 years in jail) than the original villain Comparison (7 years in prison) simply because Magwitch had a history of criminal activity whereas Comparison gave the image of being a gentleman of excellent social heritage.

In England, there is a clear distinction between rural and urban areas. The farming people's lives were still quite basic. They were trustworthy and compassionate. But people in an exceedingly city like London are getting complex and sophisticated. As an example, the purpose came across town and took a glance around. He wasn't far affected by the realm where his office stayed located. He found this area called Little Britain filled with filth. Mr. Jaggers' office itself is that the bleakest place.

The housekeeper, a lady in her forties, had been staring at her master the entire time she was in the dining room. During supper, Pip also saw this. Jaggers had everything in his hands and distributed it all himself. Jaggers, a skilled lawyer, acquired whatever information he desired from each of his dinner companions.

The Joe family presents a depiction of the English countryside. In the first chapter, we

**JE. 1994).** The scenario is nearly absurd if you're not into it. Even a prestigious degree brings just a few benefits to Pip and hence the society.

Great expectations reflected Victorian life in England like a magic mirror. Dickens paints a clear image of labor difficulties with present educational prospects in Great Expectations.

## **2- The Harshness of Class Divisions**

Dickens, like many Victorians, was attracted by the idea that you might refresh yourself in this way. But he was also aware of the kind of misery and exploitation that comes with class division, and he never minimized or overlooked the brutality and decadence that accompany a category divided society. In his charity and press reform, he tried everything he could to change things for the better, including assisting the destitute and attempting to reduce class animosities. But he also wanted to recognize the creativity that develops from people's unique ways of living or changing their class identity.

This is seldom straightforward or uninterrupted, and sophistication performance frequently deteriorates. When Pip becomes wealthy, for example, he must learn to assume an entirely new persona, learning how to act, dress, and even dine in ways that others would recognize as polite. These apprenticeship episodes are frequently hilarious, such as when Herbert Pocket gently informs Pip that "in London it's not traditional to insert a knife into the mouth,—for fear of mishaps" (**Chapter 22**),

Dickens represented the many educational options and what they provided by showing instructors with high aspirations. Mr. Wopsle's great-aunt exemplifies the socioeconomic class's lack of educational opportunities. This married lady is "ridiculous", "limited means", "unlimited helplessness" much like the schooling she provides (Prochaska, F.K. 1980). It has no name since it is so insignificant. This emphasizes how little information it delivers to its students. Even though she is a distant relative of a church clerk, her school is a distant relative of the church's efforts to educate the impoverished.

Other educational options existed in Victorian England, but these were only available to the wealthy. Pip advances to at least one of those alternatives when a mysterious donor pays for a "gentleman's education." Matthew Pocket is one example of this type of education. This form of education was designed for those with "full pockets," as evidenced by the name of his teacher. Unfortunately, it was given to a variety of persons who had no need for it. These "gentlemen" (**Tomalin, Claire. 2012**) weren't expected to figure.

Mr. Pocket, a Cambridge graduate, delivers scholastic instruction as his personal actions build higher hopes that always fail. This style of education has produced self-serving individuals who make little contribution to society. Pip spends relatively little money on acquiring Expensive Habits. His extravagant lifestyle landed him in debt, yet his scientific education qualified him for "suited for nothing" (**Marlow**

blacksmith, and his wife (Pipe's sister) was a typical Victorian lower-class housewife. She was drenched in homework and always complained about not being able to remove her apron because of her difficult duties; she was always disappointed and occasionally hit Pip. Next, during the pre-book, we met women of high class, well-dressed, and dancers such as Miss Havisham and Estella. These two distinct families were also the key societal stratification samples. So, to some extent, we were aware that the Victorian age was associated with social hierarchy. First, we observed the Jaggers' family, who represent a poor and ignorant living in the village. Miss Havisham, on the other hand, lived in an enormous palace named Satis House. Another family, "The Pockets," whose home was overrun by servants.

Estella was an older female who danced wonderfully and was well educated. Pip, the main character, gets wealthy after receiving money from an unknown benefactor. He transformed and began to measure his life in a lavish manner. With Estella, he had other ladies in his life. And the other ladies in Pip's pompous London life portrayed typical Victorian upper-class women. Pip wanted to go into the social class after witnessing their two distinct lives in his early years. He aspired to be a "gentleman." (Adams, James Eli, 2012) because he possessed all of the traits that society prized in order to obtain Estella and the upper-class lifestyle

or when a dust lad chases him down the road "squirting." his elbows and body, and he draws to his followers, 'I do not know yes, I do not know yes, my soul doesn't know yes!' (Chapter 33) The culmination may be a carnival of hilarious retaliation by a country store submarine sandwich against his comparably affluent persecutor, who was once as poor as him. It's funny to us, but it's quite insulting to Pip, who appears to us multiple times during the long story, the psychological and moral cost of avoiding the poverty and anguish of forging. From the moment Estella humiliates him as a tiny child for being 'tough' and typical, the sorrows, desires, and performance of sophisticated identity are inescapable amid high expectations. (Churchill, R. C 1996).

### 3.1 Symbol of Victorian age in Great Expectations

Dickens' Great Expectations alludes to at least one of the Victorian-era reflecting books. This book might be considered a highly effective illustrative example of its time. Dickens penned this work. "Great Expectations" (Young, George M. 1957) Pip, an orphan kid, was supported from childhood through maturity in 1860. The novel does depict typical Victorian features such as caste differences, industrialization, Victorian morals, and the status of women at the time. We are introduced to a combined lower-class family at the beginning of the narrative. They lived in the wetlands in a settlement. Mr. Joe was a

enormously wealthy, but power and vengeance are more important to her than pleasure or self-fulfillment. Pip also dislikes his existence as a wealthy young man in London: Barnard's Inn is "a dreary little yard that appears...like a flat burial ground" (**chapter 21**), and his "friends" at Finches of the Grove are arrogant and quarrelsome. He will never forget the dread that his humiliating and destitute origins will ruin his entire life. This is one of the reasons he behaves so badly, especially with Joe; despite his deep regret, Pip is unable of being fair or nice to him.

We can sense the novel's intellect through the storyline and its characters. The plot of *Great Expectations* is unusual because the sudden discovery that Pip's money does not come from Miss Havisham, as he believes, but from a convicted Magwitch, undermines his entire sense of self-identity.

A tale similar to *David Copperfield*, in which Pip combines self-actualization and identity satisfaction at the top, may have been utilized by an author other than Dickens. The *Great Expectations* neither provides nor destroys any of these storylines. Pip thought he was meant to be a gentleman. When he suddenly learns the lie, as his "criminal" (**Sanders, Andrew. 2006**) past comes in the present as a Magwitch, he is nearly wrecked by discovery, entirely contaminated with his sense of self and empty at the same time.

Pip was so taken with London that it reminded us of the effects of the Industrial Revolution and immigration. When he arrived in London, he was astonished and dissatisfied with the incredible and unavoidable throng (due to emigration for job) and odor (due to sewage due to factories): "I was afraid of London's density. I guess I may have had some qualms about whether it was ugly, crooked, cramped, or filthy. However, the Satis House, Wemmick's house (which looks like a castle), and other opulent structures are reminiscent of Victorian design. On the other hand, it is quite unfortunate that certain key Victorian age subjects like as child labor, prostitution, colonialism, and so on are not addressed in *Great Expectations*. However, Dickens employed colonialism as a plot technique in "*Great Expectations*." The transferred criminal has exactly fit the demand for a sponsor who can make a valuable wealth but must put up with him as an unknown, which Pip will soon regret. Capital's restriction prohibiting returning from obsession heightened the impact of later episodes, when Pip abandoned his boasting as well as his money.

As a result, many Victorian authors, like Dickens, utilized the colonies to repair burned characters or rescue people, and exploited this feature of colonialism as a dramatic basis for his work.

### **3.2 Class Strength in *Great Expectations***

There is no indication in the text that you can enjoy money or position. Miss Havisham is



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#### **4. Conclusion**

To be summarized, it's almost clear that Dickens was instrumental in portraying Victorian society through certain upper-class female characters in *Great Expectations*. Miss Havisham, who was extremely wealthy and was also acquainted with power and the thought of vengeance but failed to derive joy or self-satisfaction from doing these things, while Pip, on the other hand, failed to derive sufficient pleasure from his existence as a wealthy young man in London. He was haughty since he had gotten wealthy and had a miserable life, which contributed to his downfall. He also stated that he behaves inappropriately with his pal Joe despite feeling very remorseful. So these were the results of power and a better-off community.

The astonishing feature about *Great Expectations*, and how this story was planned in very specific ways, was the startling reveal of Pip's inheritance supplied by prisoner Magwitch rather than Miss Havisham. And it seriously harmed his sense of self-identity. Pip, Estella, and Miss Havisham's lives were wrecked by the influence of Victorian society. Pip, in particular, has made up a dream about himself, but when he discovers that his criminal history has come across this within the form of a Magwitch, he's nearly devastated, and his entire sense of self is simultaneously contaminated and emptied.

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پروتاگونیست، پیپ، داینامیک بوو، چەند گۆرانکاریه‌کی ئی دەکه‌وێته‌وه و بابه‌تی نه‌خلاق جۆراوجۆر و گرنگ قه‌ده‌غه ده‌کات به‌ جۆرنیک پیپ هه‌موو نه‌و به‌ها و به‌هائەئە‌ی که‌ نامازە‌ی پێدا‌بوو به‌جی هێشت، چونکه‌ خاتوو هافیشام و ستیلا ژبانی ده‌ولە‌مه‌ندی پێپیان تیکشکاند. چا‌وچنۆک و جوانی و له‌خۆ‌بابی پێک‌هاتە‌یه‌کی ژبانی گه‌نده‌ئێ‌ بوون. کاراکته‌ره‌کانی تری وه‌ک جۆ و بیدی له‌ هه‌موو رۆمانه‌که‌دا کاراکته‌ری به‌رده‌وام بوون و تێبێنیان بۆ نه‌وه‌ بوو که‌ ده‌رخه‌ری نه‌و شته‌ بن که‌ ئێمه‌ پێ‌ ده‌ئێ‌ین فیکتۆریای نموونه‌ی.

پالە‌وانترین له‌ کاتی نه‌م رۆمانه‌دا ئیستێلا بوو، که‌ پیپ پێ‌ وابوو چیرۆکیکی خوشه‌ویستی هه‌یه. له‌به‌ر نه‌وه، ئیستێلا به‌ شپۆه‌یه‌کی زۆر باش له‌ روانگی نه‌گه‌ریه‌وه‌ پێشکه‌ش کرا و له‌ روه‌ی نه‌خلاقیه‌وه‌ بوو به‌ خراب. خاتوو هافیشام که‌ له‌ بنه‌رتدا ژنیکی گه‌نده‌ئێ‌کار بوو و ناوه‌ندی رۆمانه‌که‌ی هه‌ئێ‌کۆئێ‌. پێشینه‌ی گه‌وره‌کان ده‌ربانخست که‌ چۆن کۆمه‌لگای فیکتۆریا به‌هۆی چینی کۆمه‌لایه‌تییه‌وه‌ و هه‌روه‌ها سیسته‌می گه‌نده‌ئێ‌ نیوان ئینگلته‌رای لادیی و شارنشین له‌ رینگه‌ی نه‌و جۆره‌ تایبه‌تمه‌ندییه‌ گرنگانه‌وه‌ دارا.

دیکنز چەند بابه‌تیکی گرنگی په‌یوه‌ست به‌ سیسته‌می چینیایه‌تی له‌ کۆمه‌لگای فیکتۆریا گه‌رانده‌وه، که‌ له‌ به‌دبه‌ختترین تا‌وانباره‌وه‌ به‌ناوی ماگۆیچه‌وه‌ به‌ره‌و هه‌زاران له‌ ولاتی زه‌لکاویدا ده‌جوئێته‌وه، که‌ جۆ و بیدی سیمبولی سیسته‌مه‌که‌ بوون.

#### المستخلص :

رواية التوقعات العظيمة واقع المجتمع الفيكتوري وأخلاق الناس في تلك الحقبة داخل الرواية. هذه هي الأخلاق التي كان الشعب الفيكتوري يحظى بتقدير كبير. خلال هذه الرواية "توقعات عظيمة"، ابتكر ديكنز بعض الشخصيات الفيكتورية التي رأيناها في حالة عمل جيدة أم لا. لكن بطل الرواية المسعى بيب كان ديناميكياً وخضع لبعض التغييرات حضرقيضاً أخلاقية مختلفة ومهمة. بطريقة ما، ترك بيب وراءه كل القيم التي ذكرها، لأن الأنسة هافيشام وإستيلا دمروا حياة بيب الغنية. كان الجشع والجمال والغطرسة من مكونات الحياة الفاسدة. كانت الشخصيات الأخرى مثل جو وبدي شخصيات ثابتة في جميع أنحاء الرواية الكاملة وأصبحت ملحوظة لتكون مظاهر لما نسميه الفيكتوريين المثاليين.

أكثر أبرز الأبطال خلال هذه الرواية كانت إستيلا، التي اعتقد بيب أنه كان لديه قصة حب. ومن ثم، تم تقديم إستيلا على أنها جيدة إلى حد كبير من منظور

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#### پوخته:

چاوه‌روانیه‌ مه‌زنه‌کان له‌ راستیدا رهنگانده‌وه‌ی کۆمه‌لگای فیکتۆریا و ره‌وشتی خه‌ئێ‌کی نه‌و سه‌رده‌مه‌ له‌ ناو رۆمانه‌که‌دا هه‌یه. نه‌مه‌ نه‌و نه‌خلاقه‌یه‌ که‌ خه‌ئێ‌کی فیکتۆریا زۆر په‌چاویان ده‌کرد.

له‌ ماوه‌ی نه‌م رۆمانه‌دا پێشینه‌ی مه‌زنه‌کان، دیکنز چەند که‌سایه‌تییه‌کی فیکتۆریای دروست کرد که‌ ئێمه‌ له‌ باری کاری باشدا بینیمان یان نا. به‌لام

استكشف ديكنز بعض القضايا المهمة المتعلقة بالنظام الطبقي في المجتمع الفيكتوري الذي تأرجح من أنعس مجرم يدعى ماجويتش إلى المحتاجين في بلد المستنقعات ، حيث كان جو وببدي رمزين لهذا النظام.

الاحتمال وتحولت إلى سيئة أخلاقيا. الأنسة هافيشام ، التي كانت في الأساس امرأة فاسدة ونحتت مركز الرواية. كشفت التوقعات العظيمة كيف تم وضع المجتمع الفيكتوري من خلال مثل هذه السمات المهمة بسبب الطبقة الاجتماعية ، وكذلك النظام الفاسد بين المناطق الريفية والحضرية في إنجلترا.