Great Expectations - Part 2 Study Guide

Part I
Directions: Answer the following questions based on Part 2 of Great Expectations in complete detailed sentences.

1. What does the following description of Mr. Jagger’s office tell the reader about its occupant and how people feel towards him?

   Mr. Jagger’s own high backed chair was of deadly black with rows of brass nails around it like a coffin...The room was so small that clients must have been in the habit of backing against the walls. The one opposite his hair was greasy with the marks of shoulders.

2. What is the primary purpose of this chapter?

3. Describe Mr. Jagers.

4. Summarize the conversation between Pip and Mr. Wemmick on pages 110- 111. What are the two men’s’ views on crime?

5. What coincidence is revealed in this chapter?

Honors
6. Herbert and Pip recall the day they fought at Miss Havisham’s. Why was Herbert there? What has Pip “taken” from Herbert?

7. How does Herbert feel about Pip’s great expectations?

8. What do we learn about Estella?

9. What is ironic about Herbert’s decision to change Pip’s name to Handel? (There are two possible answers!)

10. Summarize what Pip learns about Miss Havisham’s “history”.

11. What promise does Herbert make to Pip?
12. What is the purpose of this chapter? (Chapter 16)

13. Where did Mr. Pocket attend school? Was he successful?

14. What is ironic about Mrs. Pocket’s pretentious nature?

15. What might Dickens be implying about early marriage?

16. What do the people and events of this chapter contribute to Pip’s endeavor to become a gentleman?

17. What is the satire (or humor found) in this chapter?

18. What is significant about the fact that Pip is “not to be educated for any profession”?
19. Compare and contrast Mr. Pocket and Mr. Pumblechook. (You can use a Venn Diagram if you’d like!)

20. Compare Wemmick’s observation that Jaggers always seems as though he has set up a trap and “Suddenly- click-you’re caught!” with the exchange between Jaggers and Pip regarding money for furniture.

21. Why does Wemmick want Pip to pay attention to Mr. Jagger’s housekeeper when he is asked to dine at Mr. Jaggers’ home?

22. Why does Dickens have Wemmick bring up the topic of Jaggers’ housekeeper?

23. Who are Bentley Drummle and Startop?

24. What does Pip mean when he says that Matthew Pocket’s relatives “hated (him) as only envious, disappointed people can hate”? 
25. Describe Wemmick’s home. How does Wemmick feel about his home?

26. Explain Wemmick’s “double life”. Why does he live this way?

27. Compare Jagger’s home with his office. In what ways are they similar? How are they different?

28. What is Jaggers’ immediate and exclusive interest in Drummle?

29. What does Dickens accomplish by having Jaggers point out Molly’s wrists to his guests?

30. Summarize Biddy’s letter to Pip.

31. How does Pip feel about Joe’s impending visit?

Honors
32. How had Dickens foreshadowed Mr. Wopsle leaving the church and entering the world of theater?

33. Describe Joe’s visit. How is it humorous?

34. What news does Joe share during his visit?

35. Explain the following quote from page 138-139: Pip dear old chap, life is made up of many parts welded together. One man’s a blacksmith and one’s a goldsmith, and one’s a coppersmith. Separations between friends must come and must be met as they come. If there’s been any fault at all today, it’s mine. You and me are not two people to be together in London- or anywhere but in private. It ain’t that I’m proud. I just want always to be right. And I’m wrong in these clothes and wrong away from the forge and the kitchen and the marshes. You won’t find half so much wrong if you ever come to see me and put your head in at the forge window and see Joe the blacksmith there at his anvil sticking to the old work.

36. Why is Pip still terrified of the convicts on the coach?
37. What do we learn in this chapter about the stranger from the Three Jolly Bargemen?

38. What is significant about Pumblechook publically taking credit for being Pip’s “best friend” and “founder of his fortune”?

39. How does adult Pip (our narrator) describe his love for Estella?

40. Who is Miss Havisham’s new porter? How does Pip feel about it?

41. How has Estella changed?

42. Describe Pip’s ambivalence (don’t know it? Google it!) in Estella’s presence.

43. How are Miss Havisham’s reasons for Pip to love Estella ambiguous? How does Pip interpret it?
44. Explain the following quote: *What was it that impressed me as she stood and looked attentively at me? Whom did she remind me of? I looked again, but the suggestion of someone else like her was gone.*

45. What is the purpose of Pip talking to Jaggers about Orlick?

46. How has Pip’s character grown or changed during this chapter (19)? What is his societal position fully dependent upon?

47. Who is Clara?

48. Compare the way the audience heckles Wopsle with the way the Trabb boy mimics Pip. In what ways are the two incidents similar?

49. Summarize Estella’s letter.

50. The beginning of this chapter (20) centers on Pip’s anxious wait for Estella’s coach. How does Dickens use foreshadowing in this chapter to maintain the reader’s interest?

51. Where is Estella going? Why? What are Pip’s responsibilities while she is in town?
52. What does Pip hope Estella means when she tells him, “We are not free to follow our own ideas, you and I”? 

53. Why would Miss Havisham’s relatives write to Miss Havisham with unflattering reports of Pip? 

54. What evidence is there to suggest that Estella realizes that Miss Havisham’s plan to avenge herself against the entire male gender is ill advised? 

55. Why does Estella warn Pip not to love her? How does this mirror what Herbert said? 

56. How does Dickens maintain reader sympathy for Pip while also showing his moral descent? 

57. How do Pip and Herbert attack the problem of their debts? 

58. What news did the letter from Trabb bring? 

59. How is Pip ambivalent about his sister’s death?
60. Explain the satire in the scene of Mrs. Joe’s funeral?

61. What does Pip mean when he says: *Once more the mists were rising as I walked away. If I could have seen myself clearly in the cold light of morning, I would have been that Biddy was right...?*

62. Why does Pip say that Biddy has hurt him?

63. Why is Pip looking forward to his twenty-first birthday?

64. Why does Dickens have Pip recall, on his coming of age, the day he met the convict in the churchyard?

65. What is established as Pip’s income until his benefactor chooses to make himself/herself known to Pip?

66. Why do you suppose Mr. Jaggers is determined to stay out of Pip’s business once his benefactor makes himself or herself known?

67. What does Pip’s desire to assist a friend say about his character?
68. What advice does Wemmick give?

69. What reasons does Pip give for wanting to help Herbert?

70. What is Dickens’ purpose in having Wemmick’s character divided into two personas? How does this tie into the other “father figures” in his life?

71. What is ironic about Pip’s relationship with Estella as described in this chapter?

72. What is ironic about the scene between Miss Havisham and Estella. Find a quote to support your answer.

73. Why does Estella permit Drummle’s attentions? How does Pip feel about this?

74. Now at the age of 23, what is Pip doing with his life?

75. Explain Pip’s behavior when a stranger shows up at his home one stormy night.
76. What does Pip say to the stranger when he realizes it is “his convict”?

77. How does Pip try to get “the convict” to leave? What evidence is there that Pip might suspect the truth about the reasons for the convict’s visit?

78. Where has the “convict” been? What has he been doing there?

79. What unexpected news does the convict tell Pip? How does Pip respond?

80. In the following quote, what realization- beyond the fact that the convict is the benefactor- is dawning on Pip?

81. Why did “the convict” want to “make a gentleman” out of Pip? In what ways are “the convict” and Miss Havisham alike?

82. What is Pip’s “deepest pain of all” after he realizes his good fortune has not been the result of Miss Havisham’s money?