
Daudnagar College, Daudnagar

Subject: English Literature

Class: B.A. Part II (Honours)

Paper: IV (Novel)

Topic: Important People and Places in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*

Important People and Places in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*

Persons: Men

- 1. Mr. Bennet:** He is the head of the Bennet family living in the village of Longbourn in the County of Hertfordshire. He is described as an odd mixture of quick parts, sarcastic humour, reserve, and caprice. Of the five daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, Elizabeth is Mr. Bennet's favourite.
- 2. Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy:** He is a very rich young man and a close friend of Mr. Charles Bingley. He falls in love with Elizabeth, though in the beginning he forms a rather unfavourable impression about her physical appearance. His most important trait is pride. However he is cured of this defect of pride by Elizabeth whom he eventually marries.
- 3. Mr. Charles Bingley:** He is also a rich young man. He takes the palatial house called Netherfield Park on rent and begins to live there, with his sister Miss Bingley as his housekeeper. He falls in love with Jane Bennet at his very first meeting with her, and she fully responds to his love.

4. **Mr. William Collins:** He is a clergyman, and the rector of the parish of Hunsford. He is the man to whom the entire property of Mr. Bennet is entailed because Mr. Bennet has no male issue. After being rejected by Elizabeth, he marries Miss Charlotte Lucas.
5. **Mr. George Wickham:** he is a young and handsome officer in the militia regiment which is at first stationed near the town of Meryton and subsequently shifted to a site near the town of Brighton. He is a crooked fellow who creates a favourable impression on Elizabeth at the beginning and elopes with Mr. Bennet's youngest daughter Lydia.
6. **Mr. Denny:** He is friend of Mr. Wickham. He is the man who supplies some useful information about Mr. Wickham's nature and plan.
7. **Colonel Fitzwilliam:** He is a cousin of Mr. Darcy. The name Fitzwilliam which is common to both these men, should not confuse us regarding the separate identity of each.
8. **Sir William Lucas:** he was at first a businessman in the town of Meryton; but having been knighted; he gave up both his business and his residence in Meryton, and shifted to a cottage in the countryside.
9. **Mr. Gardiner:** He is a brother of Mrs. Bennet's. he is a very decent and dignified person.
10. **Colonel Forster:** he is the colonel of the militia regiment in which Mr. Wickham and Mr. Denny are commissioned officers.
11. **Mr. Hurst:** he is the husband of one of Mr. Bingley's sisters. He is a comic character who is interested only in eating, drinking and sleeping.
12. **Mr. Phillips:** he is the husband of Mrs. Bennet's Sister. He hardly plays any role in the novel.

Persons: The Women

1. **Mrs Bennet:** She is the wife of Mr. Bennet, and the mother of five daughters. She is one of the well-known characters in English fiction. The marriages of her daughters are an obsession with her.
2. **Miss Jane Bennet:** She is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. She falls in love with Mr. Bingley and after a setback to her love-affair with him, ultimately gets married to him.
3. **Miss Elizabeth Bennet:** She may be regarded as the heroine of the novel. She is the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. It is because of one of the marked tendencies of her nature that the word “prejudice” occurs in the title of the novel. She eventually marries Mr. Darcy.
4. **Miss Mary Bennet:** She is the third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. She is a studious girl, though not very intelligent. She is a half-pathetic and half-comic figure.
5. **Miss Catherine (Kitty) Bennet:** She is the fourth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. She is a silly girl. Mary and Kitty are the only daughters of the Bennet family who remain unmarried throughout the novel.
6. **Miss Lydia Bennet:** She is the youngest of the Bennet girls. She elopes with Mr. Wickham with whom she has fallen in love. Mr. Wickham does marry her ultimately, though not without making a good deal of fuss.
7. **Miss Caroline Bingley:** She is the unmarried sister of Mr. Bingley and she keeps the house for him when he occupies Netherfield Park. She is a malicious girl.

8. **Mrs. Hurst:** She is the married sister of Mr. Bingley. She constantly echoes the opinions and views of her sister Caroline Bingley.
9. **Lady Lucas:** She is the wife of Sir William Lucas. She is a good kind of woman.
10. **Mrs. Charlotte Lucas:** She is the eldest daughter of Sir William and Lady Lucas. She agrees to marry Mr. Collins after he has been rejected by Elizabeth.
11. **Mrs. Phillips:** She is sister of Mrs. Bennet, and is as talkative and vulgar as Mrs. Bennet.
12. **Mrs. Reynolds:** She is the housekeeper at the Pemberly House of which Mr. Darcy is the owner.
13. **Lady Catherine de Bourgh:** She is a widow owning a large estate and a country house called Rosings Park where she lives with her daughter.
14. **Miss Ann de Bourgh:** She is the daughter of Lady Catherine de Bourgh. She is a pale, sickly girl.
15. **Mrs. Jenkinson:** She is the governess to Miss de Bourgh.
16. **Miss Georgiana Darcy:** She is the sister of Mr. Darcy and the special responsibility of that young man.
17. **Mrs. Forster:** She is the wife of Colonel Forster. It is she who invites Lydia Bennet to stay with her at Brighton; and it is from Brighton that Lydia elopes with Mr. Wickham.
18. **Mrs. Gardiner:** She is the wife of Mr. Gardiner and therefore, Mrs. Bennet's sister-in-law. She is a well-wisher of the Bennet family.

Places in the Novel:

1. **Hertfordshire, Kent, and Derbyshire:** these are the names of the English counties.
England is divided into about forty counties of which the best known are Norfolk, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Kent, and Hertfordshire.
2. **Meryton:** the name of a town in the County of Hertfordshire.
3. **Longbourn:** The name of a village in the county of Derbyshire. This village is situated at a distance of a mile from the town of Meryton.
4. **Lucas Lodge:** The name given by Sir Lucas to his house in the country.
5. **Netherfield Park:** the name of the house taken on rent by Mr. Bingley.
6. **Hunsford:** the name of a village in the County of Kent. Here lives Collins, the rector.
7. **Lambton:** the name of the town in the county of Derbyshire.
8. **Pemberley House:** the name of the country residence of Mr. Darcy and his sister Georgiana.
9. **Gretna Green:** the name of a town in Scotland, it is barely mentioned in the novel.
10. **Brighton:** the name of a famous English city. It is a health and holiday resort. It is from here that Lydia runs away with Mr. Wickham.