

Chapter XX

1. What does the following description of Mr. Jaggers' office tell the reader about its occupant?
"Mr. Jaggers's own high-backed chair was of deadly black horse hair, with rows of brass nails round it, like a coffin;... The room was but small, and the clients seemed to have had a habit of backing up against the wall; the wall, especially opposite to Mr. Jaggers's chair, being greasy with shoulders."
2. What is the primary purpose of this chapter?
3. Briefly describe Mr. Jaggers.

Chapter XXI

1. What is the significance of the following exchange between Pip and Mr. Wemmick?
"So you were never in London before?" said Mr. Wemmick to me.
"No," said I.
"I was new here once," said Mr. Wemmick. "Rum to think of now!"
"You are well acquainted with it now?"
"Why, yes," said Mr. Wemmick. "I know the moves of it."
"Is it a very wicked place?" I asked, more for the sake of saying something than for information. "You may get cheated, robbed, and murdered in London. But there are plenty of people anywhere, who'll do that for you."
"If there is bad blood between them," said I, to soften it off a little.
"Oh!" I don't know about bad blood," returned Mr. Wemmick. "There's not much bad blood about. They'll do it, if there's anything to be got by it."
"That makes it worse."
"You think so?" returned Mr. Wemmick. "Much about the same, I should say." (Pg. 133)
2. What coincidence is revealed in this chapter?

Chapter XXII

1. What might be inferred from the information that the day Pip and Herbert had their fight at Miss Havisham's, Herbert was there to see whether Miss Havisham could take a fancy to him?
2. How does Herbert feel about Pip's great expectations?
3. What is ironic about Herbert's decision to change Pip's name to Handel?
4. What important exposition is the reader given in this chapter?
5. Briefly describe the Pocket household.

Chapter XXIII

1. What purposes are fulfilled by this chapter?
2. What two careers did Mr. Pocket supposedly consider when he was a younger man?
3. What is the source of satire in Mrs. Pocket's pretentious nature?
4. What might Dickens be implying about early marriage?
5. How did Mr. Pocket begin his career as a tutor?
6. What do the people and events of this chapter contribute to Pip's endeavor to become a gentleman?
7. What is the satire in this chapter?

Chapter XXIV

1. What is significant about the fact that Pip is "not designed for any profession"? (Pg. 153)
2. Contrast Mr. Pocket with Mr. Pumblechook.
3. Compare Wemmick's observation that Jaggers always seems as though he has set a trap and "Suddenly—click—you're caught!" with the exchange between Jaggers and Pip regarding money for furniture. (Pg. 155)
4. Define "portable property." (Pg. 157)

5. Why does Wemmick want Pip to pay attention to Mr. Jaggers' housekeeper when he is asked to dine at Mr. Jaggers' home?
6. Why does Dickens have Wemmick bring up the topic of Jaggers's housekeeper?

Chapter XXV

1. Pip's describing Georgiana Pocket as "an indigestive single woman" is an example of what rhetorical device? (Pg. 159)
2. What does Pip mean when he says that Matthew Pocket's relatives "hated [him] with the hatred of cupidity and disappointment"? (Pg. 159)
3. Briefly describe Wemmick's home. How does Wemmick feel about his home?
4. What thematic or structural purpose does Wemmick's dual life serve?

Chapter XXVI

1. Explain the metaphor of Mr. Jaggers' scented soap.
2. Compare Jaggers' home with his office. In what ways are they similar?
3. Explain Jaggers's immediate and almost exclusive interest in Drummle.
4. What does Dickens accomplish by having Jaggers point out Molly's wrists to his guests?