

Chapter XL

1. How does the tone of the story change in this chapter?
2. Why is Jaggers careful to distinguish between whether Pip was “told” or “informed of” the identity of his benefactor?
3. What is significant about Abel Magwitch’s name?
4. Compare Pip’s difficulty disguising Magwitch with his observation about Joe in his Sunday clothes.

Chapter XLI

1. What are Pip’s prospects if he can no longer accept any money from Magwitch?
2. Explain Pip’s ambivalence toward Magwitch. What does this say about Pip’s character?

Chapter XLII

1. How does Dickens begin the chapter on a note of humor?
2. Why does Dickens choose to begin this chapter with a note of humor?
3. What important exposition is revealed in this chapter?
4. Given the revelation about Miss Havisham, what is the significance of Arthur’s hallucination?

Chapter XLIII

1. How does Dickens continue to connect Magwitch and Estella in the reader’s mind?
2. In terms of plot structure, what is significant about the fact that Estella has gone to Satis House without asking Pip to accompany her?
3. Describe the humor in the scene with Pip and Drummle by the fireplace.
4. What is Drummle implying when he says to Pip, “But don’t lose your temper. Haven’t you lost enough without that?” (Pg. 279)

Chapter XLIV

1. How does this chapter serve as the climax of the Pip/Estella plot?
2. On what will the rest of the novel most likely focus?

Chapter XLV

1. What key plot exposition does the reader receive in this chapter?
2. What future plot events are suggested?

Chapter XLVI

1. How does Dickens establish the character of Clara’s father without the reader ever meeting him?

Chapter XLVII

1. What is significant about the fact that Pip refuses to take any more money from Magwitch?
2. What purpose does Wopsle’s being in London serve?

Chapter XLVIII

1. What loose ends begin to come together in this chapter?
2. What is foreshadowed about Estella’s future with her husband?