



ANALAYSIS OF THE BOOK “ PRIDE AND PREJUDICE”

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Annotation: *This article analyzes Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin and shows its reflection of 19th century English society, social class, marriage, and women's position. The work discusses the literary background of nineteenth century, including romanticism, realism, and naturalism, and explains how these movements influenced literature. Special attention is given to the characters of Elizabeth Bennet and Fitzwilliam Darcy, whose emotional and moral development forms the central theme of the novel. The article focus on the importance of personal growth, self-awareness, and get over prejudice in human relationships. It also underlines Jane Austin's work to realistic literature and her critical portrayal of social expectations and gender roles in English society.*

Key Words: *social inequality, class distinction, women, marriage and society, individualism, moral development, social prejudice, family expectations.*

The 19th century became an important period in literature due to the emergence of literary movements such as naturalism, romanticism, and realism, which reflected social changes and the realities of industrial life. Romanticism - focused on individualism, deep emotions, imagination, and the intensity of passion⁷⁹. Realism - shifted toward portraying everyday life, complex characters, and social realities. It rejected heroic ideals in favor of the ordinary working-class citizen⁸⁰. Naturalism - Emphasized that human beings were determined by their environment and heredity, often leading to a darker, more deterministic view of behavior⁸¹. Marriage during that period functioned as a legally restrictive, patriarchal contract for women, often placing them in the position of legal dependents under the system of “coverture,” with very limited rights over property or their children. Women were expected to act as dutiful wives, managing the household and submitting to their husbands, who in turn held control over their wives' earnings and possessions until reforms introduced later changes.

Jane Austen's “Pride and Prejudice” is a key work that explores social rules, class differences, and the pressure on women to marry for financial security. It is widely loved for its humor and its focus on love, reputation, and social status.

Jane Austen, was born in 1775⁸², is one of the most influential English novelists of

⁷⁹ <https://share.google/T8fB7SA5hieAglPb6> (The source was accessed 07.05.2026 at this time).

⁸⁰ <https://share.google/bWM2B0HZVAjZEmVlf> (The source was accessed 07.05.2026 at this time).

⁸¹ <https://share.google/m7DYwDWfFom5Sh3sM> (The source was accessed 07.05.2026 at this time).

⁸² M.Butler. Austen, Jane (1775–1817), novelist. – London. – 2004. – 1.p.



the 19th century whose works made a significant contribution to the development of realistic literature and the social novel. Her most famous work is *Pride and Prejudice*. Her writing is well-known by sharp social observation, psychological depth, and careful attention to the position of women and the institution of marriage in nineteenth-century English society. M.

Butler learnt life and works of Jane Austen.

The novel *Pride and Prejudice*, one of the author's most celebrated works, was published in 1813 and played an important role in the development of English literature. The author, inspired by the social life, moral values, family expectations, and personal relationships through the experiences of her characters. Jane Austen develops these themes through the character of Elizabeth Bennet, an intelligent and independent young woman whose personal growth and understanding of love and social prejudice which are the main focus of the novel.

The novel's main character Elizabeth Bennet is an intelligent and independent young woman who has strong mind. On the one hand, she is humorous, honest, and capable of critical thinking. On the other hand, she is sometimes too proud and quick to judge others based on first impressions. In first, she misunderstands the character of Fitzwilliam Darcy who creates prejudice and misunderstanding between them. It is also worth mentioning the other characters of this novel, each of whom has their own role and qualities. For instance, Jane Bennet is kind, gentle, and sincere, while Lydia Bennet is careless and immature. As for Fitzwilliam Darcy, he is intelligent, wealthy, and respectful, although at first he appears proud and cold. Through these characters, Jane Austen describes different aspects of human nature, social behavior, and relationships in nineteenth-century in English society. Mainly the emotional and moral development of the main characters through the story. After defeating their pride and prejudice, Elizabeth Bennet and Fitzwilliam Darcy gain a deeper understanding of themselves and others. As a result, in this novel the author reveals not only the personalities of the main characters but also shows how personal growth, self-awareness, and social expectations influence human relationships and destinies.

The emotions of the main characters through the entire novel step by step change and depend on the people they meet and the events in which they participate. In *Pride and Prejudice*, emotions are closely connected with social expectations, personal values and misunderstandings between people. At the beginning of the novel, Elizabeth Bennet meets Mr. Darcy and immediately feels irritation and prejudice toward him because of his proud and distant behavior. Her emotions are influenced by his cold attitude at the ball, which wounds her pride and creates a negative impression. At the same time, Mr. Darcy experiences hidden admiration and curiosity toward Elizabeth because of her intelligence and character, although he tries to hold these feelings due to differences in social status. As the story goes, Elizabeth's emotions become more complex. After



meeting Mr. Wickham, she feels sympathy and trust toward him because of his charming manners and convincing stories about Darcy. These emotions strengthen her prejudice against Darcy and make her judgments even more emotional and subjective. However, when Darcy confesses his feelings and explains the truth in his letter, Elizabeth experiences shock, embarrassment and regret. She realizes that her emotions and first impressions misled her understanding of people and relationships.

Meanwhile, Mr. Darcy also undergoes emotional changes through the novel. At first, he appears proud, emotionally distant, carefully controlling his behavior. Nevertheless, Elizabeth's honesty and independence gradually awaken sincerity in him. After Elizabeth rejects his first proposal, Darcy feels humiliation and disappointment, yet these emotions encourage him to change his behavior and become more considerate and open. His later actions, especially helping Lydia Bennet's family during the argument with Wickham, demonstrate responsibility, loyalty and genuine affection.

During Lydia Bennet's escape with Wickham, the Bennet family experiences anxiety, fear and shame because the event threatens their social reputation and future. Elizabeth feels guilt and helplessness, blaming herself for not warning others about Wickham's true character. At the same time, Darcy's quiet intervention creates hope and relief, proving the depth of his feelings and moral growth. By the end of the novel, the emotions of both Elizabeth and Darcy transform into mutual understanding, respect and love. Their earlier pride and prejudice disappear, replaced by emotional maturity and sincerity. Therefore, the emotions in the novel reveal the personal development of the characters: misunderstandings and negative judgments are gradually replaced by trust and affection. These emotional changes bring the heroes happiness and show that true love requires self-awareness, honesty and the ability to overcome one's own flaws, making the story both meaningful and emotionally profound.

In conclusion, Jane Austen represents the image of people whose emotions and judgments change throughout life, showing the importance of self-awareness and personal growth. The inner world of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy is filled with pride, prejudice, misunderstandings and hidden feelings, which makes them some of the most memorable and realistic characters in 19th-century literature.

Reference

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