

UPPER LEVEL

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

A Before Reading

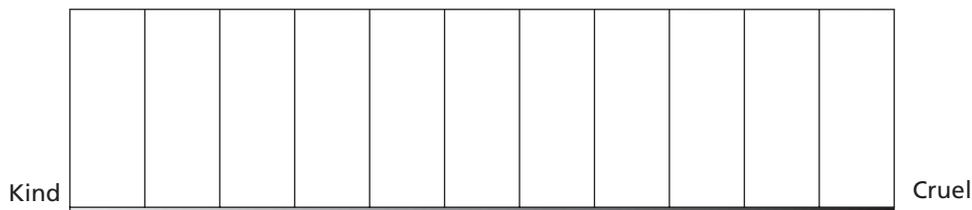
- 1 Do you know anything about Charles Dickens, the author of *Great Expectations*? Have you read any other books by him? Read about him and about life in England in the nineteenth century on pages 5 to 7.
- 2 Read the passage from this story on the back cover of the book. The passage is from very near the beginning of *Great Expectations*.
 - (a) There are two paragraphs at the beginning of the story before the passage on the back cover. How does the story start? Write the first two paragraphs.
 - (b) What is going to happen next? Write the six lines of the story which come after the section on the back cover.

B While Reading

- 3 Question 3 is on the other side of this worksheet.
- 4 These are some of the characters in this story.

Joe Gargery Miss Havisham Mr Jaggers
Mrs Gargery Herbert Pocket Abel Magwitch Estella

How kind or cruel is each of these people? Look at the diagram. Write the names of the characters in the right place on the diagram.

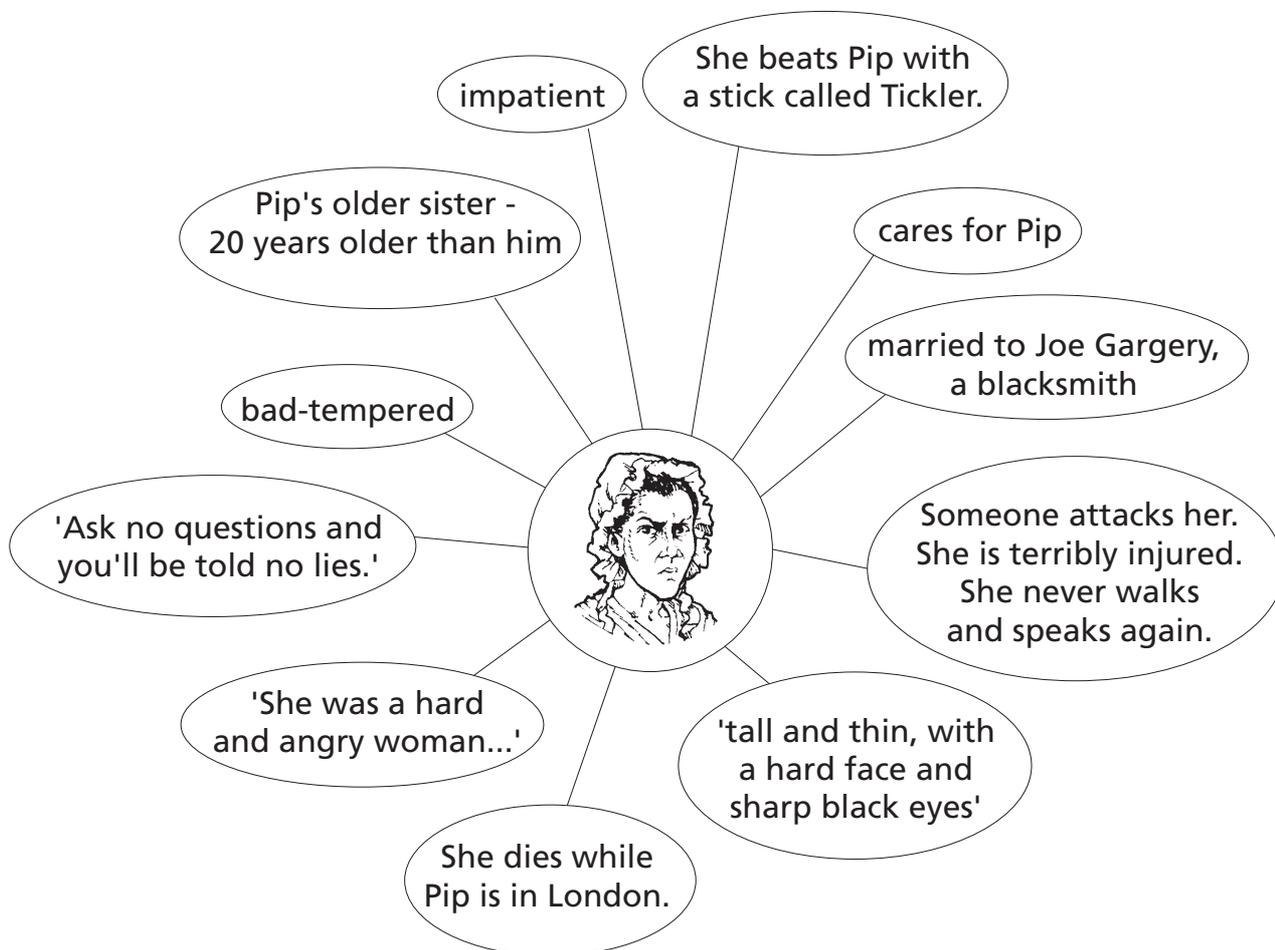


- 5 *I told Mr Jaggers everything I knew and the things I had guessed.*
Pip is telling Mr Jaggers about the events which link Miss Havisham, Miss Havisham's brother, Compeyson, Abel Magwitch, Molly and Estella. Imagine you are Pip. What do you say to Mr Jaggers?
- 6 Imagine that you live in the nineteenth century. You are a journalist. You interview the famous British author, Charles Dickens. What do you ask him? What does he reply?
- 7 When Dickens first wrote *Great Expectations*, the book had a sad ending. He changed the ending because his friends wanted a happy ending. What do you think the first, sad ending was like? Write it, starting from the words on page 81:
Then, one evening in December, I returned to the old forge.

3 While you are reading, collect information about each of these characters. Find quotations from the book and write your own comments too.

Pip Joe Miss Havisham Estella the Convict

Here is an example.



*There are two other titles by Charles Dickens at Upper level.
These are **Bleak House** and **Our Mutual Friend**. Have you read these books?*