

**English 3-4 AS**  
**Summer Reading - 2010/11**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Grade**

By the time school starts the week of August 16, read the following book

***Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens (Stage One: Chapters 1-19).**

Many consider this to be Dickens' finest novel. It traces the life of an orphan, Pip, as he makes his way in the world and learns more and more about himself. In the first stage of the book, you will read comic scenes from Pip's childhood and his time of apprenticeship to the village blacksmith. You will also encounter scary convicts, an eccentric wealthy recluse, and many people who are drawn to wealth. Stage One of the novel is set in the marshy countryside near Rochester, England. Read the first 19 chapters on your own; we will read the rest of the novel together in class.

**Assignments for *Great Expectations* (first 19 chapters)**

Read this in August; you do not want to forget the novel before school starts!

As you read, remember that Dickens used his stories to point out injustice in England, where he was a boy like Pip, ambitious but poor. Notice scenes where he might be making fun of someone or pointing out things that are not fair. Two characters in these chapters seem to be more stable and moral than the rest. Note how they handle life's temptations compared to everyone else. Also consider this question: What can **infatuation** do to a person? Come to a full understanding of **infatuation**, and be thinking of this as you read.

Please be able to answer these questions. You do not have to hand in notes; however, the second day of class, expect a multiple-choice reading quiz on the first 19 chapters.

Chapters 1-7

1. Where and how does Pip encounter a convict? Why does Pip help him?
2. Describe Mrs. Joe's treatment of Pip. In what ways is Pip's relationship with Joe different from his relationship with his sister?
3. What does Pip steal from Mrs. Joe's house? Why?
4. After the convict is caught, what does he say to protect Pip? How does Pip feel about his actions toward the convict?
5. How does Joe feel about his wife? Why do you think he puts up with her treatment?

Chapters 8-12

6. Why is Pip sent to the home of Miss Havisham?
7. What is odd about Miss Havisham's house?
8. Describe Estella and how she treats Pip.
9. How does Pip feel after he leaves, and why does he decide to lie about his experiences there?
10. Why do Pip and the "pale young gentleman" fight?

Chapters 13-19

11. What do Joe and Miss Havisham talk about? If a guinea is worth about \$3, how much does she give to Pip?
12. How has Pip's attitude toward his home and blacksmithing changed?
13. Who is Orlick? How can you tell that he doesn't like Pip or Pip's sister?
14. What happens to Pip's sister? Why does Pip worry that he might be a suspect in the crime?
15. What is Biddy like? What does she think of Pip's plan to become a gentleman?
16. Why does the "strange gentleman" request a private conference with Pip?
17. As Pip prepares for his journey, how do the attitudes of Mr. Trabb and Mr. Pumblechook change? Why?