## BIASES IN 'PRIDE & PREJUDICE'

# 

### Cover Checklist- 🔽 Tick Each Section When Complete.

- PREP STEP Make a copy of this document.
- PREP STEP Share your essay outline template with your tutor.
- PREP STEP Copy and paste the link for your essay outline into your study system.
- STEP 1 Outline your 100% essay START WITH THE CONCLUSION & WORK BACKWARDS
- STEP 2 Use the TTECEA checklist for details
- STEP 3 Revise your essay check for coherence & cohesion, redundant repetition, clarity, vocabulary, etc.
- STEP 4 Edit your essay.
- STEP 5 Put your essay together as one complete piece.

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#### STEP 5: COMPLETE - Put Your Essay Together as One Complete Piece

### **QUESTION**

# In this extract from chapter 3, the Bennet family meet Mr Bingley and Mr Darcy for the first time, at an assembly in Meryton.

Mr Bingley was good looking and gentlemanlike; he had a pleasant countenance, and easy, unaffected manners. His sisters were fine women, with an air of decided fashion. His brother-in-law, Mr Hurst, merely looked the gentleman; but his friend Mr Darcy soon drew the attention of the room by his fine, tall person, handsome features, noble mien; and the report which was in general circulation within five minutes after his entrance, of his having ten thousand a year. The gentlemen pronounced him to be a fine figure of a man, the ladies declared he was much handsomer than Mr Bingley, and he was looked at with great admiration for about half the evening, till his manners gave a disgust which turned the tide of his popularity; for he was discovered to be proud, to be above his company, and above being pleased; and not all his large estate in Derbyshire could then save him from having a most forbidding, disagreeable countenance, and being unworthy to be compared with his friend.

Mr Bingley had soon made himself acquainted with all the principal people in the room; he was lively and unreserved, danced every dance, was angry that the ball closed so early, and talked of giving one himself at Netherfield. Such amiable qualities must speak for themselves. What a contrast between him and his friend! Mr Darcy danced only once with Mrs Hurst and once with Miss Bingley, declined being introduced to any other lady, and spent the rest of the evening in walking about the room, speaking occasionally to one of his own party. His character was decided. He was the proudest, most disagreeable man in the world, and everybody hoped that he would never come there again. Amongst the most violent against him was Mrs Bennet, whose dislike of his general behaviour was sharpened into particular resentment by his having slighted one of her daughters.

#### Starting with this extract, explore how Austen depicts polite society's biases in Pride and Prejudice.

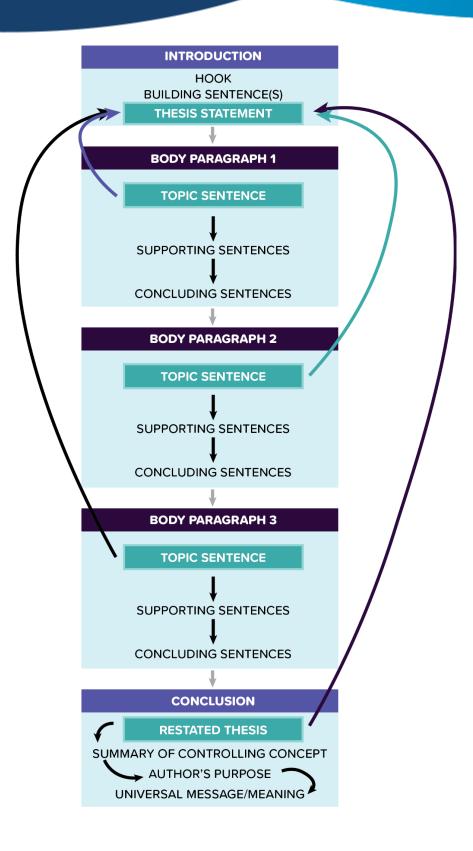
Write about:

- how Austen depicts polite society's biases in this extract.
- how Austen depicts polite society's biases in the novel as a whole.



**100% ESSAY STRUCTURE OVERVIEW** 







# STEP 1: OUTLINING - Complete Your 100% Essay Outline

Criteria	Status	INTRODUCTION - Do not make this too detailed.
Hook AO1 fact/statistic •	Complete • (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	In light of Austen's focus on society's quirks and customs, it is hardly surprising that the evolving social landscape of Georgian England, particularly the emergence of 'polite society,' is a recurring theme in her work.
Buiding sentence(s) AO3 <ul> <li>counter-argument</li> <li>OR</li> <li>some contexual info</li> </ul>	Conly mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	This is particularly evident in Pride and Prejudice, where Austen presents Mr. Darcy, a character initially perceived as arrogant and superior due to his elevated social status.
<u>Thesis statement AO1</u> ✓ key idea 1 ✓ key idea 2 ✓ key idea 3	Complete   (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	However, as Austen illustrates Darcy's reception in Meryton, she not only exposes the fickleness of society but also its preference for good breeding and manners over more meaningful qualities when determining a person's worth.
Criteria	Status	BODY PARAGRAPH 1 - only focus on KEY IDEA #1
<u>WHAT? Topic sentence</u> <u>AO1</u> <mark>∕ key idea 1</mark>	Complete  Complete  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	Austen's narrator, who can be reasonably interpreted as the impersonal voice of polite society, uses a three-part sentence structure to introduce Darcy in the opening paragraph of this passage: the narrator describes him as having a "tall stature, attractive features, and noble bearing."
HOW? Supporting sentences AO2 ✓ terminology ✓ evidence ✓ close analysis ✓ effects <sup>±</sup>	Complete • (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	These characteristics collectively convey Darcy's appeal to the gathering. The last adjective, "noble," suggests the reason for this fascination and emphasizes that Darcy belongs to a higher social class than most of the attendees, as he possesses inherited wealth and land (embodied by his estate, Pemberley) and connections to aristocratic families like Lady Catherine de Bourgh's. The description of his "bearing" as noble indicates that his face displays his innate nobility. Nonetheless, Austen also reveals that society expects noble lineage to be accompanied by refined manners, as evidenced by the assembly's sudden disapproval of Mr. Darcy, who transitions from having a "noble bearing" to being condescendingly "above his company." This underscores the significance of manners in determining social



		standing within Georgian polite society. In contrast to Darcy's hostility towards polite society (by Chapter 6, he continues to scornfully claim that "every savage can dance"), Mr. Bingley exemplifies a strong understanding of the behavioral norms expected in Meryton society: he is "lively and unreserved, dances every dance, expresses disappointment at the ball's early end, and considers hosting one at Netherfield."
WHY? Concluding         sentence(s) AO2/AO3         □ author's purpose         ✓ (final thought / context about the key idea)	Complete  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	Consequently, although it is made abundantly clear elsewhere in the novel that Bingley lacks noble heritage – his family's wealth, the reader learns, comes from trade – his manners ("such amiable qualities," as the narrator describes) earn him admiration from Meryton society that elevates him above Darcy.
Criteria	Status	BODY PARAGRAPH 2 - only focus on KEY IDEA #2
WHAT? Topic sentence <u>AO1</u> <mark>∕ key idea 2</mark>	Complete <ul> <li>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</li> </ul>	In this passage, Austen draws attention to the meddling nature of married women in this social class, as they eagerly delve into others' financial matters.
HOW? Supporting sentences AO2 <ul> <li>✓ terminology</li> <li>✓ evidence</li> <li>✓ close analysis</li> <li>✓ effects*</li> </ul>	Complete • (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	The narrator mentions "the rumor that spread rapidly within five minutes of his arrival, stating that he had an annual income of ten thousand pounds." The term "rumor" highlights society's intrusiveness in evaluating an individual's wealth and harkens back to Austen's portrayal of Mrs. Bennet in Chapter 1, whose primary "concern" was marrying off her daughters to suitable suitors. Polite society's mercenary inclinations are satirically referenced in the sentence following the "rumor" of Darcy's fortune, which includes an alliterative depiction of Darcy as a "handsome figure." The subtle insinuation here is that Darcy's wealth has amplified his physical appeal in the eyes of the gathering, while Bingley, with a comparatively smaller annual income of five thousand pounds, is deemed less attractive. Austen playfully points to the landed gentry's fixation on wealth from the very beginning of the novel by equating financial considerations with marriage in the opening line: "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife." This establishes an early focus on the theme. Mrs. Bennet serves as an ideal example of this preoccupation—her perspective often appears to echo the general attitudes of polite society.



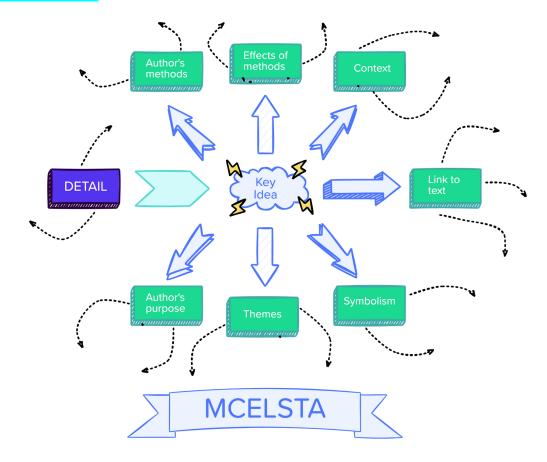
WHY? Concluding.         sentence(s) AO2/AO3         □ author's purpose         ✓ (final thought /         context about the key         idea)	Complete <ul> <li>(only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)</li> </ul>	Despite her dislike for Mr. Darcy, she adores his wealth, exclaiming to Elizabeth near the end of the novel, "What jewels, what carriages you shall have!"
Criteria	Status	BODY PARAGRAPH 3 - only focus on KEY IDEA #3
WHAT? Topic sentence <u>AO1</u> ✓ <del>key idea 3</del>	Complete  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	Austen employs superlatives to underscore the inclination of polite society to make superficial and fickle judgments while failing to grasp the complexities of human nature.
<ul> <li>HOW? Supporting sentences AO2</li> <li>sentences</li> <li>evidence</li> <li>close analysis</li> <li>effects*</li> </ul>	Complete • (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	In this passage, Mr. Darcy is branded as the "proudest, most disagreeable man" after refusing to dance with the ladies at the assembly. The exaggerated superlatives imply that emotions, rather than rationality, primarily drive the shift in opinions. The hyperbole persists in the subsequent sentence, as the narrator notes that "everyone hoped he would never return" – the attendees desire to inflict a comically disproportionate punishment of banishment on Darcy for his perceived offense. However, polite society is portrayed as not only blind to the nuances in people's characters but also as capriciously fickle. Darcy's rapid decline in popularity is so abrupt that it is compared to the turning of the tide ("the tide of [Darcy's] popularity" is said to turn). While Mrs. Bennet occasionally embodies the values of polite society, her unwavering disdain for Darcy throughout the novel, based on superficial first impressions, reveals her distinct stubbornness rather than the generally mutable opinions of society. In contrast, the novel showcases the shortcomings of polite society's based on her initial impression until eventually approving of him as a suitable spouse for her daughter due to his wealth and estate, Elizabeth exhibits open-mindedness, allowing her assessment of Darcy to evolve over time. Her discerning approach is evidenced when, in the novel's second volume, Elizabeth observes Darcy's impeccable manners towards her aunt, uncle, and his servants at Pemberley.



WHY? Concluding sentence(s) AO2/AO3 □ author's purpose ✓ (final thought / context about the key idea)	Complete  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	This leads her to realize that what she initially perceived as arrogance was, in part, a manifestation of social awkwardness.
Criteria	Status	CONCLUSION - <u>CRUCIAL!</u>
<u>Restated thesis AO1</u> (Re-write your thesis statement in different words.)	Complete  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	In conclusion, Pride and Prejudice is rife with satirical portrayals of polite society's biases, showcasing their obsessions with wealth, manners, and their propensity for superficial and judgmental thinking.
Summary of controlling concept AO1 How does your thesis link to the central theme of the text?	Complete  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	However, similar to her other novels, such as Sense and Sensibility, Austen employs pairings and doubles to demonstrate that, contrary to her society's fixation on superficialities, genuine human connections are built on accepting others' flaws and recognizing one's own shortcomings.
Summary of author's central purpose AO1/AO3 How does the controlling concept reflect the MAIN reason that the author wrote the text?	Complete  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	This is exemplified through the relationship between Elizabeth and Darcy. As a result, despite Austen conveying the importance of the class system, it should not necessarily override love. Therefore, she structures the narrative in a way that allows various couples to overcome the rigid hierarchy and social boundaries of Regency society, as well as the obstacles posed by their respective character flaws. Ultimately, through both protagonists, Austen seems to suggest that appearances, whether related to social class or general demeanor, can be misleading and that what truly matters are an individual's inner qualities.
<u>Universal message AO1</u> (What is the MAIN message of the text? Focus on the end.)	Not started  (only mark complete when steps 1-5 are ALL complete)	By depicting the nuances of social interactions and personal growth, Austen encourages readers to look beyond external attributes and focus on the more profound aspects of character and relationships.

## STEP 2: ADDING DETAIL-Complete the TTECEA Checklist for Detail

- 1. To achieve a grade 9 level of detail, ensure that you link your key idea in each of your body paragraphs to as many of the elements of the TTECEA mnemonic as possible (aim to write about 650-950 words maximum for the entire essay)
- 2. You do not need to have each of the TTECEA elements in each paragraph, but make sure you have all of them in the entirety of your essay.
- 3. Each item on the checklist should only have 2 main purposes:
  - a. to link to your key idea in each paragraph
  - b. and support your argument.
- ☑ TOPIC SENTENCE: Introduce the key idea of your body paragraph.
- TECHNIQUE: Select a key technique the author uses (one you can explore in detail, eg, metaphor, simile, etc).
- EVIDENCE: EMBED a quote to back up your ideas.
- CLOSE ANALYSIS: Break the technique into smaller pieces, zoom in and analyse them PERCEPTIVELY.
- EFFECTS ON THE READER\*: Explore what the author's method makes us focus on, feel (emotionally) or think.
- AUTHOR'S PURPOSE: Explore why the might want to make us feel a certain way about certain ideas.





Ensure you have revised the following aspects of your essay:

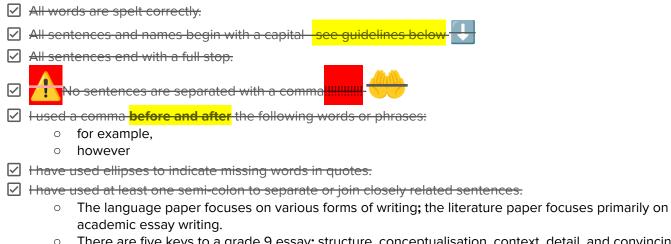
- Removed/replaced ALL redundant repetition.
- Replaced ALL instances of the word 'shows' with more accurate and specific verbs for inferring effects of the author's methods (check toolkit).
- Revised essay for coherence: are the ideas in each of the paragraphs clearly connected to each other?
- Revised essay for cohesion: check the toolkit for help.
- Removed all instances of the following words and replace them with specific details of the topics you are exploring:

0	How
0	Shows
0	Some
0	Something
0	Thing
0	This
0	Way
0	What

- Your vocabulary is academic no informal language unless quoting directly.
- Revised essay for clarity—is your essay easy to read? Ask a peer to read it and give you feedback.

## STEP 4: EDITING - Edit Your Essay

Ensure you have edited the following aspects of spelling, punctuation, and grammar:



- There are five keys to a grade 9 essay: structure, conceptualisation, context, detail, and convincing evidence.
- ☑ I have used a colon to introduce a quote, phrase, word, etc.

#### HOW TO REMEMBER CAPITALS - ABLE PRINTS:

- Abbreviations: U.K., USA, UAE
- Beginnings of sentences: Nobody saw it coming.
- Languages: French, Spanish, Italian, Arabic,
- Emphasis I LOVE CHEESE! (avoid this)
- Places: Africa, Mecca, London, Zimbabwe
- Religions and words related to them: Islam/Muslim, Christianity/Christian, Judaism/Jewish, Hinduism/Hindu
- I, as in me
- Names (specific) of people, places, businesses, e.g., Shakespeare, Apple, London.
- Titles of books, movies, or programmes, e.g., The Lion King, Macbeth,
- Special days: Eid, Christmas, Diwali

#### SPAG RULES

https://www.grammarly.com/blog/category/handbook/



### STEP 5: COMPLETE - Put Your Essay Together as One Complete Piece

In light of Austen's focus on society's quirks and customs, it is hardly surprising that the evolving social landscape of Georgian England, particularly the emergence of 'polite society,' is a recurring theme in her work. This is particularly evident in Pride and Prejudice, where Austen presents Mr. Darcy, a character initially perceived as arrogant and superior due to his elevated social status. However, as Austen illustrates Darcy's reception in Meryton, she not only exposes the fickleness of society but also its preference for good breeding and manners over more meaningful qualities when determining a person's worth.

Austen's narrator, who can be reasonably interpreted as the impersonal voice of polite society, uses a three-part sentence structure to introduce Darcy in the opening paragraph of this passage: the narrator describes him as having a "tall stature, attractive features, and noble bearing." These characteristics collectively convey Darcy's appeal to the gathering. The last adjective, "noble," suggests the reason for this fascination and emphasizes that Darcy belongs to a higher social class than most of the attendees, as he possesses inherited wealth and land (embodied by his estate, Pemberley) and connections to aristocratic families like Lady Catherine de Bourgh's. The description of his "bearing" as noble indicates that his face displays his innate nobility. Nonetheless, Austen also reveals that society expects noble lineage to be accompanied by refined manners, as evidenced by the assembly's sudden disapproval of Mr. Darcy, who transitions from having a "noble bearing" to being condescendingly "above his company." This underscores the significance of manners in determining social standing within Georgian polite society. In contrast to Darcy's hostility towards polite society (by Chapter 6, he continues to scornfully claim that "every savage can dance"), Mr. Bingley exemplifies a strong understanding of the behavioral norms expected in Meryton society: he is "lively and unreserved, dances every dance, expresses disappointment at the ball's early end, and considers hosting one at Netherfield." Consequently, although it is made abundantly clear elsewhere in the novel that Bingley lacks noble heritage - his family's wealth, the reader learns, comes from trade - his manners ("such amiable qualities," as the narrator describes) earn him admiration from Meryton society that elevates him above Darcy.

In this passage, Austen draws attention to the meddling nature of married women in this social class, as they eagerly delve into others' financial matters. The narrator mentions "the rumor that spread rapidly within five minutes of his arrival, stating that he had an annual income of ten thousand pounds." The term "rumor" highlights society's intrusiveness in evaluating an individual's wealth and harkens back to Austen's portrayal of Mrs. Bennet in Chapter 1, whose primary "concern" was marrying off her daughters to suitable suitors. Polite society's mercenary inclinations are satirically referenced in the sentence following the "rumor" of Darcy's fortune, which includes an alliterative depiction of Darcy as a "handsome figure." The subtle insinuation here is that Darcy's wealth has amplified his physical appeal in the eyes of the gathering, while Bingley, with a comparatively smaller annual income of five thousand pounds, is deemed less attractive. Austen playfully points to the landed gentry's fixation on wealth from the very beginning of the novel by equating financial considerations with marriage in the opening line: "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife." This establishes an early focus on the theme. Mrs. Bennet serves as an ideal example of this preoccupation—her perspective often appears to echo the general attitudes of polite society. Despite her dislike for Mr. Darcy, she adores his wealth, exclaiming to Elizabeth near the end of the novel, "What jewels, what carriages you shall have!"

Austen employs superlatives to underscore the inclination of polite society to make superficial and fickle judgments while failing to grasp the complexities of human nature. In this passage, Mr. Darcy is branded as the "proudest, most disagreeable man" after refusing to dance with the ladies at the assembly. The exaggerated superlatives imply that emotions, rather than rationality, primarily drive the shift in opinions. The hyperbole persists in the subsequent



sentence, as the narrator notes that "everyone hoped he would never return" – the attendees desire to inflict a comically disproportionate punishment of banishment on Darcy for his perceived offense. However, polite society is portrayed as not only blind to the nuances in people's characters but also as capriciously fickle. Darcy's rapid decline in popularity is so abrupt that it is compared to the turning of the tide ("the tide of [Darcy's] popularity" is said to turn). While Mrs. Bennet occasionally embodies the values of polite society, her unwavering disdain for Darcy throughout the novel, based on superficial first impressions, reveals her distinct stubbornness rather than the generally mutable opinions of society. In contrast, the novel showcases the shortcomings of polite society's simplistic and heavy-handed character evaluations when juxtaposed with Elizabeth's more thoughtful and refined approach. Unlike Mrs. Bennet, who persistently judges Darcy based on her initial impression until eventually approving of him as a suitable spouse for her daughter due to his wealth and estate, Elizabeth exhibits open-mindedness, allowing her assessment of Darcy to evolve over time. Her discerning approach is evidenced when, in the novel's second volume, Elizabeth observes Darcy's impeccable manners towards her aunt, uncle, and his servants at Pemberley. This leads her to realize that what she initially perceived as arrogance was, in part, a manifestation of social awkwardness.

In conclusion, Pride and Prejudice is rife with satirical portrayals of polite society's biases, showcasing their obsessions with wealth, manners, and their propensity for superficial and judgmental thinking. However, similar to her other novels, such as Sense and Sensibility, Austen employs pairings and doubles to demonstrate that, contrary to her society's fixation on superficialities, genuine human connections are built on accepting others' flaws and recognizing one's own shortcomings. This is exemplified through the relationship between Elizabeth and Darcy. As a result, despite Austen conveying the importance of the class system, it should not necessarily override love. Therefore, she structures the narrative in a way that allows various couples to overcome the rigid hierarchy and social boundaries of Regency society, as well as the obstacles posed by their respective character flaws. Ultimately, through both protagonists, Austen seems to suggest that appearances, whether related to social class or general demeanor, can be misleading and that what truly matters are an individual's inner qualities. By depicting the nuances of social interactions and personal growth, Austen encourages readers to look beyond external attributes and focus on the more profound aspects of character and relationships.