

*This guide was prepared using the New American Library edition, © 1980. Other editions may differ.*

#### SYNOPSIS

**Vol. I, Chap. 1:** At the village of Highbury, Surrey, Emma Woodhouse, the 21-year-old mistress of Hartfield, lives alone with her ailing father, a widower. Her sister Isabella had married, settled 16 miles away at Brunswick Square in London, and produced five children. Since age five, Emma had enjoyed the friendship of her governess, Miss Anne Taylor, who had recently married Captain Weston, also a widower. Emma takes pride in having arranged the Taylor-Weston match four years earlier. She promises her father to arrange only one more match, for the minister, Mr. Philip Elton.

**Chap. 2:** Captain Weston had married Miss Churchill, a Yorkshire belle whose brother and sister-in-law considered her wed below her station. After his wife's death three years later, Weston was left with a son Frank, whom the Churchills adopted. Weston profited in trade and bought Randalls, where he and his new wife live.

**Chapter 3:** Highbury society includes Mrs. Bates, a vicar's widow, and her unmarried daughter Hetty, a perpetual talker. Emma makes friends with 17-year-old Harriet Smith, a friendless girl in debt to Mrs. Goddard for schooling and board. Harriet shows interest in Robert Martin, tenant farmer at Abbey-Mill Farm at Mr. Knightley's estate, Donwell Abbey.

**Chap. 4:** Emma fails to learn the identity of Harriet's parents and intrudes further on her friend's privacy by discouraging an engagement to 24-year-old Martin. When the two women encounter him the next day, Emma further denigrates him and considers maneuvering Harriet into marrying Elton.

**Chap. 5:** Knightley confides to Mrs. Weston that Emma's friendship with Harriet is bad. She recalls that Emma at 10 was sharper than Isabella, seven years her senior. Knightley maintains that Harriet is a flatterer, the worst influence on Emma. He comments that Emma's plan to remain single depends on her meeting the right man to change her mind.

**Chap. 6:** In December, Emma is aware that Elton constantly praises Harriet, particularly Emma's drawing of her. Knightley criticizes the likeness as too tall. Elton volunteers to take the picture to London to be framed.

**Chap. 7:** That same day, Martin leaves at Mrs. Goddard's a letter for Harriet proposing marriage. Emma pretends not to give advice, but insists that Harriet refuse the offer.

**Chap. 8:** After spending the night at Hartfield, Harriet departs and returns later that morning. Knightley predicts that she will receive a proposal from Martin, who consulted with Knightley two evenings before on marriage. Emma reports that Harriet refused the proposal. Knightley considers Harriet foolish and accuses Emma of writing the refusal letter. He deems marriage to Martin preferable to accepting Mrs. Goddard's charity and warns Emma that Elton intends to marry a moneyed woman. Knightley departs in a huff.

**Chap. 9:** Emma refuses to repent of meddling. Because of

Woodhouse's interest in riddles, she contrives that Harriet should collect them and asks Elton to contribute. His two riddles produce "court" and "ship," which Emma interprets as a verbal token of love for Harriet. Emma's father complains that Isabella has not been to Hartfield since Easter.

**Chap. 10:** In mid-December, Emma and Harriet visit Miss Bates, who bores Emma with letters from her niece, Jane Fairfax. Elton walks them home. When he and Harriet enter a spirited conversation, Emma pretends to break a boot lace and congratulates herself on the clever ploy.

**Chap. 11:** John and Isabella Knightley arrive with their five children. Woodhouse grouses that they spent the fall holiday at Southend, but rejoices that Miss Taylor married Weston. Woodhouse recalls that Weston flew Henry's kite the previous Easter. They chat about 23-year-old Frank, whose mother died when he was two.

**Chap. 12:** George Knightley dines at Hartfield. He reminds Emma that he has a right to scold her because he is 16 years her elder. Isabella thinks that Jane Fairfax would be a suitable companion for Emma because they are the same age. John bridles at Woodhouse's advice about Cromer being a better place to vacation. George Knightley expects his brother the next morning.

**Chap. 13:** On December 23, Harriet suffers a cold and remains home with Mrs. Goddard. On Christmas Eve, when the Knightleys and Woodhouses visit Randalls, Elton worries about her sore throat. Elton rides to the party with the Westons. John remarks on the man's good will toward women; Knightley adds that Elton directs his solicitude toward Emma. As snow begins falling, John wishes he could return to Hartfield.

**Chap. 14:** Elton hovers at Emma's elbow during the party. She wonders if he likes her and begins plotting an alliance between Harriet and Frank Churchill. Mr. Weston assumes Frank will come the second week in January if Mrs. Churchill is not too cranky to allow him away from Enscombe. Captain Weston tries to dissuade Emma from having an opinion about the matter.

**Chap. 15:** Elton intrudes between Emma and Mrs. Weston. Emma moves away. As the snow worsens, Isabella worries about her children. The Westons order their carriage and settle Woodhouse for the return. While Emma rides back with Elton, he seizes her hand and declares his love. She declares herself uninterested in matrimony and reminds him of his attentions toward Harriet. At the vicarage, he leaps from the carriage.

**Chap. 16:** After the maid curls Emma's hair, she boils with anger and frustration at Elton's behavior. She recalls that Knightley predicted that Elton would marry an heiress, such as Emma, who stands to inherit £30,000. In the two years he had lived at Highbury, she had never expected a proposal from him. Because of the freeze, she does not attend church on Christmas Day and stays indoors for days, also missing

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church on Sunday.

**Chap. 17:** When the weather improves, Isabella's family departs. Elton leaves the next day for Bath. The next day, Emma goes to Mrs. Goddard's and breaks the news to Harriet, who weeps.

**Chap. 18:** Frank sets back his arrival 2 or 3 months. When Emma castigates him, Knightley reminds her that Frank may be doing his duty to his aunt. Knightley predicts that Frank will be insufferable.

**Vol. II, Chap. 1:** On the way to the Bates' house one morning, Emma hopes she and Harriet will not have to listen to the reading of one of Jane's letters. Miss Bates reports that Jane is coming the following week while the Campbells travel by way of Holyhead to Balyraig in Ireland to visit their daughter, Mrs. Dixon, who married in October. Jane recovers slowly from a cold she caught on November 7. Emma hurries away to flee a recitation of the letter.

**Chap. 2:** When Jane was 3, her widowed mother, Jane Bates Fairfax, died of consumption. Sought out by Colonel Campbell, who admired Lieutenant Fairfax, Jane spent her early years as his daughter's companion in London. Rather than seek a job at 18 or 19, she remained with the Campbells. After Miss Campbell married Dixon, Jane resolved to get a job at age 21, but had been sickly since her foster sister's departure.

Knightley believes that Emma is jealous of Jane's accomplishments. Emma fantasizes that Jane is in love with Dixon. On an evening's visit from the Bates to Hartfield, Emma believes Jane polite, but reserved and cold. She learns that Jane had been at Weymouth during Frank's stay there.

**Chap. 3:** The next morning, Knightley disagrees with Emma over Jane's demeanor the past evening. Following the slaughter of a pig, Emma has sent a hind quarter to the Bates. When they arrive to thank her, they report that Elton is marrying Augusta Hawkins of Bath only a month after leaving Highbury. Upon Harriet's arrival, she reports waiting at Ford's and encountering Elizabeth and Robert Martin. Emma compliments her behavior.

**Chap. 4:** A week later, Emma learns that Miss Hawkins, daughter of a Bristol merchant, is accomplished, elegant, and endowed with £10,000. A few days later, Elizabeth Martin calls at Mrs. Goddard's and leaves a note for Harriet. Emma worries what will become of Harriet.

**Chap. 5:** Emma tires of Harriet and her association with the Martins. In February, the Westons visit Hartfield to report that Frank is arriving from Oxford the next day at 4:00 P. M. Frank appears in her own parlor the next day at noon and intends to visit the Bates and Jane.

**Chap. 6:** The next morning, Frank and Mrs. Weston return to Hartfield from a tour of Highbury. Because Emma makes personal remarks about Jane's status, Mrs. Weston chides her. Emma commiserates with Mrs. Dixon, who was never as accomplished as Jane, and admits that she has never gotten beyond Jane's reserve.

**Chap. 7:** The next day, Frank appears to offend the Westons by going to London to get his hair cut. Knightley calls him trifling and silly. The Coles, who had risen the last two years from trade to a fortune, plan a party. Emma receives no invitation, but declares that she will not go if invited. Woodhouse wants to decline but urges Emma to accept and honor neighbors who have resided in Highbury for a decade.

**Chap. 8:** On Tuesday, Emma attends the party, where Frank is attentive. A piano delivered the day before sits in the

room, a mysterious gift to Jane. Emma and Frank surmise that Colonel Campbell sent it, or possibly Mrs. Dixon. Frank recalls how Dixon saved Jane from falling from a boat. Emma learns that Knightley provided transportation for the Bates and Jane.

Mrs. Weston thinks Knightley would make a match with Jane. Emma retorts that Knightley must not marry. Otherwise, 6-year-old Henry Knightley would not inherit Donwell Abbey. She discourages Mrs. Weston from matchmaking. When Emma plays and sings, Frank joins in. He also sings with Jane. Knightley resents demands that Jane keep on singing. Emma dances with Frank.

**Chap. 9:** The next day, Emma is glad she went to the party and practices piano and singing. Although Harriet compliments her, Emma declares herself second to Jane in talent. They encounter Frank and Mrs. Weston touring the village. At the Bates house, he repairs Mrs. Bates's glasses.

**Chap. 10:** Frank helps Jane steady the piano for a brief recital. She is still unaware of the donor's name. When Knightley passes by on his way to Kingston, Miss Bates thanks him for transportation the past evening and tries to acknowledge his gift of apples, but he rides away.

**Chap. 11:** Frank proposes another party. They determine that Randalls is not large enough for ten couples. By the middle of the next day, he comes to Hartfield to suggest a dance at the Crown Inn. Emma joins the Westons at the inn. Frank writes to ask his aunt and uncle if he may stay at Highbury beyond two weeks. Mrs. Weston whispers to her husband that Frank has already asked Emma for the first two dances.

**Chap. 12:** A letter arrives urging Frank to come home to attend his aunt, who is ill. He complains that she deliberately intrudes by pretending to be sick. He says goodbye to the Bates before departing. He begins a declaration to Emma. She assumes he loves her. Days later, she finds Jane sick with headache.

**Chap. 13:** Emma considers herself in love. Elton sets a wedding date. Harriet is grateful for Emma's support.

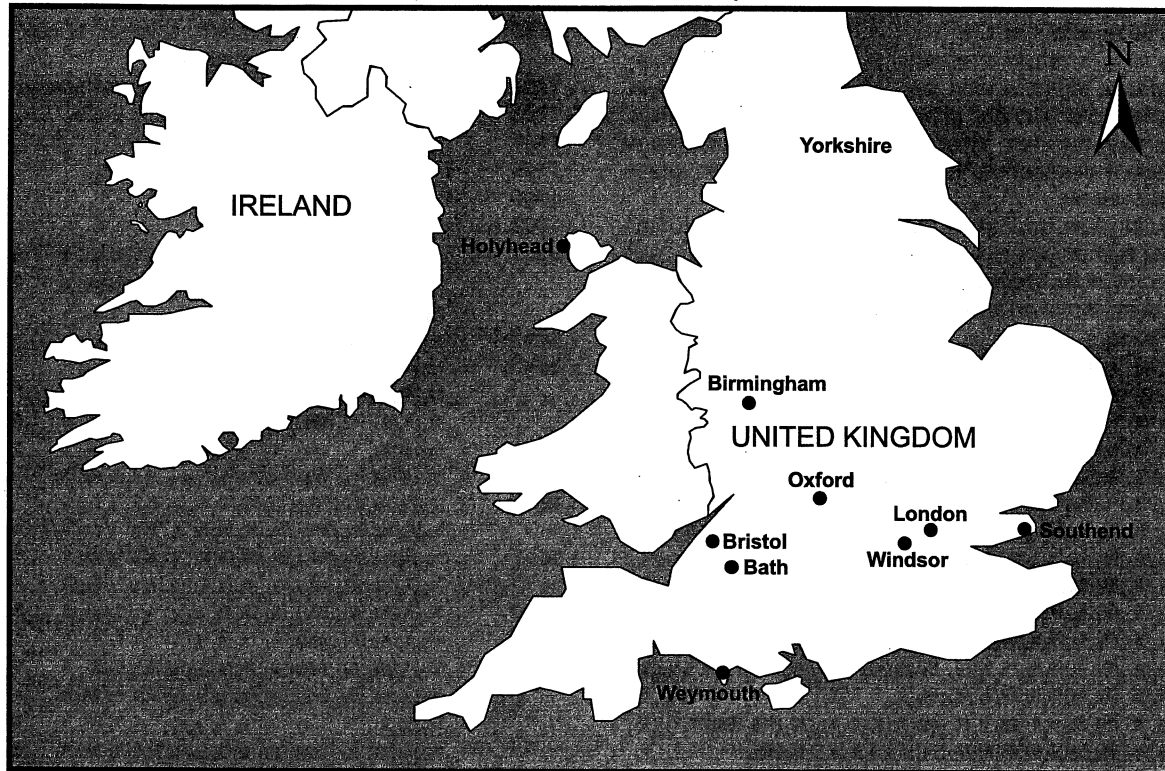
**Chap. 14:** Emma dislikes Augusta Elton on first meeting. She brags about Maple Grove, the estate of her sister, who married the incomparable Mr. Suckling. Emma smolders at the suggestion that Augusta introduce her to Bath society and at Augusta's condescension toward Mrs. Weston, who was only a governess.

**Chap. 15:** Augusta and her husband further annoy Emma by sneering at Harriet and by adoring Jane, who extends her stay at Highbury to mid-summer. Mrs. Weston and Emma discuss Knightley's refusal to fall in love with Jane.

**Chap. 16:** Augusta likes Highbury, where she is the center of attention. Grudgingly, Emma plans a dinner in early April to honor the Eltons. Her two eldest nephews, Henry and John, plan to visit Hartfield the same day. John Knightley chides Jane for going to the post office in the rain. Augusta joins in the scolding and intends to send her servant to fetch Jane's mail. Knightley considers Frank's handwriting womanish.

**Chap. 17:** Augusta insists on helping Jane apply for a governess's post with Mrs. Bragge. Jane wants to wait several months more. A letter from Frank reports that he is coming back to Highbury.

**Chap. 18:** Augusta looks forward to meeting Frank, who will arrive from Yorkshire the following week. She suggests that Mrs. Churchill go to Bath or Clifton to seek treatment. Weston blames Mrs. Churchill for slighting Frank's mother



and declares his sister-in-law was a nobody before she married. Augusta confides the pretensions of the Tupmans, newcomers to Bath from Birmingham. After tea, Knightley and Emma discuss the boys' visit. He offers to take them if they prove troublesome.

**Vol. III, Chap. 1:** Emma wonders if a separation of two months has cooled Frank's love for her. He appears less attached to her by his fluttery behavior and single visit in a ten-day stay. The family moves Mrs. Churchill to Richmond for May and June. Plans for the ball resume.

**Chap. 2:** At the Crown Inn, hosts include Frank, who is uneasy and forgets to transport the Bates family. Augusta awaits compliments to her gown and hair. Frank confides to Emma that he dislikes Augusta. Because of the attention paid the new bride, Emma feels slighted. Knightley appears to observe Emma.

Elton slights Harriet by refusing to dance with her. Knightley intervenes and dances with her. He confides to Emma that the Eltons deliberately wound her. She admits that Knightley was right about Elton's pettiness. Knightley asks her to dance.

**Chap. 3:** Emma is glad to see Frank less ardent, Harriet more rational, and Knightley less quarrelsome. The next morning, Frank rescues Harriet from gypsy beggars.

**Chap. 4:** A few days later, Harriet burns her mementos of Elton.

**Chap. 5:** Jane postpones her departure until August. Knightley's dislike of Frank grows from his suspicion that Frank dallies with Jane. He suspects a private understanding between them. A group assembles informally at Hartfield

after a walk. Frank notices the nephews' alphabet blocks and spells "blunder" for Jane, then displeases her with "Dixon." Before the group departs, Frank spells another word. Knightley warns Emma that there is something afoot between Jane and Frank. Emma assures him he is wrong.

**Chap. 6:** Augusta regrets that the Sucklings cannot arrive until fall. She proposes a picnic at Box Hill for mid-June. When the Weston carriage horse goes lame, the party decides to eat strawberries at Donwell. Augusta insists on taking charge; Knightley informs her that only "Mrs. Knightley" would control entertaining at Donwell. Because Woodhouse has not visited in two years, Knightley insists he accompany the party. Mrs. Weston keeps him company while the others pick berries. Knightley and Harriet lead the way.

At Donwell, Knightley's collections entertain Woodhouse. Jane insists on walking home and looks forward to time alone. Frank arrives and reports that Mrs. Churchill has suffered a nervous seizure. He reports an encounter with Jane on the road. He complains that he is bored and wants to travel abroad.

**Chap. 7:** The next day, the group travels 7 miles to Box Hill. Frank flirts with Emma. She annoys Augusta by supervising a game of clever and dull statements. Emma insults Miss Bates for her dullness. Weston puns on Emma's perfection. The Eltons withdraw in a huff. Emma wonders if Harriet might be the ideal wife for Frank. When the carriages depart, Knightley lambastes Emma for cruelty to poor, humble Hetty Bates. Emma leaves in tears.

**Chap. 8:** The next day, Emma attempts to apologize to Miss Bates and finds Jane headachy and writing letters. Miss

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Bates informs Emma that Jane is going to be governess to the three daughters of Mrs. Smallridge four miles from Maple Grove in two weeks.

**Chap. 9:** On return to Hartfield, Emma finds Knightley preparing for a trip to London to visit his brother and Isabella. He is pleased that she has gone to apologize to Miss Bates. The next day, they learn that Mrs. Churchill is dead. Perry treats Jane's headaches. Emma sends arrow-root, which Miss Bates returns.

**Chap. 10:** Ten days later, Mrs. Weston reports to Emma that Frank has arrived to announce his engagement to Jane since the previous October. Mrs. Weston fears that Emma will feel jilted. Mr. Weston departs in good spirits that Emma is not slighted.

**Chap. 11:** Emma is relieved that Harriet is not upset by the engagement, then dismayed that her friend has placed her hopes on Knightley. Emma regrets ever meeting Harriet.

**Chap. 12:** Emma regrets having hurt Jane by flirting with Frank. Mrs. Weston anticipates the birth of a child.

**Chap. 13:** The next morning, Knightley walks with Emma upon his return. She admits he was right about Jane and Frank's relationship and that Frank merely flattered her own vanity. Knightley has a low opinion of Frank. He hesitates to confide in Emma, then expresses his love.

**Chap. 14:** That afternoon, Isabella invites Harriet to spend a few weeks in London. Mrs. Weston forwards Frank's letter from Windsor justifying his secrecy.

**Chap. 15:** Emma asks Knightley to read the letter. They work out the difficulty of how to care for her father.

**Chap. 16:** Emma visits Jane and finds her well. Augusta proposes another exploration of Box Hill. Elton is confused about meetings at the inn and at Donwell. Jane apologizes for being cold and deceptive. She intends to marry after three months' mourning for Mrs. Churchill and to settle at Enscombe.

**Chap. 17:** Mrs. Weston gives birth to a daughter, named Adelaide. Emma remembers calling Knightley "George" a decade ago, but refuses to give up "Mr. Knightley." Isabella and John will return to Highbury in August and bring Harriet with them. Except for Augusta, all Highbury approves the match between Emma and Knightley.

**Chap. 18:** When Harriet returns, she discloses she will marry Robert Martin. Emma visits the Westons and Adelaide and encounters Frank, who apologizes for his bad behavior.

**Chap. 19:** At the end of September, Emma serves as Harriet's maid of honor. Jane withdraws to the Campbells' home to await her November wedding. In October, Emma marries Knightley and honeymoon at the coast.

### TIME LINE

- 1760-1820** George III is king of Great Britain.
- 1775-83** American colonists fight Britain for independence.
- 1775** **Dec. 16** Jane Austen is born.
- 1776-88** Edward Gibbon publishes *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.
- 1782** James Watt patents a steam engine.
- 1785** Jane and her sister enroll at the Abbey School in Reading.
- 1786** **December** Jane ends her formal education.
- 1787** Mozart writes *Don Giovanni*.
- 1788** United States Constitution is adopted; George Washington is elected president.

- 1789** French Revolution begins.
- 1792-1802** Britain is at war with France.
- 1792** Mary Wollstonescraft publishes "Vindication of the Rights of Women."
- 1793** Jane determines to write professionally.
- 1795** Her flirtation with Tom Lefroy ends.
- 1797** *First Impressions* is completed.
- 1799** Napoleon seizes power in France.
- 1800** The Austens settle at Bath.
- 1802** Jane's fiancé dies.
- 1802** **Dec. 2** Jane accepts Harris Bigg-Wither's proposal; she cancels the engagement the next day.
- 1803-14** Britain and France are at war.
- 1805** **January** Rev. Austen dies. Robert Fulton builds the first steamship. Walter Scott publishes "Lay of the Last Minstrel."
- 1808** United States abolishes the slave trade.
- 1809** Jane and her mother move to Chawton. Washington Irving writes "Rip Van Winkle." *Sense and Sensibility* is published.
- 1811** Britain is at war with the United States.
- 1812-1815** French army suffers heavy losses during invasion of Russia.
- 1812** *Pride and Prejudice* is published. Lord Byron publishes *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*.
- 1813** Mexico declares independence from Spain. *Mansfield Park* is published. Napoleon abdicates and goes into exile.
- 1815** **March** Napoleon returns from exile. **June** Napoleon is defeated at Waterloo and sent into exile on St. Helena. *Emma* is published.
- 1816** **June** Jane abandons work on *Sanditon*.
- 1817** **July 18** Jane dies.
- 1818** *Persuasion* and *Northanger Abbey* are published. Mary Shelley publishes *Frankenstein*.

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

A homebody born December 16, 1775, in Steventon in south-central England, Jane Austen, the fifth of six children of Cassandra Leigh and the Reverend George Austen, lived a sedate life at the rectory. Although her circumstances were limited, a vivid imagination took her outside the confines of stifling middle class proprieties to the far reaches of gossip and scandal. Like Jane's more circumspect fictional characters, her childhood was mildly invigorated by the activities of a beloved sister, Cassandra Elizabeth, and by five brothers—James, George (who was deaf and retarded), Edward, Henry, Frank, and Charles. Jane and a small circle of boarding students studied with her father and read from his library of 500 books. In 1783, at Southampton she was tutored in the social graces by Mrs. Cawley and later enrolled at the Abbey School at Reading, where she read widely from the headmistress's collection of contemporary fiction. By 1786, Jane had learned little English or math, but demonstrated skill at needlework and penmanship, both considered necessary adornments to young ladies.

The Austen sisters shared a third-floor suite and joined in poetry readings, games, letter-writing, piano music, sewing,



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plays held in the barn, and neighborhood socials. Jane was a favorite with brothers Frank and Charles, who became navy admirals, and with James, an Anglican minister who wrote a memoir of his sister. In girlhood, she followed the family penchant for novel-reading and composed parody, fiction, and drama. In 1793, she determined to write professionally. A serious flirtation and three proposals of marriage came to nothing: her relationship ended with Tom Lefroy, whose family disapproved of an alliance with a penniless country girl; the first engagement occurred at the seashore with an unidentified young clergyman who died during the courtship; the second engagement, to the tall, awkward Harris Bigg-Wither, she canceled the day after their betrothal on December 2, 1802; and the third, to the Reverend Edward Bridges, she also ended. In lieu of domesticity, Austen completed three novels before age twenty-three: *Sense and Sensibility* (originally *Elinor and Marianne*) (1811); *Pride and Prejudice* (originally *First Impressions*) (1813), a facetious satire of females scouting the richest and most likely young males; and *Northanger Abbey* (originally *Catharine, or the Bower*) (1818), a severe gothic novel which sold for only £10. A fourth, *The Watsons* (1805), Austen abandoned.

At the age of 27, Austen settled unwillingly with her family at Bath, a vibrant social scene clustered around the ruins of a famous sulfur-water spa, where her father retired for treatment. Seven years later, he died, leaving Jane and her mother without a permanent home. They eventually moved to brother Edward Austen's estate at Chawton, where Jane turned the parlor into an office. A self-acknowledged spinster, she chaperoned parties and socials at Rowling House, which Edward inherited from his aunt and uncle. In her last five years, she published *Mansfield Park* (originally *Lady Susan*) (1814), *Emma* (1816), and *Persuasion* (1818). Her brother Henry, who lived in London, served as her agent. In her letters, she used Mrs. Ashton Dennis as a pseudonym and published her first novel anonymously under the cryptic line "written by a lady."

In 1816, Austen abandoned work on *Sanditon* as illness weakened her and arthritis crippled her spine. Despite a decade of treatment for Addison's disease, a tubercular condition of the adrenal gland, she was physically and emotionally sapped by pain. On July 18, 1817, with her head on Cassandra's lap, Jane slipped into unconsciousness and died. She was buried in Winchester Cathedral under a black marble slab inscribed with an effusive epitaph, but making no mention of her works.

### CRITIC'S CORNER

One of the Georgian era's most inventive, self-composed novelists of manners, Jane Austen commands a wide audience of Janeites with her ready wit, sophisticated dialogue, and salient satire on middle-class foibles. Her cult has influenced twentieth-century films:

- Emma Thompson and Hugh Grant's acclaimed performances in *Sense and Sensibility* (1995), which Thompson scripted from the novel
- a 1995 version of *Persuasion*, starring Amanda Root and Ciaran Hinds
- a 1995 BBC made-for-television duo—*Emma*, starring Gwyneth Paltrow and Toni Collette and *Pride and Prejudice*, starring Jennifer Ehle and Colin Firth.

Ironically, the current financial success of Austen's works contrasts her modest success, which earned her £700.

The fact that Jane Austen found no buyer for her first novel, *First Impressions* (1797), may have vexed her ego, but gave her time to refine a better version. She destroyed the epistolary manuscript and, fifteen years later, produced *Pride and Prejudice*, a straightforward narrative that draws on the former action and adds fresh material. Composed from a middle-class point of view, Austen's dispassionate fiction studies a slice of Georgian English society, its manners and decorum, and glimpses of early nineteenth-century family life. A droll contemplation of matrimony, the novel draws on melodrama, social farce, irony, caricature, understatement, and restrained comedy to depict the importance of matings both to family stability and to the economic advantage of the landed gentry, especially those producing no male heirs. After her sister's death, Cassandra excised personal remarks from the hundred letters of her correspondence, but left enough of her sister's sparkling wit to nullify critics who accuse Austen of prudery. Her perceptive insights into women's quandaries over attractive and financially promising suitors influenced satirist Oscar Wilde, poet T. S. Eliot, and novelists Virginia Woolf and Henry James.

### OTHER WORKS BY JANE AUSTEN

*Sense and Sensibility* (1811)

*Pride and Prejudice* (1813)

*Mansfield Park* (1814)

*The Plan of a Novel* (1816)

*Northanger Abbey* (1818)

*Persuasion* (1818)

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### GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To discuss the nature and purpose of satire
2. To characterize individual expectations of marriage
3. To outline events that reveal character
4. To contrast indoor and outdoor settings
5. To evaluate reasons for living outside the nuclear family
6. To analyze modes of snobbery
7. To assess the place of the novel of manners in the history of English fiction
8. To note the effect of wry rejoinders, aphorism, irony, and suspense
9. To contrast characters in their response to despair, humiliation, manipulation, verbal aspersions, infatuation, bad news, and longing
10. To list ways in which sex roles limit courtship
11. To summarize the protagonist's inner dialogue
12. To justify overly polite manners and concerns for health and safety
13. To typify a friendly letter from the period
14. To explain the need for charity
15. To summarize strictures on female behavior

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To recount how and why Emma regrets Frank Churchill's flirtation
2. To explain Mr. Woodhouse's dependence on his daughters
3. To characterize suspicions that Mr. Dixon loves Jane Fairfax
4. To describe the extended Woodhouse family at the novel's conclusion
5. To explain how Emma insults Miss Bates during a game
6. To discuss the choice of Emma as a title figure
7. To define the role of the Westons
8. To analyze Emma's coldness toward Jane Fairfax

9. To contrast Harriet before and after accepting Robert Martin
10. To contrast Harriet, Jane, and Emma as prospective wives
11. To explain the symbolism of Jane Fairfax's illness
12. To account for Emma's intent to guide Harriet's life
13. To justify the use of alphabet blocks in a crucial scene
14. To comment on Emma's regard for her elderly father
15. To characterize Mr. Knightley's relationship with farm tenants

### LITERARY TERMS AND APPLICATIONS

For a better understanding of Jane Austen's style, present the following terms and applications:

**comedy** any work that entertains and amuses and ends happily, yet contains elements paralleling tragedy in that characters are overwhelmed by circumstance. In Jane Austen's *Emma*, characters undergo reversals of fortune and failure of expectations, often of their own making or worsened by stupidity, indiscretion, or curiosity. During the plot resolution, the victims attain sympathy, acknowledge their faults, and achieve contentment, discipline, forgiveness, or even reward and elevation resulting from a necessary change of heart or behavior, as found in Emma's marriage and domestication. The interconnectezd web produces a suitable mating for Emma and George Knightley while leaving Augusta and Philip Elton's fate as a warning.

**melodrama** a romantic plot carried to the extremes of emotion in weeping, consternation, dismay, disillusion, and resignation to circumstance. In *Emma*, the concern over Frank Churchill extends to obsession as Mrs. Weston awaits her first meeting with her stepson. Worry over his arrival and the length of his stay recur after the hasty departure to London for a haircut and after Mrs. Churchill's illness. The disclosure of the secret engagement leaves all wondering how Frank could have betrayed Emma with his insincerity and how Jane will recover from illness.

**novel of manners** a fictional work that typifies the lifestyle, customs, and values of a particular social class. Austen skillfully maneuvers character, theme, setting, action, and mood to justify the self-absorbed community that appears to function best when left unhampered by outside events and visits. The polite socials and parties repeat conversational patterns and concerns that suggest a stultifying inner circle incapable of coping with major change and shifts of fortune. Insistence on high levels of civility in letter-writing, meetings, invitations, and social discourse creates excessive amounts of tension when gypsies accost Harriet, a piano arrives for Jane, Emma insults Miss Bates, and Mrs. Churchill dies.

**satire** a vigorous, sharply pointed, and, at times, embarrassing or cruelly effective rhetorical device or genre. Satire is the art of telling truth through humor. It sparkles with wit and vibrance while revealing weaknesses in human character. Austen's choice of satire is appropriate to her interest in social levels, social misalignment, and the overall study of how a small English village adapts to new arrivals, matings, and relationships with people of higher or lower social status.

### AUSTEN'S USE OF SETTING

The milieu of *Emma* is a varied assortment of indoor and outdoor locales that typify gentrification, privilege, and interaction between the classes. Essential to the main characters

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is the fictional village of Highbury and four homes:

- Hartfield, a substantial estate 16 miles from London, is Emma's command post, from which she intends to manipulate villagers' lives.
- Randalls in Highbury, the comfortable cottage of Mr. Weston, his second wife Ann, and their infant daughter, is a convivial center that welcomes the John Knightleys during their visit from London.
- Donwell Abbey, home of George Knightley, consists of considerable acreage, which appears to be the future home of John Knightley's son if George Knightley fails to produce an heir. The property includes Abbey-Mill Farm, a lovely river-front property rented to Robert Martin, a respected laborer. In her meddling with Harriet's choice of husband, Emma declares that she could not visit her friend if she married Robert and moved to the farm, a society too illiterate and vulgar for Emma. At the strawberry party, the company overlooks the farm and river and visits the fishponds and clover.

In addition to mention of Richmond, Bristol, Birmingham, and Ballycraig, Ireland, Austen emphasizes additional fictive settings:

- Enscombe, the Yorkshire court at which Mrs. Churchill rules by whim and caprice and controls her stepson Frank. Because it is 190 miles from London, the home seems far removed from Highbury. Possibly, the distance separating Frank from Jane contributes to her headaches and her willingness to walk in the rain to the post office.
- Maple Grove in Bath, the toney, luxurious social gathering place that Augusta Elton continually contrasts to Highbury and its simple pleasures.
- the Crown Inn that the characters choose as the site of a ball, a drafty building that the company prepares for a village gathering by nailing a door shut, provisioning with party food, and decorating for company.

In addition to these major settings are important reference points: London; Southend, the seashore where Isabella's family spends a summer vacation, Bristol, Augusta's home; and Richmond, the late spring getaway for the Churchill family.

### CROSS-CURRICULAR SOURCES

#### Novels

Colette, *Gigi*

Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield* and *Great Expectations*

George Eliot, *Silas Marner*, *The Mill on the Floss*, and *Middlemarch*

Laura Esquivel, *Like Water for Chocolate*

Anita Loos, *But Gentlemen Marry Brunettes*

William Makepeace Thackeray, *Vanity Fair*

#### Plays

Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, *Life with Father*

John Dryden, *All for Love*

Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, *You Can't Take It with You*

Oscar Wilde, *The Importance of Being Earnest*

Thornton Wilder, *The Matchmaker*

#### Nonfiction

Joseph Addison, "The Coquette's Heart"

Richard Brown, *Economics Revolutions in Britain, 1750-1850: Prometheus Unbound?*

Dierdre Le Faye, *Jane Austen*

Venetia Murray, *An Elegant Madness: High Society in Regency England*

Alan Schom, *Napoleon Bonaparte*

Time-Life Editors, *What Life Was Like in Europe's Romantic Era: Europe, 1789-1843*

#### Internet

"The British Monarchy," <[www.munitions.com/~rory/di/](http://www.munitions.com/~rory/di/)>

"George III," <[www2.en.utexas.edu/~scoggins/britishprojects/eighteenth/George3.html](http://www2.en.utexas.edu/~scoggins/britishprojects/eighteenth/George3.html)>

"Jane Austen," <[www.cgi.cs.cmu.edu/cgi-bin/book/makeauthorpage](http://www.cgi.cs.cmu.edu/cgi-bin/book/makeauthorpage)>

"King George III," <[www.beavton.k12.or.us/Barnes/revwarreports/kinggeorge.html](http://www.beavton.k12.or.us/Barnes/revwarreports/kinggeorge.html)>

"Robin Adair," <[www.guitarnut.com/folktablature/the101bestsongsrobinadair.html](http://www.guitarnut.com/folktablature/the101bestsongsrobinadair.html)>

#### Videos

*Clueless*

*Jane Eyre*

*Pride and Prejudice*

*Sense and Sensibility*

*Vanity Fair*

### THEMES AND MOTIFS

A study of the central issues and situations in Jane Austen's *Emma* should include these aspects:

#### Themes

- manipulation
- friendship
- longing
- family responsibilities
- snobbery
- guile
- self-knowledge
- self-improvement

#### Motifs

- an ailing father who depends on a daughter
- loveless marriage
- the inheritance of a large estate
- concealment of thoughts and intent
- false assumptions and their consequences

### MEANING STUDY

Below are significant words, phrases, or sentences from the book. Explain each in context. Volume, chapter, and page numbers pinpoint each entry so that you can re-read the passage in which it appears.

1. The evil of the actual disparity in their ages (and Mr. Woodhouse had not married early) was much increased by his constitution and habits; for having been a valetudinarian all his life, without activity of mind or body, he was a much older man in ways than in years; and though everywhere beloved for the friendliness of his heart and his amiable temper, his talents could not have recommended him at any time. (I, 1, 28-29)  
(*Emma's life with a cranky, self-absorbed hypochondriac lends stature to her role as head of household and peacemaker at Hartfield. Much of her daily difficulties involve steadying the old man when he succumbs to irrational fear of disease or unhygienic environments and mediating between duties to society and family.*)
2. Mr. Weston was a native of Highbury, and born of a respectable family, which for the last two or three generations had been rising into gentility and property. (I, 2, 35.)

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- (Mr. Weston, formerly a captain in the militia, does not attain genteel rank in the village until he acquires property. After purchasing Randalls, he is able to remarry and live on equal footing with the other gentry.)
- The yeomanry are precisely the order of people with whom I feel I can have nothing to do. (I, 4, 46)  
(Emma feels justified in denigrating Robert Martin because he is of the agrarian working class, thus beneath her interest or concern. Ironically, she discounts the very people who enrich George Knightley, owner of the land on which they labor.)
  - Very well; I will not plague you any more. Emma shall be an angel, and I will keep my spleen to myself till Christmas brings John and Isabella. (I, 5, 55)  
(After confiding to Mrs. Weston his paternal concern that Emma should not spend too much time with Harriet, George Knightley drops the subject and promises to control his crotchets until his brother and sister-in-law arrive for the holidays.)
  - Your meaning must be unequivocal; no doubts or demurs; and such expressions of gratitude and concern for the pain you are inflicting as propriety requires will present themselves unbidden to your mind, I am persuaded. (I, 7, 64)  
(Pretending to hold no sway over Harriet's decision, Emma uses strong language to force the girl to refuse Robert's proposal of marriage in a high-handed, callous fashion.)
  - He walked off in more complete self-approbation than he left for her. (I, 8, 77)  
(In challenging Emma's meddling in Robert Martin's proposal to Harriet, George Knightley overwhelms her logic and withdraws more self-assured than she.)
  - And so she is to come to use next Friday or Saturday, and the Campbells leave town on their way to Holyhead the Monday following, as you will find from Jane's letter. (II, 1, 153)  
(The movements of characters beyond the scope of the novel require some understanding of geography. The Campbells travel to Holyhead, the harbor from which the English embark west over the Irish Sea to Ireland. Their departure necessitates one of Jane's regular visits with her grandmother and aunt.)
  - With the fortitude of a devoted novitiate; she had resolved at one-and-twenty to complete the sacrifice and retire from all the pleasures of life, of rational intercourse, equal society, peace and hope, to penance and mortification forever. (II, 2, 156)  
(In Austen's day, poor women like Jane Fairfax had few choices for upkeep. They could live in the good graces of others, such as the Campbells; they could board with relatives, like the Bates; they could marry whatever men offered them security; or they could find jobs as governesses, one of the few methods of self-support open to genteel women. Only the poorest and lowliest took jobs in boarding houses, as maids and cooks, or in factories, which were just beginning to gain prominence in Jane Austen's day.)
  - Part of every winter she had been used to spend in Bath; but Bristol was her home, the very heart of Bristol; for though the father and mother had died some years ago, an uncle remained—in the law line; nothing more distinctly honourable was hazarded of him than that he was in the law line; and with him the daughter had lived. (II, 4, 171)  
(The histories of characters indicate much about their circumstances, just as the orphaned Jane and motherless Frank went to live with relatives in childhood and Harriet passed from student to boarder of Mrs. Goddard, Augusta Hawkins grew up an orphan in the care of an undistinguished uncle. Emma mutters uncharitably that he must "be the drudge of some attorney and too stupid to rise.")
  - I believe I have been very rude; but really Miss Fairfax has done her hair in so odd a way—so very odd a way—that I cannot keep my eyes from her. I never saw anything so outré! (II, 8, 202)  
(Knowing of Emma's jealousy of Jane, Frank excuses his staring at Jane by declaring her hair style odd and proposing asking her about it. He suggests that Emma watch to see if Jane blushes. His ruse allows him a private word with Jane and an excuse for her coloring at his approach.)

### COMPREHENSION STUDY

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers with quotations from the book.

#### Motivation

- What causes Emma to stop plotting Harriet's future?  
(Initially, Emma enjoys settling the future for other people. Her delight in matching her governess, Miss Ann Taylor, with Mr. Weston produces a worthy marriage that satisfies both individuals and results in the birth of a little girl. Because Emma thinks of Mrs. Weston as a maternal substitute, she is pleased to have removed her former governess from a tenuous position in a house with no young children to a permanent arrangement in a prosperous home. Without hesitation, Emma boasts of her triumph.  
When Emma meets young Harriet Smith, she sees a similar unpromising situation in which a girl with no known family resources outlives her association with the boarding school as a pupil of Mrs. Goddard. Reduced to a boarder, Harriet has little hope of making a successful match that will free her from the prospect of finding work and supporting herself. For good and ostensibly noble reasons, Emma begins plotting a second match.  
Emma's failing as a matchmaker is her inability to accept Harriet's choice of Robert Martin as an appropriate husband. Demeaning him as a lowly farmer, Emma remarks that she could not be Harriet's friend and visit her regularly if she lived on a farm. Thinking far beyond Harriet's position in society, Emma attempts to uplift her several degrees by allying her first with the vicar, Mr. Elton, then with Frank Churchill, Mr. Weston's son and heir.  
When Harriet gets into the swing of choosing likely mates and selects George Knightley, Emma at last realizes that Harriet has lost perspective. To secure Mr. Knightley for herself, Emma strikes out wildly at the notion of her old friend marrying anyone. On the surface, her rejection of a match protects the interest of her

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nephew Henry, who stands to inherit Donwell Abbey. Gradually, her random feelings point to her own regard for her old friend Knightley as a potential mate. The shift from plotting Harriet's future to planning her own rides Emma of her bent for meddling in other people's private business.)

### Setting

#### 2. Describe the strawberry party.

(As Augusta Elton flounders about attempting to bring the Sucklings to Highbury and to create a festive atmosphere, the idea falls through in mid-June because of a lame carriage horse. George Knightley's proposal that his friends eat strawberries at Donwell delights them all. Austen adds that the estate "was famous for its strawberry-beds, which seemed a plea for the invitation; but no plea was necessary; cabbage-beds would have been enough to tempt the lady, who only wanted to be going somewhere.")

Augusta assumes that the party is hers to plan. She attempts to manipulate Knightley, who refuses to fall into her clutches and insists that others be invited. To her suggestion that she be "Lady Patroness," he alludes to his plan to marry by declaring, "There is but one married woman in the world whom I can ever allow to invite what guests she pleases to Donwell."

For a morning entertainment, Augusta intends to wear a bonnet and carry a basket. Again, Knightley rejects her interference by planning a dining room spread of cold meat and a repast of fresh strawberries in the garden. He rejects her housekeeper, Mrs. Hodges, in favor of his own. In reference to Augusta's implications of discomfort, he describes his lane as neither dusty nor wet and suggests that Augusta come on the Coles' donkey if that is her pleasure.

To accommodate Mr. Woodhouse, Knightley spreads his metal, cameo, coral, and shell collections and books of engravings for the old man to enjoy indoors in the company of Mrs. Weston, whose unmentioned pregnancy apparently limits outdoor activity. After protracted absence, Emma arrives at the rambling estate and admires its gentility; Augusta carps at stooping over strawberry plants, the heat, and fatigue. Knightley walks the party over the gardens, down an avenue of limes, and to a view of the river and Abbey-Mill Farm and its meadows. From a lunch of cold cuts and madeira, they visit the abbey fish ponds and clover as the heat of the day abates.)

### Character Development

#### 3. Why does Knightley lecture Emma?

(Sixteen years her elder, George Knightley has known Emma from her childhood and takes a fatherly stance by upbraiding her for meddling in other people's private lives and for judging on faulty or inadequate observations. Their views of Harriet, Jane, Augusta, and Frank vary greatly, in part because of Emma's hasty conclusions. The give and take from Knightley allows him to pontificate and overrule Emma as though he were an elder relative in charge of her upbringing.)

The strawberry party intimates Knightley's intent to marry. After a pleasant day at Donwell followed by an outing the next day at Box Hill, he is angered out of his usual easy temper to scold Emma for belittling an old

maid living on limited resources. The rupture between Emma and Knightley emphasizes her interest in such trivialities as word games and her discounting of an old friend like Hetty Bates. As Emma departs from the party, Knightley turns his back on her carriage. He gives her no opportunity to make amends or to display genuine tears of humiliation.

The lecturing reaches its end after Knightley walks with Emma in the Hartfield garden and implies his love for her. When she persists in calling him a friend, he balks at the label and hesitates to state outright his intent to marry her. Among the attributes that he admires is her forbearance: "I have blamed you and lectured you, and you have borne it as no other woman in England would have borne it." He admits his own weakness as "a very indifferent lover." His admission of fault endears him to her as friend and future husband.)

### Social Milieu

#### 4. Who shelters young ladies in Highbury?

(The social milieu of Highbury is stiflingly paternal toward young women. Males and adult females advise young ladies on matters of health and safety. Mr. Woodhouse thinks Harriet looks too bare in the portrait and might catch cold. Mrs. Weston proposes withdrawing from a conversation in which Emma speaks too brazenly before Frank. Mrs. Ford offers any compromise to deliver Harriet's ribbons wherever she wants them. Augusta insists on sending a servant to fetch Jane's mail so she won't have to walk to the post office in the rain.)

At social gatherings, young unmarried women receive the preponderance of fuss and bother. Miss Bates urges Jane to put on her tippet lest she take a chill. Knightley implores the company to stop demanding songs before they cause Jane to lose her voice. Mrs. Weston and Knightley deplore Elton's refusal to dance with Harriet and hurry to rectify the slight. At Donwell, Knightley escorts Harriet about his property and informs her of agricultural activity as though she were a child.

In addition to advice, young women undergo intense scrutiny. Mr. Elton walks Harriet and Emma home as though they are in danger in their own village. Frank intercedes for Harriet against gypsy beggars as though rescuing her from certain death. Miss Bates constantly worries about the dark stairs of her house and instructs her young visitors to be careful. She also mothers Jane and considers sending for Mr. Perry to treat her niece's headaches. The Westons gaze fearfully at Emma when she learns the news of Frank's secret engagement to Jane. For good reason, Emma understands why Jane wants to flee Box Hill to walk home alone in peace.)

### Theme

#### 5. How does snobbery complicate the plot?

(Snobbery diminishes the politeness of social events and daily social intercourse in Highbury. Emma looks down on Robert and Elizabeth Martin as yeoman class for their residence on a farm. Emma fails to understand Harriet's delight in the walnuts that Robert brings her. Emma further demeans herself by making charitable calls on the lowly and making rude remarks about Miss Bates's reading of Jane's boring letters. Emma's ill-concealed superiority emerges at Box Hill, where she overtly wounds her old friend with an unkind remark about her dullness.)



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*Ironically, Emma dislikes Augusta for her hauteur. When the new bride takes up residence at the Highbury vicarage, she looks down on people for their quaint social customs, their interest in small entertainments, and the absence of the luxuries she had known at Maple Grove and at Bath. As though defending Emma from more of Augusta's disdain, Knightley skillfully upsets Augusta's plans to be "Lady Patroness" at Donwell without arousing enmity and rejects a subsequent gathering at the vicarage that does not include Emma.*

*In the resolution, as three couples marry in the fall months, Augusta still smarts from her failure to show off the Sucklings and their barouche-landau at Highbury. She is the main holdout in well-wishers to Emma and Knightley, whom she intends to drop from the vicarage guest list. At Emma's wedding, she considers the ceremony shabby and inferior because of the paucity of lace veils and satin. To vent her criticism, Augusta looks forward to an opportunity to describe the "most pitiful business" to Selina.)*

### Interpretation

6. What does Emma learn about judging others?

*(Emma's faulty judgments reveal not only her failure to produce happiness in Harriet's life but her inability to assure her own future. She is wont to judge behaviors on surface detail, as with her disapproval of Frank's change of plans about visiting his new stepmother. After the news of Frank's clandestine engagement to Jane, Emma dreads seeing Harriet and once more having to bolster her self-esteem with new suggestions of male companionship. It is Knightley who hesitantly informs Emma that Harriet is engaged to Robert Martin. Knightley softens the astonishing fact with a promise that they need not discuss the disagreeable topic if it upsets Emma.*

*Based on her love and respect for Knightley, Emma accepts his gentle remonstrance that "you could not wish your friend in better hands." Emma expresses maturity by admitting, "Her connexions may be worse than his." She implies that Harriet could not have answered Martin without her advice. The half-serious banter reaches a turning point with Emma's admission, "I was a fool." Tactfully, lovingly, Knightley credits Emma with helping Harriet develop good principles.*

*In characteristic fashion, Emma needs to be alone to think through this turn of events, which proves her irrevocably wrong from the beginning about Harriet's prospects and her own. Emma acknowledges Knightley's superior judgment and "her past folly [which] might teach her humility and circumspection in future." With grace, she admires "such an end of the doleful disappointment of five weeks back—such a heart—such a Harriet!")*

### Conflict

7. How does Augusta alter Highbury's social scene?

*(The precarious stasis of Highbury depends on an even flow of events upset only occasionally by snow on Christmas Eve, Mrs. Bates's cold, and a robber in the henyard. When Elton abruptly departs to Bath for a month, he leaves behind two women in consternation at his failure to follow their plot to snare him for Harriet. They are ill prepared for the complete overthrow of their*

*plans by Elton's precipitous marriage to an heiress from Bristol who is accustomed to Bath's tonier society and a life of luxury at her sister's home, Maple Grove.*

*Augusta's behavior at Highbury violates the unspoken, but strongly supported status quo of manners and pecking order. Emma, who is accustomed to heading social occasions, finds Augusta not only receiving more attention, but demanding complete control and daring to refer to Knightley as Mr. K. As she maneuvers the strawberry party toward her own tastes for a donkey ride, bonnet, and basket, she discovers Knightley unwilling to accede to her supervision as "Lady Patroness." Without open conflict, he sets her straight on the subject of inviting guests and organizing refreshments.*

*Augusta's threat of producing the Sucklings, her wealthy sister and brother-in-law, with their barouche-landau weakens with the couple's delay. Augusta's manipulation of Jane toward a high-paying governess post with the Smallridge family falls through. In the end, Augusta continues sniffing disapproval at a country wedding lacking adequate satin and lace. She remains a force outside the tight confines of Highbury expectations and can resort only to gossip, ill temper, and limited invitations to the vicarage as her outlets for expressing disapproval.)*

### Atmosphere

8. Why is Emma tense on visits to the Bates family?

*(Emma presents a negative side of her personality in her two-faced treatment of Hetty Bates. Emma makes obligatory social calls and generously awards the family a haunch of pork. However, her charity is perfunctory, lacking a genuine affection for Hetty. To Harriet, Emma's confidante, she can whisper ugly comments about the boring letters from Jane, a paragon who makes Emma increasingly uncomfortable. Although her jealousy of Jane is not immediately obvious, Emma displays a pettiness and insincerity that diminishes her in the reader's eyes.*

*The hidden agenda that Emma wages against Hetty Bates emerges at an inopportune moment. As Emma enjoys one of her incessant social gatherings, she chooses a self-aggrandizing word game that makes Hetty own up to dullness. Emma's quick retort discloses to all a hard-heartedness unseemly in a high-born lady of the village. Because Knightley immediately berates her for cruelty, Emma suffers a lengthy period of shame and self-castigation.*

*The next visit to the Bates family looms before Emma as an obligation both social and personal. To reestablish rapport with Hetty, Emma approaches the house and finds the family in an uproar, as though "escaping into the adjoining room." Hetty's mother ruins the ploy; Hetty herself is uneasy and lacks her usual "cheerful volubility." Austen indicates that Emma, for once, is truly concerned for Jane's welfare.*

*The revelation that Augusta entertained the partygoers without inviting Emma indicates further competition for her former supremacy in Highbury society. She has much to ponder as Hetty unfolds Jane's plans, even to the disposal of the pianoforte. To herself, Emma reconsiders "her former fanciful and unfair conjectures" and departs in a pensive mood.)*

**Author Purpose**

9. Why does the novel appeal to readers?

*(Austen's novel counterbalances grace and folly, the human elements that turn ordinary fiction into classics. Outside the spheres of politics and technology, in a modest village, the players occupy a microcosm activated by basic human yearnings. Austen offsets a too-perfect milieu with contrasting strokes of greed, envy, duplicity, and ungainly striving. For the reader willing to accept Highbury for its smallness, the text is illuminating, primarily because of Austen's skills as raconteur and delineator of human psychology.)*

*The male-female jostlings take center stage. Like Pride and Prejudice, Austen's Emma expresses the need in the Regency era to establish suitable pairings that are both temperamentally balanced as well as fiscally sound. Readers enjoy the reordering of society in an English miniature where the protagonist, for all her monetary superiority and deft manipulation of others, divulges that she has never been to the seashore. Emma's bold meddling heightens the irony of her sheltered existence and endears her more completely to the sympathetic reader.)*

**Structure**

10. How does Austen typify an insular English village?

*(Austen manages her cameo village with few intrusions of the outside world. Although the realities of high society in London and Bath crop up regularly, she manages to focus entirely on the small, self-absorbed villagers and their attempt to preserve a tranquil, untrammled rural haven. Austen reduces crime to the menace of wandering gypsies and one chicken thief. For daily challenges, she produces colds and headaches, a carriage horse gone lame, heavy rain, and a light snow.)*

*Austen's contribution to the social novel is the constancy of genteel personal behavior. Polite exchanges, concerns for welfare, and regard for feelings interweave a backdrop on which Emma displays unworthy habits of manipulation and meddling. The small courtesies, charity, and hospitality contrast glaringly with her dislike of Augusta, jealousy of Jane, abuse of Harriet, and boredom with Hetty Bates. The balance lacking in Emma's life is a suitable mate from whom she can learn her faults. From a long-term friendship to subsequent matrimony, she accepts Knightley. Even in the presence of the odious Augusta, Emma embraces a new equanimity that rids her of pettiness.)*

*The novel maintains its insularity through a variety of departures and returns. Knightley travels to London to visit his brother; Harriet spends weeks away from Highbury. Isabella and her family vacation at the coast. Frank returns from Richmond a free man no longer obligated to the odious Mrs. Churchill, whom Austen kills off. Turned inward as ever, the cast rejoices in three marriages and a birth and perpetuates its small circle of engaging friendships enriched by propitious pairings.)*

**HOW LANGUAGE WORKS**

Explain the application of these aphorisms to scenes, characters, and themes in the novel.

1. Austen's judicious use of witty and pithy sayings summarizes theme and action at important turns of the story. In Volume I, Chapter 8, Knightley strikes sparks by calling

Harriet a "foolish girl" for refusing Robert Martin. Emma, spunky and self-assured that she is in the right, declares, "It is always incomprehensible to a man that a woman should ever refuse an offer of marriage." Knightley makes the first of numerous patronizing gestures by retorting, "Better be without sense than misapply it."

2. In Volume I, Chapter 12, Austen breaks the intensity of her text with frequent rejoinders from Mr. Woodhouse, the valetudinarian. To a litany of ills and cures, he asserts, "Nobody is healthy in London," his affirmation of the salubrious country life that has become his security blanket.
3. The theme of social and moral obligation receives a boost in Volume II, Chapter 5, when Mr. Weston instructs his son, "What is right to be done cannot be done too soon." The tone is light and instructive at this point, long before Frank announces his secret engagement.
4. The mild, but constant conflicts between George Knightley and Emma surface in a discussion of the ball in Volume II, Chapter 12. He declares, "Fine dancing . . . like virtue, must be its own reward." Emma takes offense and incorrectly surmises that "There was a great deal of friendly and of compassionate attachment on his side—but not love."
5. In the same chapter, Emma, the directress of other people's love lives, wrongly identifies her feeling for Frank as love. Austen places in her thoughts a humorously leaden truism, "Evil to some is always good to others."
6. The rise of humor at opportune moments continues in Volume III, Chapter 10, when Mrs. Weston speaks of the death of Mrs. Churchill, Frank's tormentor, and notes, "What a blessing it is when undue influence does not survive the grave!"

**ACROSS THE CURRICULUM****Art**

1. Sketch dramatic entrances and exits, particularly Augusta Elton's arrival at Highbury, Jane Fairfax's piano performance and duet with Frank Churchill, Harriet's receipt of a proposal of marriage from Robert Martin, Emma's arrival at the Bates home to apologize, and George Knightley's scolding of Emma.
2. Give an oral report on the depiction of social class in the work of William Hogarth.
3. Design a handbook for Mrs. Goddard's boarding school, an appropriate banner for Highbury, a crest for Randalls, a greatcoat for George Knightley, multiple views of the Woodhouse garden, an insignia for the Knightley family, a signboard pointing the way to the post office or Hartfield, a list of rules for backgammon, piquet, or whist, a handbook for newly ordained ministers, detailed sketches of Georgian era bridal dress and a tippet, a news headline announcing the death of Mrs. Churchill or the marriage of the Dixons, a map depicting several routes from London to Bath or Bristol, a list of items necessary to a successful ball or evening of cards, and a view of English vehicles, including barouche and carriage.

**Drama**

1. Role-play the parts of the gypsies, Robert Martin's sister, Cole, Dixon, Campbell, Perry, Suckling, Mrs. Bates, Mrs.

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Goddard, Henry and John, the innkeeper, the postal clerk, Mrs. Ford, Frank's uncle, and Adelaide. Indicate how each person influences a major character. Discuss how the novel would change if these relationships were omitted.

2. Contrast in a short speech the causes of each major conflict, particularly response to Elton's refusal to dance with Harriet, Emma's rudeness to Miss Bates, Woodhouse's despair that Miss Taylor has married, Frank Churchill's return to tend his stepmother, and Jane Fairfax's refusal to apply for a job as governess.

### Cinema

Draw a storyboard of the BBC film version of *Pride and Prejudice*. Note how Pemberley serves as a motivator and a symbol of Darcy's upper-class reserve. Chart the Gardiners' visit, Lizzy's interest in miniatures, Bingley's affability, Darcy's embarrassment, Mrs. Reynolds's regard for Darcy, and the service of fruit, meat, and cakes to guests.

### Economics

1. Make a poster applying these terms to characters in the novel: yeomanry, gentry, heir, guinea, and pound.
2. Discuss how Jane Austen's social commentary reveals her private life, choices, needs, and opinions about marrying for money and position.
3. Reveal why Mrs. Goddard is important to Harriet's survival.
4. Describe aloud the underlying tension in men and women who must marry well to alleviate financial insecurity. Contrast the outlook for Hetty Bates, Emma, Jane Fairfax, Frank Churchill, Ann Taylor, Harriet Smith, Augusta Hawkins, Elizabeth Martin, Robert Martin, and George Knightley.

### Geography

1. List and illustrate examples of transportation in late 18th-century England, especially the carriage, chaise, and barouche-landau.
2. Advise travelers on a journey covering Bristol, Bath, and London. Note the extent of Emma's interests as compared to those of Jane Austen.
3. Make a schematic drawing of Highbury and its environs, including Vicarage Lane, the post office, church, the Bates' house, Cole's stables, Hartfield, Randalls, Donwell abbey, the Coles' house, the Crown Inn, and Ford's drapery and haberdashery shop.

### History and Social Studies

1. Compose a chart of advances in the celebration of Christmas, which reached a height in the Victorian era. Note the feasting, games, dancing, and gift-giving in Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, which contrasts the simplicity of the Knightleys' visit to Hartfield and Randalls while they spend the holiday with Emma and her father.
2. Summarize the history of gypsies. How did the Rom people earn their slang name? Why does the word "gyp" derive from "gypsy"?
3. Collect lines from the novel that disclose the relative ages of the characters. Use these figures to approximate the passage of time in past, present, and future. Present a time table of major incidents in the novel. Note the

passage of time from the marriage of Emma's governess to the marriage of Emma to Mr. Knightley. List important events that precede the novel, for example, the deaths of Jane's parents, Emma's mother, and Frank's mother and the marriage of Miss Campbell to Mr. Dixon. Advance the slate of happenings to include Mrs. Churchill's death, the strawberry party, Frank Churchill's first meeting with his stepmother, the presentation of the piano, and the revelation of Jane Fairfax's secret engagement.

4. Summarize methods of travel, including walking, riding horseback, and traveling by carriage and chaise. Determine how long Emma would have to ride by coach or other conveyance to visit Randalls, Balycraig, Enscombe, or Maple Grove.

### Language Arts

1. Compose an informal essay on wit. Analyze lines from Emma's speeches that express her quickness, sense of humor, judgment, and logic, for example, her insistence that Robert Martin is an unsuitable mate for Harriet, a debate with George Knightley on self-improvement, and her consternation at Elton's infatuation with her.
2. Compose an extended definition of suspense. Explain how character interaction increases both suspense and anticipation. Note the importance of Jane Fairfax's engagement to Frank Churchill.
3. Outline a short newspaper article in which you recount the highlights of social engagements and outings in Highbury. Comment on Harriet's stay with the Knightleys and on George Knightley and Emma's wedding.
4. Explain in a brief essay the purpose of comedy. What elements in the novel could lead to personal ruin or tragedy, such as a life-threatening illness to Mr. Woodhouse or Frank's disinheritance? Why does Jane Austen emphasize Emma's internal debates over her meddling in other people's lives? What characters comment on Emma's good qualities?
5. Compose an oral character sketch emphasizing the family relationships of the Woodhouses, including Isabella and her children. Indicate elements of cooperation and sympathy, particularly toward Mr. Woodhouse and toward Henry, the child who expects to inherit the Knightley estate.
6. Discuss in a paragraph your response to Jane Austen's ornate language and even exchanges, for example, the spelling of words with alphabet blocks and Emma's polite discussion with Jane Fairfax after Highbury learns of the secret engagement. Select scenes in which the characters seem more composed, mannerly, or logical than is likely under the circumstances, particularly George Knightley's proposal to Emma.
7. Compile lines that indicate character flaws, such as shallowness in Augusta.
8. Apply a Venn diagram to pairs of unlike characters, e. g., gypsies/Emma's nephews, dancers/Robert Martin, Isabella/Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Churchill/Mrs. Dixon, the Campbells/Bath society, and Emma/Mrs. Goddard. Point out differences in age, experience, expectation, social status, wealth, and comportment.
9. Explain in a theme how Austen uses literary foils. Why

## EMMA

does she depict Jane as inward, Harriet as easily manipulated, Miss Bates as scatterbrained, George Knightley as introspective, Woodhouse as single-minded, and Augusta Elton as snobbish and small-minded?

10. Work with a partner to compose riddles characterizing George Knightley's slow, steady courtship of Emma. Differentiate among pun, puzzle, riddle, conundrum, charade, and enigma.
11. Draw a character web representing the interconnectedness among characters. Which members seem well acquainted? Which say little about themselves, for example, Mrs. Bates? Which express opinions on young couples and their suitability for each other?
12. Discuss with a group the purpose of Mr. Elton's marriage. How does this loveless pairing illustrate shrewd marriages for economic gain? How does the community response contrast the news that Frank Churchill has been secretly engaged to Jane Fairfax for months? Which marriage seems more modern?
13. Define the literary elements of satire. Note which lines can be extracted and read as aphorism, for example "It is always incomprehensible to a man that a woman should ever refuse an offer of marriage" and "How often is happiness destroyed by preparation, foolish preparation?"

### **Music**

Make an illustrated timeline of the invention of keyboard instruments. Include the virginal, harpsichord, carillon, spinet, clavier, clavichord, accordion, concert grand, organ, player piano, and pianoforte. Account for the various names of instruments.

### **Psychology**

1. Compose an oral report on first impressions. Discuss how dress, manners, dancing style, conversation, reputation, and social class affect the bonding of friends and potential mates. Contrast attitudes toward Augusta Elton, Jane Fairfax, and Frank Churchill upon their entrance into Highbury society.
2. Lead a discussion of civility. Comment on uncivil behavior that may be cloaked in a pretense of kindness or good manners, such as Emma's insult to Miss Bates during a word game, Emma's manipulation of her hypochondriac father, and Mr. Elton's refusal to dance with Harriet.
3. Compose a short speech in which you explain the content and purpose of gossip, particularly commentary on Augusta Elton and her preference for Bath and her former social circle. Account for genuine regret that Mrs. Churchill dies and that Jane suffers headaches as she makes a crucial decision about working for the Smallridges.

### **Science and Health**

1. Determine how the form of Emma would be altered by modern communications and transportation, such as a cellular telephone, email, trains, Internet, air travel, and interstate highways.
2. Characterize Mr. Perry's importance to Highbury, particularly to Jane Fairfax, Adelaide Weston, and Mr. Woodhouse.
3. Compose an interview between a doctor and an ailing traveler to Bath. Summarize the value of "taking the waters" for curing various ills.

4. Give a brief talk on the subject of pregnancy and its concealment. Account for Mrs. Weston's decision to visit with Mr. Woodhouse during the strawberry party.
5. Draw on late 18th-century medicine to describe or demonstrate how Mr. Perry might have treated a cold, camp fever, chilblains, headache, scarlet fever, nervous seizure, or consumption (tuberculosis), the disease that killed Jane Bates Fairfax.

### **ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT**

1. List examples of letter writing in the novel and summarize each instance.
2. Compile a list of actions and statements that demonstrate extreme courtesies and concern for the welfare of individuals.
3. Compose a scene in which Emma and Knightley attend the marriage of Jane and Frank.
4. Make a character list and explain the character flaws of each, such as Mr. Woodhouse's whining.

**EMMA****VOCABULARY TEST**

Complete each of the following sentences with an appropriate word from the list below. You will have answers left over when you finish.

abode	caro sposo	discordancies	improvidently	sideboard
adieux	carte blanche	dissipation	laurels	surmises
alfresco	cavil	embrocation	obviate	tête-à-tête
aggrandise	censure	en passant	ostler	tippet
amity	chaise	espalier	outré	touchstone
arrow-root	chilblains	feasible	pianoforte	trident
augur	court-plaster	foppery	piquet	Tunbridge-ware
bailiff	coxcomb	greensward	pollard	unrequited
bilious	credulity	gruel	quadrille	upbraid
bravado	demurred	haberdasher	rencontre	vouchsafed
caprice	diffident	hautboy	rout-cakes	wainscot

1. Why you should foresee such a series of \_\_\_\_\_ for me I cannot imagine.
2. This [extension of time] was not judged \_\_\_\_\_.
3. You think you carry it off very well, I dare say; but with you it is a sort of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. She had been used to \_\_\_\_\_ at [its] wanting colour.
5. He only wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ and enrich himself.
6. They were to have a \_\_\_\_\_ drive.
7. Your friend Mr. [Graham intends] to have \_\_\_\_\_ from Scotland to look after his new estate.
8. It is attributed to an excellent \_\_\_\_\_ of Mr. Wingfield's, which we have been applying at times ever since August.
9. He was soon led to . . . take the child out of her arms with all the unceremoniousness of perfect \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Our \_\_\_\_\_ must always arise from my being in the wrong.
11. Their road to this detached cottage was down Vicarage Lane . . . containing the blessed \_\_\_\_\_ of Mr. Elton.
12. [Mrs. Goddard] dressed their \_\_\_\_\_ with her own hands.
13. Mr. Elton had learned from the \_\_\_\_\_ . . . of the servants at Randalls.
14. Emma \_\_\_\_\_ . "It would be a crowd—a sad crowd."
15. He had \_\_\_\_\_ placed himself exactly between them, exactly in front of Miss Fairfax.
16. I never saw anything so \_\_\_\_\_! Those curls!
17. As soon as she entered the room, [she] had been struck by the sight of a \_\_\_\_\_, a very elegant-looking instrument.
18. He had sent for a \_\_\_\_\_ and set off, intending to return to dinner.
19. Ford's was the principal woollen-draper, linen-draper, and \_\_\_\_\_'s shop.
20. Emma saw its artifice and returned to her first \_\_\_\_\_.



**EMMA**

**COMPREHENSION TEST A**

**Part I: Description Identification (30 points)**

Match each of the following descriptions from the book with a character. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| _____ 1. tries to determine where to send Harriet's ribbon    | A. Colonel Campbell   |
| _____ 2. postpones arriving in the barouche-landau until fall | B. Mrs. Goddard       |
| _____ 3. pities an officer's orphan                           | C. Adelaide           |
| _____ 4. appears sick enough to require a doctor              | D. Mr. Suckling       |
| _____ 5. harrass Harriet                                      | E. Mrs. Bates         |
| _____ 6. needs assistance with a loose rivet                  | F. Lieutenant Fairfax |
| _____ 7. moves to Balycraig                                   | G. the Coles          |
| _____ 8. keeps a boarding school                              | H. Henry              |
| _____ 9. meets Harriet at the haberdashery                    | I. Mrs. Ford          |
| _____ 10. treats Woodhouse's illness                          | J. Jane Bates Fairfax |
| _____ 11. dies of consumption                                 | K. Mr. Perry          |
| _____ 12. dies in battle                                      | L. Elizabeth Martin   |
| _____ 13. rise in the trades                                  | M. Mr. Dixon          |
| _____ 14. anticipates inheriting Donwell Abbey                | N. Ann Taylor         |
| _____ 15. was Emma's confidante and friend.                   | O. beggars            |

**Part II: True/False (20 points)**

Mark the following statements either **T** for true or **F** if any part is false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Emma disapproves of Robert Martin because he is a farm laborer who reads little.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Harriet is impressed by the gift of walnuts.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. George Knightley worries Emma by going to Elton for counsel and attending a secret meeting at the Crown Inn.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Augusta intends to plan the party at Donwell until George Knightley rejects her help.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The Eltons' slights toward Harriet are really intended for Emma.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Jane and Frank intend to postpone marriage for three months of mourning.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. A lame horse ends Frank's hope to arrive from Oxford by 4:00 P. M.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Mr. Knightley includes Mr. Woodhouse in the party by supplying interesting collections for him to see at Donwell.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. At Harriet's wedding, Emma thinks hateful thoughts about Mr. Elton.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Emma calls her fiancé "George."

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### Part III: Completion (20 points)

Fill in the blanks below with a word or phrase which completes the sentence. Place your answer in the space provided at left.

1. The Westons feel better after telling \_\_\_\_\_ the news of Frank's \_\_\_\_\_ and learning that she does not love him.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ reads Frank's letter to the Westons and judges that the \_\_\_\_\_ is womanish.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ regrets that she had to deceive \_\_\_\_\_ by being reserved and secretive.
4. At the piano, \_\_\_\_\_ first sings with Emma, then with \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ continues to think of Mrs. Weston as "poor \_\_\_\_\_."

### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Describe how villagers share in each other's lives and news.
2. Explain why Emma hates Jane and Augusta.
3. Discuss George Knightley's gradual interest in Emma as a wife.
4. Account for the scene in which Emma and Elton are alone in the carriage.
5. Summarize events that suggest Frank's secret courtship of Jane.

**EMMA****COMPREHENSION TEST B****Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)**

Select the phrase that completes each of the following sentences. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. When Emma comes to apologize, she finds  
A. Miss Bates reading a letter to Jane.  
B. Jane sick with a headache.  
C. gifts of apples and pork from George Knightley.  
D. Mr. Perry giving treatment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The pianoforte  
A. requires stabilizing.  
B. is a gift from the Dixons.  
C. returns with Jane to London.  
D. is too large for the Coles' parlor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Mr. Woodhouse disapproves of  
A. Emma's marrying anyone.  
B. Isabella's vacation at Bath.  
C. returning by carriage in the snow.  
D. a ball at the Crown.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Emma feels superior to  
A. the Coles.  
B. Henry.  
C. Adelaide.  
D. Mrs. Goddard's pupils.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. George Knightley objects to  
A. a handwriting game.  
B. whist and piquet.  
C. demands for more songs from Jane.  
D. getting a haircut in London.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Mrs. Churchill  
A. belittled Jane Bates Fairfax.  
B. moved to Richmond to avoid Frank's visit.  
C. lowered herself through marriage.  
D. insisted on adopting the captain's motherless son.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The riddle suggests  
A. a pun on Emma's name.                      B. a portrait of Harriet.  
C. courtship by Mr. Elton.                      D. Mr. Woodhouse's good humor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Emma tosses  
A. aside her interest in Harriet's future.    B. away a piece of boot lace.  
C. Frank's letter into the fire.                D. a piece of court plaster at Harriet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. On Christmas Day,  
A. Emma chooses to remain at home.        B. Elton seems no more than the village minister.  
C. Elton stomps into the vicarage.         D. Isabella refuses to leave her children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Knightley believes that  
A. Emma deserves bad treatment from the Bates.    B. Emma has endured much lecturing.  
C. Mr. Woodhouse should move to Donwell.        D. Frank's behavior demeans the Westons.

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### Part II: Matching (30 points)

Match the following descriptions with places from the list below. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left. You will use some answers more than once and some not at all.

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| _____ 1. Harriet steps out of the rain.                   | A. Randalls         |
| _____ 2. The Knightleys spend their fall vacation.        | B. Donwell          |
| _____ 3. Augusta can help Emma fit in socially.           | C. Maple Grove      |
| _____ 4. The Sucklings have two carriages.                | D. the Crown        |
| _____ 5. John and Isabella are content.                   | E. Weymouth         |
| _____ 6. Mrs. Churchill succumbs.                         | F. Abbey-Farm Mill  |
| _____ 7. Adelaide is ill during the night.                | G. Hartfield        |
| _____ 8. Jane wants to depart alone.                      | H. Southend         |
| _____ 9. Knightley turns his back on Emma as she departs. | I. London           |
| _____ 10. Knightley rescues Harriet from humiliation.     | J. Bath             |
| _____ 11. The Campbells visit their daughter.             | K. Brunswick Square |
| _____ 12. Frank first meets Jane.                         | L. Balycraig        |
| _____ 13. Augusta enjoys luxury.                          | M. Ford's           |
| _____ 14. Mr. Woodhouse could receive treatment.          | N. Richmond         |
| _____ 15. Mr. Weston makes a pun of "M" and "A."          | O. Box Hill         |

### Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

Supply a word or phrase in answer to the following questions. Then explain its significance.

2. Who is the same age as Emma?
3. Whose poultry house is robbed?
4. Who refuses to be Emma's brother?
5. Who attends Harriet at her wedding?
6. What game does Emma play with Mr. Woodhouse?
7. Who offers a housekeeper's help to George Knightley?
8. Who worries that Emma will feel jilted?
9. Who insists on sending someone for Jane's mail?
10. Who loses a rivet?

### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Explain why Frank changes his name.
2. Contrast the courtship of Robert and Knightley or of Robert and Frank.
3. Describe Emma's social life.
4. Summarize Emma's worst traits.
5. Describe the courtesies that Highbury people expect from each other.

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**ANSWER KEY**

**VOCABULARY TEST**

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. dissipation    | 11. abode         |
| 2. feasible       | 12. chilblains    |
| 3. bravado        | 13. ostler        |
| 4. cavil          | 14. demurred      |
| 5. aggrandise     | 15. improvidently |
| 6. tête-à-tête    | 16. outré         |
| 7. bailiff        | 17. pianoforte    |
| 8. embrocation    | 18. chaise        |
| 9. amity          | 19. haberdasher   |
| 10. discordancies | 20. surmises      |

**COMPREHENSION TEST A**

**Part I: Description Identification (30 points)**

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. I | 6. E  | 11. J |
| 2. D | 7. M  | 12. F |
| 3. A | 8. B  | 13. G |
| 4. C | 9. L  | 14. H |
| 5. O | 10. K | 15. N |

**Part II: True/False (20 points)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. T | 6. T  |
| 2. T | 7. F  |
| 3. F | 8. T  |
| 4. F | 9. F  |
| 5. T | 10. F |

**Part III: Completion (20 points)**

1. Emma, engagement
2. Knightley, handwriting
3. Jane, Emma
4. Frank, Jane
5. Mr. Woodhouse, Miss Taylor

**Part IV: Essay (30 points)**

Answers will vary.

**COMPREHENSION TEST B**

**Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 6. D  |
| 2. A | 7. C  |
| 3. D | 8. B  |
| 4. A | 9. A  |
| 5. C | 10. B |

**Part II: Matching (30 points)**

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. M | 6. N  | 11. L |
| 2. H | 7. A  | 12. E |
| 3. J | 8. B  | 13. C |
| 4. C | 9. O  | 14. J |
| 5. K | 10. D | 15. O |

**Part III: Short Answer (20 points)**

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Mr. Elton     | 6. backgammon  |
| 2. Jane          | 7. Augusta     |
| 3. Mrs. Weston   | 8. the Westons |
| 4. Mr. Knightley | 9. Augusta     |
| 5. Emma          | 10. Mrs. Bates |

**Part IV: Essay (30 points)**

Answers will vary.



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