

A Wayne Scott • *LifeHouse Theater-On-The-Air* Production

Pride and Prejudice

An Original Adaptation by
Leah Simpson

Based on the classic 1813 novel by Jane Austen

Curriculum Guide

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LIFE OF JANE AUSTEN

- **1775** Jane Austen is born the seventh child in her family
- **1787** Jane begins to write short stories and poems that later are collectively referred to as the *Juvenilia* and consists of three bound notebooks of works.
- **1790** Jane pens *Love and Friendship* and makes the decision to become a professional writer
- **1795** It is believed that Jane fell very much in love with a neighbor's nephew who was paying a visit
- **1796** Jane begins penning *First Impressions*. This work would go on to become her most famous piece known more as *Pride & Prejudice*
- **1802** Jane rejects her only proposal of marriage
- **1805** Jane's father George Austen dies suddenly from an illness
- **1811** *Sense & Sensibility* is published. The novel is greeted with favorable reviews
- **1813** *Pride & Prejudice* is published, meeting with instant success
- **1813** *Sense & Sensibility* in first edition form sells out completely, forcing a second edition to be printed
- **1814** Jane begins writing *Emma*
- **1815** Jane completes *Emma* and begins writing *Persuasion*
- **1815** *Emma* is published and is well received
- **1817** Jane Austen dies in Winchester

Pride and Prejudice
CONTENT AND REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. In what country does *Pride and Prejudice* take place?
2. How many sons and daughters are in the Bennet family?
3. Where does Elizabeth first meet Mr. Darcy?
4. What are two of the talents that Mr. Darcy names as being characteristics of an accomplished woman?
5. Whom did Mr. Collins first select as his wife?
6. Whom did Mr. Collins finally marry?
7. What position did Mr. Wickham say he was denied by Mr. Darcy?
8. How does Elizabeth learn the truth about Mr. Wickham?
9. With whom did Lydia elope?
10. What does Lady Catherine forbid Elizabeth to do?

Pride and Prejudice
CONTENT AND REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. In what country does *Pride and Prejudice* take place?
A: England.
2. How many sons and daughters are in the Bennet family?
A: 5 daughters and no sons.
3. Where does Elizabeth first meet Mr. Darcy?
A: At a ball.
4. What are two of the talents that Mr. Darcy names as being characteristics of an accomplished woman?
A: Music/singing, drawing, reading.
5. Whom did Mr. Collins first select as his wife?
A: Jane
6. Whom did Mr. Collins finally marry?
A: Elizabeth's best friend, Charlotte Lucas
7. What position did Mr. Wickham say he was denied by Mr. Darcy?
A: Rector in the Church
8. How does Elizabeth learn the truth about Mr. Wickham?
A: In a letter written by Mr. Darcy.
9. With whom did Lydia elope?
A: Mr. Wickham
10. What does Lady Catherine forbid Elizabeth to do?
A: Marry Mr. Darcy

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT JANE AUSTEN

In her lifetime, Jane completed six novels, including *Northanger Abbey*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mansfield Park*, *Emma*, and *Persuasion*. Only four of them were published before her death.

In 1802, Jane received her only proposal of marriage from Harris Bigg-Wither, an "unattractive" Oxford educated young man and childhood friend, who was heir to a large family estate. Jane accepted the proposal for practical reasons. The very next day, however, Jane withdrew her acceptance, feeling it to be a mistake.

QUOTES BY JANE AUSTEN

"I do not want people to be agreeable, as it saves me the trouble of liking them. "

"Friendship is certainly the finest balm for the pangs of disappointed love."

"Perhaps it is our imperfections that make us so perfect for one another!"
-Emma

"It isn't what we say or think that defines us, but what we do".
-Sense and Sensibility

FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

1. The Bennet girls felt that they needed to get married in order to be happy. What are some of your goals and accomplishments you want to achieve? Which of those make you the happiest to pursue?

2. Jane Austin's original title for this story was *First Impressions*. How did Elizabeth's first impression of Mr. Darcy cause her to behave towards him? How did her opinion of him change? Have you ever mis-judged someone based on a first impression?

BIBLIOGRPHY

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