

★ Quicklook at "Great Expectations"

1. Character identification game.
2. Who's who cards for characters.

The object of the character identification game is to identify correctly which of the three women characters - Estella, Mrs Joe or Miss Havisham - is speaking or being spoken to in the quotations.

Rules of the game.

Begin by shuffling the cards and placing them face down in the centre of a group of 3-6 students, one of whom will not play but hold the answers, indicate whether the responses are right or wrong, provide clues if necessary and act as arbitrator and scorer. Players can participate as individuals, or, preferably pairs - more opportunities for collaborative language.

The player(s) on the left of the scorer draws the top card and reads the quotation to the next player on their left. If they correctly identify the character they keep the card, if not, the card is returned face down to the bottom of the pack.

Play proceeds until there are no cards left, i.e. all have been correctly identified. The winner is the team or individual holding the most cards.

2. Who's who cards

The object of this activity is to identify the characters from the novel, firstly, from the quotation from the book and subsequently, if that proves too difficult, by three clues in descending order of difficulty.

Participants score 5 points for a clean hit on the quote, 3 if they only need one clue, 2 for two clues and 1 if they need all three.

Cards can either be shuffled, placed in the centre and players can take turns to ask the player on their left, or simply dealt out. Two pairs of players could be most successful for generating talk and ideas around the novel.

EAL students can be given all kinds of extra prompts by students with a firmer grasp of the language and characterisation of the book. EAL students should be encouraged to look for the significant adjectives (or in the case of Dickens good similes) that express the central aspects of character.

Great Expectations Character Quiz Cards

2.
He calls the knaves,
Jacks, this boy! And
what coarse hands
he has! and what
thick boots.

1.
Abroad, educating
for a lady; far out
of reach; prettier
than ever; admired
by all who see her.

4
When you say you
love me, I know what
you mean, as a form
of words; but
nothing more. You
address nothing in
my breast, you touch
nothing there.

3
Her sight was
disturbed; her
hearing was greatly
impaired; her
memory also and
her speech was
unintelligible.

6.
"What have I done!
What have I done!"
She wrung her hands
and crushed her
white hair and
returned to this cry
over and over again.
"What have I done!"

5.
Your sister's a
master-mind.

Great Expectations Who's Who Cards

The freshness of her beauty has indeed gone, but its indescribable majesty and indescribable charm remained.
Clues:
1. I still own the land where Miss Havisham's house stood.
2. I am now a widow.
3. I have changed a lot since I was young.

She was more than twenty years older than I, and had established a great reputation with herself and the neighbours because she had brought me up 'by hand'.
Clues:
1. She is very strong willed.
2. She has no children.
3. She dies after being attacked by Orlick.

He was a broad-shouldered loose-limbed swarthy fellow of great strength, never in a hurry, always slouching.
Clues:
1. I tried to kill Pip because I am jealous of him.
2. I am very strong and violent. I attacked Mrs Joe.
3. I was Joe's assistant in the forge.