

Great Expectations FREE RESPONSE/ESSAY QUESTION

Read the following prompt carefully and write your response on binder paper.

Note: You may use your book *ONLY* for this part of the test.

At the end of the book, Pip says to himself.

I took her hand in mine, and we went out of the ruined place; and, as the morning mists had risen long ago when I first left the forge, so, the evening mists were rising now, and in all the broad expanse of tranquil light they showed to me, I saw no shadow of another parting from her.

Sometimes the things we want the most are the things we should not have. Pip has been in love with Estella for most of his life. In *Great Expectations*, Pip continues to pursue Estella even when it becomes destructive. Should Pip and Estella be together?

-In a well-organized essay (at least three paragraphs): explain if Pip made the right choice or wrong choice in trying to win Estella

-Include examples from the novel (at least one quote per paragraph)

-Avoid a mere plot summary

Teacher notes and Sample Responses (for teacher use only)

-Students can choose either option (Pip should be with Estella or he shouldn't). Essays should have quotations from the book.

-I usually grade for content only. Students should have a thesis, but I don't worry about introductions and conclusions.

-I remind students to keep quotes short (about 1-2 handwritten lines) and include page numbers

-Here are possible responses that CAN be supported by textual evidence.

Reasons Pip should be with Estella may include:	Reasons Pip shouldn't be with Estella may include:
-They are both broken, and no one else will understand what they have been through	-His love for her is a false creation put in his mind by Miss Havisham
-Estella is a different person after her experience with Drummle	-They are more like brother and sister than lovers (especially since Pip's "adopted" father is Estella's real father)
-Pip and Estella really do love each other	-Estella is incapable of loving anyone
- With Miss Havisham gone, there is no reason Estella can't forget her training	-Estella is better off without Pip, or anyone
-Pip is more mature, and truly understands love now after his experience with Magwitch	-Pip is too mercurial, he never knows who he really loves. His love for Estella is infatuation, not love