Complete reading log accurately as you read.

**Pride and Prejudice** by Jane Austen

**Check off study guide questions as you answer / discuss them.**

*Pride and Prejudice* is not an action story; it is a study of personalities and social traditions. Concentrate on the people and how they act.

When we hear the word *prejudice* today, we automatically think of racial conflicts. In 1790's England, the prejudices are social. Most of the characters in this story belong to the gentry class. This term "gentry" applies to any family in which the money to live on is inherited, not earned on a daily basis.

1. Give examples of how the different levels of income affect the way the characters in this book treat each other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Royalty</th>
<th>King, Queen, and their family</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nobility</td>
<td>Lords and Ladies. The heads of these households have been &quot;knighted&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gentry</td>
<td>Any family who has enough money on deposit to live off the interest. The income may be large, or it may be barely enough to get by on, but the man is a gentleman if he doesn't have to work to support his family.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working class</td>
<td>anyone who works at a profession or a business. The working class includes doctors, lawyers, shop owners, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic class</td>
<td>servants, can be housekeeper, cook, butler, gardener, groom, etc.</td>
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2. Pay close attention to the manner in which Mr. Bennet treats his wife and his daughters. Does he treat them the way other gentlemen treat the women in their families?

3. How do Mrs. Bennet and her daughters behave? Do they act as other gentlewomen behave?

4. What one characteristic in a man is Mrs. Bennet interested in when it comes to finding husbands for her daughters?

5. How do the Bingley sisters treat those they think are socially beneath them?

6. How do the Bingley family treat one another?

7. Is this family really better off socially than the Bennets?

8. Darcy appears very proud. By the end of the story you should realize that yes, he is proud of his family and his wealth, but he is also very shy. Explain which you think controls his actions more, his pride or his shyness.

9. Darcy has a sister who is ten years younger than he is; describe how they treat each other. Do they treat each other this way because of pride, wealth, or shyness?

10. Be aware of the way men and women treat each other, and how they act in social and home settings. How is this behavior different than the way we treat each other today?