

CHAPTER 1

My name is Philip Pirrip, but everyone calls me Pip. I decided that I wanted to be called Pip when I was six years old. I was an **orphan**. I lived with my sister, Mrs. Joe and her husband Joe. Joe was a **blacksmith**. He was my best friend in the whole world and he was a very nice man.

Mrs. Joe was an ugly woman, and twenty years older than I was. She had brought me up herself when she could have thrown me out on the street. She wasn't nice like Joe though. I thought she was **mean** and I didn't understand why Joe had married her.

We lived on the river Thames, exactly twenty miles from the sea. I don't remember what my parents looked like, so when I was young, I spent a lot of time in the graveyard. I would sit with their gravestones and decide what they looked like by reading what was written on their gravestones.

It was because I spent so much time in the graveyard that I met someone who was very scary. I was sitting in the graveyard on Christmas Eve when a man jumped out from behind the gravestones and grabbed me by the throat. He was an escaped prisoner. He held me by the throat and said, "Bring me food and a **file** so I can get out of my chains. If you don't get me these things or you tell anyone about me, I will cut out your heart and your liver," he shook me and turned me upside down before he dropped me.

orphan (n) a child whose parents are dead

blacksmith (n) a person who makes or repairs things made of iron

mean (adj) unkind; cruel

file (n) a metal tool with a rough surface for smoothing or rubbing down hard substances



I was sitting in the graveyard on Christmas Eve when a man jumped out from behind the gravestones and grabbed me by the throat.

I was so scared that I didn't know what to do. I ran back to my house and found out that Mrs. Joe had been looking for me. She was so angry that she was going to use the Tickler on me. The Tickler was a cane with a wax end that she liked to hit me with.

I managed to do what Mrs. Joe wanted and she didn't hit me this time. When we ate dinner, I took some food from the table and hid it in my clothes so that I could take it to the escaped prisoner.

When we were eating dinner, we heard gunfire in the distance.

"Another prisoner has escaped from one of the prison ships," Joe said. There were many prison boats that sat in the river. When a prisoner escaped, the guards went to look for him and fired their guns to tell people that a prisoner had escaped.

After dinner, Mrs. Joe made me stir the Christmas pudding for a long time, so I didn't have a chance to get any more food for the escaped prisoner. I went to bed that night and didn't sleep at all. When it was morning, I got up before Joe and Mrs. Joe and went to take some more food and something to drink for the escaped prisoner.

I was sure I had enough food now so I took Joe's file and ran back to the graveyard. I felt very guilty for helping the escaped prisoner and for stealing from Joe. I found another man sleeping in the graveyard that had escaped from the prison ship,

and when he saw me, he ran away. It was hard for him to run away with his feet in chains. I looked around until I found the escaped prisoner. He didn't look very good, but he was glad that I had brought him food. I gave him the file so he could try to get out of the chains around his feet.

I asked him, "Are you going to share the food with the other prisoner?" He looked very scared when I told that there was someone else there. He got to his feet and ran away trying to free his feet with the file as he ran.

I went back home and everyone was getting ready for Christmas Day. Joe and Mrs. Joe didn't know that I had done anything wrong or had been helping the escaped prisoner. We had many people over for Christmas dinner that day – Mr. Wopsle, the clerk from the church, Mr. and Mrs. Hubble from the village and my uncle, Mr. Pumblechook.

I was worried that Mrs. Joe would find out that I took some of the Christmas food for the escaped prisoner all day. I had put water in the brandy to cover up for my stealing some of it. Mr. Pumblechook drank some of the brandy and started coughing. I had put tar water medicine in the bottle by mistake.

Everyone was very confused and couldn't work out how tar water had been put in the brandy bottle. Next, Mrs. Joe went to get the food. I was so scared of being hit with Tickler that I got up from the table and ran out of the house. As I ran out of the house, I ran into some soldiers right outside the door.

I was very afraid that they had come to arrest me for helping the escaped prisoner, but they had come to see Joe. They wanted him to fix their handcuffs for him. Everyone forgot about the food with the soldiers in the house and I had not been hit with the Tickler. It was very exciting to have the soldiers in the house on Christmas Day.

They asked Joe and I to go with them to hunt for escaped prisoners in the graveyard and the **marshes** that ran along the river. Joe thought it was a good idea and that it would be fun to go with the soldiers. I thought so too.

Joe put me on his shoulders and we went off into the Christmas night to find the escaped prisoners. As we went off into the dark, I began to worry about the prisoner I had met. He was scary and had threatened me, but he was my escaped prisoner and I didn't want anyone hurting or catching my escaped prisoner.

We went onto the marsh and found two prisoners fighting each other. The escaped prisoner I had found asleep in the graveyard was fighting my escaped prisoner. They were using their chains as weapons. My escaped prisoner was winning.

“Please, help me! He's trying to kill me!” the sleepy escaped prisoner said.

“No, I am not. I am trying to stop him from running away. He deserves to be on a prison ship. I won’t let him escape!” my escaped prisoner cried. He looked at me and recognised me straight away but he didn’t say anything.

One of the soldiers saw the food I had stolen on the ground.

“Where did you get this?” he asked.

“I stole it,” my escaped prisoner said. I felt very **relieved**; Mrs. Joe wouldn’t hit me with the Tickler for the escaped prisoner stealing from the house. From where we were, you could see the prison ships in the distance, even in the dark. The two prisoners were taken back to them by the soldiers. As I watched them go, I felt very guilty. I didn’t feel guilty about stealing, but I did feel guilty for not telling Joe about it all.

I was six years old and I decided that I could never tell Joe what had happened. I didn’t want him to think badly of me. When the prisoners were gone, Joe took me home. The others were all still waiting for us to eat Christmas dinner, but I was so tired that I went to bed.

Joe told everyone what had happened, including my escaped prisoner stealing the food from the house. They all spent most of the night trying to work out how my escaped prisoner had gotten into the house to steal everything.

Because I was now six, it was time for me to start going to school. I went to school for an hour every day at Mr. Wopsle's great aunt's house. It wasn't a good school. Mr. Wopsle's great aunt spent most of the lessons sleeping in her chair. Sometimes Mr. Wopsle would come to the school and read poetry or perform Shakespeare. School was boring apart from Biddy being there.

Biddy was Mr. Wopsle's great aunt's granddaughter and she was an orphan, just like me. She was in charge of running the shop that Mr. Wopsle's great aunt owned, which is where the school was.

When I was at home, I practised my writing. I decided that the best way to practise my writing was to write a letter to Joe. When I gave Joe the letter, he thought it was the best thing he had ever seen.

Joe didn't know much about reading or writing. His father drank and used to hit his mother. Sometimes Joe and his mother would run away from his father, but his father always found out where they were and made them go back home with him.

Joe was sent to work when he was a little boy so that there was money to pay for his father's drink. Because he had to go to work, Joe couldn't go to school. I thought that Joe should be very upset with his mother and father, but he loved them both very much and he was with them until they died.

It was why Joe was so nice too. He knew how much his mother had gone through and so wanted to do whatever he could to provide for Mrs. Joe and Pip. He was sorry that he didn't stop her hitting me with the Tickler, but he loved me. It was because of Joe that I lived with them.

Mrs. Joe had gone to visit Mr. Pumblechook when the weather got very cold, and Joe was worried about Mrs. Joe coming home on her own. He didn't need to worry because she came home with news that Miss Havisham, the richest lady in the village, wanted Pip to come to her house to play with her daughter.

I was to go there the next day. Therefore, I was taken to Mr. Pumblechook's house for the night so that he could take me to Miss Havisham's house in the morning. I was very sad because it was the first time that I could remember being away from Joe.

I didn't like being in Mr. Pumblechook's house. He didn't give me much food and he asked me lots of questions about school. When we had eaten, Mr. Pumblechook took me to a very big, grey and miserable looking mansion. He rang the bell at the gate and waited for someone to come. Eventually, a young girl came down to the gate but she wouldn't let Mr. Pumblechook inside.

She let me in and sent him away, telling him to come back later to get me.



When we had eaten, Mr. Pumblechook took me to a very big, grey and miserable looking mansion. He rang the bell at the gate and waited for someone to come.

CHAPTER 2

The girl led me into the house. She called me “boy” even though we were the same age. Her name was Estella. As we walked through the house, she told me that the house had two names – the manor house and Satis House.

“Satis means *enough* in either Greek, Hebrew or Latin,” she told me, “When it was first built, the builders thought that whoever owned the house couldn’t want anything more in life than to live here.”

Estella was the most beautiful girl I had ever seen. The house was very dark, but she seemed to know where she was going. She led me to a room that was covered in **cobwebs**. There was a table set for dinner for many people, a clock that had stopped at 8:40 a.m. and an old woman was sitting in a chair. She was dressed in a wedding dress that had once been beautiful, but now was yellow and brown with age.

Her veil was torn and she was missing a shoe. There were **trunks** everywhere that had clothes lying in and around them. She was very thin and looked like a skeleton and her hair was all white. This old woman was Miss Havisham. She told me that she had a broken heart and then ordered me to play.

cobweb (n) spider's web

trunk (n) a box or chest to hold clothes in



This old woman was Miss Havisham. She told me that she had a broken heart and then ordered me to play.

I had never been ordered to play before so I didn't know what to do. Miss Havisham told me to call for Estella. I didn't want to, but I did as I was told. I went out into the hall and shouted for Estella to come.

Estella came to Miss Havisham's room and sat down to play cards with me. Estella always looked very bored. She rolled her eyes and beat me easily. She made fun of how I looked and I didn't know what to say. I hadn't met anyone like Estella before. Mrs. Joe hit me for doing bad things and Joe was nice to me, but Estella was just mean.

"What do you think of Estella?" Miss Havisham asked me.

“She’s mean and beautiful. I would like to go home now,” I said.

“You can go home, but come back in six days. Give him some food, Estella,” Miss Havisham said.

Estella took me outside and made me wait. It was very bright outside. It hurt my eyes after being in the dark for so long. Estella went back into the house. I waited until she came back with food and drink for me. She put it on the floor like I was a dog. I started crying, which made Estella happy. She left me outside to cry and I wished I were different.

I wanted to have nice clothes and soft hands so that Estella would like me and not call me boy. I sat down to eat and drink. It started to make me feel better. I looked at the garden as I ate and drank. Everything in the garden was dead. There was a building near Satis House that used to be a **brewery**. When I had eaten, I went into the building to look around. Estella was there too. She was walking in front of me so I followed her. We went up the stairs to the top of the building and then I saw a woman in white hanging from the ceiling. It was Miss Havisham. I ran towards her to try and save her, but as I got there, she had already gone.

Estella led me back to the gate, hit him and then pushed me out into the street before she shut the gate and locked it behind me. My uncle was waiting for me. We walked back to his house, and the whole way there, I thought about my rough hands and ugly clothes.

brewery (n) a factory where beer is made

The next day, Mrs. Joe wanted to know everything that had happened at Miss Havisham's house. I didn't want to tell anything because I didn't think that Mrs. Joe would believe me. I also didn't want to upset Miss Havisham because I wouldn't get to see Estella again.

Mr. Pumblechook came over for tea and tried to find out about Miss Havisham, just like Mrs. Joe had. I made up some stories to tell them. I told them that Miss Havisham lived in a black velvet carriage in her house. I told them that I ate cake on gold plates in the carriage and that there were big dogs that ate meat in silver baskets.

When Mrs. Joe and Mr. Pumblechook weren't listening, I told Joe that I had made everything up because I didn't want to be me. I wanted to be a gentleman. Joe told me, "You can be you and still be a gentleman."

There are some moments in life that change everything for us. This was one of those moments. I decided that I needed proper school lessons if I was going to be a gentleman. Mr. Wopsle's great aunt couldn't teach but Biddy could. I asked her to teach me everything she knew. She agreed to teach me and all the other children in the village.

It was good to have someone to teach the school while Mr. Wopsle's great aunt was asleep. Every night, after school, I went to get Joe from the Three Jolly Bargeman pub. One night, I found him in the pub, next to the fire with Mr. Wopsle and a man that looked at me as if he knew me.

I sat down with Joe and the man started asking Joe questions about me. Mr. Wopsle drink too much and was saying some of the lines from Shakespeare. The man kept rubbing his leg and then he took out a file, the same file that I stole from Joe to help my escaped prisoner.

He used the file to stir his drink. I was very scared. The man was watching me the whole time. Joe and the man finished their drinks and stood up to leave. As they did, the man gave me a piece of paper with a lot of money in it.

Joe saw it and tried to give it back to the man, but he had already gone. We took the money home and Mrs. Joe hid it in a safe place. The next day, it was time to go to see Miss Havisham again. It was just the same as it had been the first time. Estella wasn't happy to see me, but she let me through the gate and took me to Miss Havisham. She had some visitors, who were all worried about Miss Havisham. They talked about a man called Matthew Pocket. None of them talked to me, but when they looked at me, they looked at me just like Estella did.

I didn't want to play with Estella, but I did as I was told. The house was a scary place. It had many insects in it and I could hear animals in the walls. When we had finished playing, Miss Havisham told me that the food on the table was the food from her wedding day that was never eaten.

Test 4

Put the list in order by entering the numbers 1 to 10 in the gaps below.

- a. ____ Biddy started teaching at the school.
- b. ____ Herbert and Clara went to the East.
- c. ____ Orlick attacked Mrs. Joe.
- d. ____ Miss Havisham's wedding dress caught on fire.
- e. ____ Mr. Wopsle became an actor.
- f. ____ Pip met Estella.
- g. ____ Pip met Matthew Pocket.
- h. ____ Pip found Magwitch and Compeyson fighting on the marsh.
- i. ____ Mr. Jaggers told Pip about Estella's parents.
- j. ____ Pip lived with Joe and Mrs. Joe.

GRAMMAR CHECK

Test 1

Choose the correct answer.

Mrs. Joe was an ugly woman, and twenty years older than I was. She had brought me up herself when she¹ thrown me out on the street. She wasn't nice like Joe though. I thought she² mean and I didn't understand why Joe³ her.

We lived on the river Thames, exactly twenty miles from the sea. I don't remember⁴ my parents looked like so when I was young, I⁵ a lot of time in the graveyard. I⁶ with their gravestones and decide what they looked like by reading what⁷ on their gravestones.

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. a) could have | b) must have | c) will have |
| 2. a) has been | b) was | c) is |
| 3. a) is married | b) has married | c) had married |
| 4. a) which | b) what | c) how |
| 5. a) have spent | b) spent | c) spend |
| 6. a) would sit | b) will sit | c) can sit |
| 7. a) wrote | b) was writing | c) was written |

I knew that Mr. Jaggars⁸ right about Drummle hitting Estella, but I also knew that Drummle⁹ off his horse and died. I thought that Estella¹⁰ got married again.

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 8. a) had been | b) has been | c) were |
| 9. a) has fallen | b) had fallen | c) is fallen |
| 10. a) will have | b) should have | c) must have |

Test 2

Use the verbs in brackets with *must have* or *had to* to complete the sentences.

1. Everybody was surprised that she passed the test.
Someone her. (help)
2. I have called him several times this morning, but he hasn't answered his phone. He it at home. (forget)
3. They set off quite early but haven't arrived yet. I am worried that something to them. (happen)
4. There was such a huge crowd in front of the store that the manager the launch of the new product for safety reasons. (cancel)
5. She you (misunderstand). Otherwise, she would have helped you.
6. 'How can he know about our secret?' 'He us while we were talking the other day.' (hear)
7. She was looking forward to going on a holiday, but she at home as she broke her leg (stay). She disappointed. (be)
8. They didn't lose any match in the tournament. They very well. (train)
9. She the essay as there were lots of mistakes she was supposed to correct in it. (rewrite)
10. The neighbours called the police twenty minutes ago but they haven't arrived yet. The thieves the house by now. (leave)

VOCABULARY CHECK

Test-1

Match the definitions (1-10) on the right with the words (a-j) on the left.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| a. ____ brewery | 1. spider's web |
| b. ____ trunk | 2. a person guilty of a crime |
| c. ____ cobweb | 3. a box or chest to hold clothes in |
| d. ____ marsh | 4. a factory where beer is made |
| e. ____ merchant | 5. an area of land that is soft and wet |
| f. ____ orphan | 6. unkind; cruel; not pleasant |
| g. ____ worthy | 7. someone who buys and sells goods in large amounts |
| h. ____ convict | 8. a child whose parents are dead |
| i. ____ part | 9. having or deserving worth and value |
| j. ____ mean | 10. to separate from |

Test 2

Complete the sentences with the words below.

relieved
still

banks
collapsed

uneasy
ovation

mean

1. Some of the best attractions in London lie on the
of the River Thames.
2. I was to hear that my application for the job was
successful.
3. Stop moving. Stand as I am tying your tie,
please.
4. She felt about her new role in the company.
5. Henry has been to his brother recently. He keeps
hurting him.
6. The audience gave him a standing for his
performance at the song contest.
7. He had to cut short his set when he on stage due
to dehydration at the show.