

## Austen's humour: chapters 38-53

Read through the following quotations from the novel and decide who is 'speaking'; what is being discussed; what, if anything, we learn about the speaker; where the humour comes from:

### Chapter 38:

... and he took the opportunity of paying the parting civilities which he deemed indispensably necessary.

### Chapter 39:

These two girls had been above an hour in the place, happily employed in visiting an opposite milliner, watching the sentinel on guard, and dressing a salad and cucumber.

### Chapter 40:

'Well, my comfort is, I am sure Jane will die of a broken heart, and then he will be sorry for what he has done.'

### Chapter 42:

... but her letters were always long expected, and always very short.

### Chapter 44:

There was now an interest, however in believing the housekeeper; and they soon became sensible, that the authority of a servant who had known him since he was four years old, and whose own manners indicated respectability, was not to be hastily rejected.

### Chapter 47:

'And now here's Mr Bennet gone away, and I know he will fight Wickham, wherever he meets him, and then he will be killed, and what is to become of us all?'

### Chapter 48:

Everybody declared that he was the wickedest young man in the world; and everybody began to find out, that they had always distrusted the appearance of his goodness.

### Chapter 51:

'I am sure I had no more idea of being married till I came back again! Though I thought it would be very good fun if I was.'

### Chapter 53:

Mrs Bennet had been strongly inclined to ask them to stay and dine there, that day; but, though she always kept a very good table, she did not think anything less than two courses, could be good enough for a man, on whom she had such anxious designs, or satisfy the appetite and pride of one who had ten thousand a year.