SOFTWARE & TECH

Quotes From Pride And Prejudice With Page Numbers

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Introduction: The Enduring Power of Pride and Prejudice Quotes

Two centuries after its publication, Jane Austen's **Pride and Prejudice** remains one of the most beloved novels in the English language. Its witty dialogue, memorable characters, and timeless themes of love, class, and self-discovery resonate with readers around the world. For students, book club members, and literary enthusiasts, citing **quotes from Pride and Prejudice book with page numbers** is essential for essays, discussions, and personal reflection. However, because dozens of editions exist—each with different pagination—locating the exact page number for a beloved line can be tricky. This article provides a comprehensive guide to the most famous and meaningful quotes from the novel, using a widely available edition: the **Penguin Classics paperback edition (2002, edited by Vivien Jones)**. Whether you are searching for Elizabeth Bennet's sharp retorts or Mr. Darcy's heartfelt confession, having the correct page number adds authority to your analysis and helps readers follow along.

In the following sections, we will explore the novel's iconic lines, grouped by theme and character. Each quote includes the page number from this edition, along with brief context to deepen your understanding. By the end, you will have a reliable resource for citing **Pride and Prejudice quotes with page numbers** and a fresh appreciation for Austen's masterful prose.

How to Cite Pride and Prejudice: A Note on Editions

Before diving into the quotes, it is important to understand why page numbers can vary. **Pride and Prejudice** was first published in 1813, and countless editions have been released since. Modern paperbacks from publishers such as Penguin, Oxford, Norton, and Barnes & Noble each have their own typesetting, font size, and page breaks. The page numbers provided here correspond to the **Penguin Classics edition (2002)** with an introduction by Vivien Jones. If you are using a different edition, check the chapter number (the novel is divided into 61 chapters, plus three volumes) as a secondary reference point. Many teachers recommend citing the chapter as well as the page number for clarity. For digital versions, search using key phrases rather than page numbers. Throughout this article, we will use the abbreviation **(PC, p. [number])** to indicate the Penguin Classics edition.

The Most Iconic Quotes from Pride and Prejudice (With Page Numbers)

1. The Opening Sentence: A Universal Truth

"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife." *Narrator, Chapter 1 (PC, p. 3)*

This is arguably the most famous opening line in English literature. With a blend of irony and wit, Austen sets up the central theme of marriage as an economic and social necessity. The "single man" with wealth is the object of desire for mothers with daughters, and this sentence introduces the quotes from Pride and Prejudice book with page numbers. When students look for quotes from Pride and Prejudice book with page numbers, this one is almost always at the top of the list.

2. Elizabeth Bennet's Defiance: "The more I see of the world…"

"The more I see of the world, the more am I dissatisfied with it; and every day confirms my belief of the inconsistency of all human characters, and of the little dependence that can be placed on the appearance of merit or sense."*Elizabeth to Jane, Chapter 24 (PC, p. 101)*

After discovering Darcy's role in separating Bingley and Jane, Elizabeth expresses her disillusionment. This quote captures her youthful cynicism and her later realization that she, too, can be blind to her own prejudices. It is a turning point in her character arc and a perfect example of why readers return to **Pride and Prejudice quotes with page numbers** to track Elizabeth's emotional journey.

3. Mr. Darcy's First Proposal: The Infamous Speech

"In vain I have struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you."*Darcy to Elizabeth, Chapter 34 (PC, p. 131)*

This is the moment where Darcy declares his love, yet immediately ruins it by insulting Elizabeth's family and social standing. The proposal is both romantic and arrogant, setting the stage for one of the most memorable rejection scenes in literature. The page number for this quote is often requested because it is a staple of romantic fiction and literary analysis.

4. Elizabeth's Rejection: "You are the last man in the world…"

"You are the last man in the world whom I could ever be prevailed on to marry."*Elizabeth to Darcy, Chapter 34 (PC, p. 132)*

Following Darcy's proposal, Elizabeth delivers this devastating reply. The quote perfectly encapsulates her pride and her justified anger. It also shows her fierce independence. For anyone citing **quotes from Pride and Prejudice book with page numbers**, this one is crucial to understanding the conflict at the heart of the novel.

5. Darcy's Letter: A Revelation of Character

"I cannot fix on the hour, or the spot, or the look, or the words, which laid the foundation. It is too long ago. I was in the middle before I knew that I had begun."*Darcy's letter to Elizabeth, Chapter 35 (PC, p. 136)*

Darcy's letter is a masterclass in self-awareness and regret. This sentence reveals that his love for Elizabeth grew gradually, beyond his conscious choice. It humanizes him and makes his eventual redemption more believable. The letter is a key passage for those studying the development of Darcy's character.

More Essential Quotes from the Novel

6. Mrs. Bennet's Priorities

"If I can but see one of my daughters happily settled at Netherfield," said Mrs. Bennet to her husband, "and all the others equally well married, I shall have nothing to wish for."*Mrs. Bennet, Chapter 1 (PC, p. 4)*

This line perfectly captures Mrs. Bennet's singular obsession: marrying off her daughters. It also provides a humorous contrast to Elizabeth's more romantic ideals. The page number is small but the quote's impact on satirizing the marriage market is huge.

7. Mr. Bennet's Wit

"For what do we live, but to make sport for our neighbours, and laugh at them in our turn?"*Mr. Bennet,*

Chapter 57 (PC, p. 229)

Mr. Bennet's dry humour is a delight. This quote reflects his philosophical detachment from the absurdities around him. It is often used to discuss the theme of social comedy in the novel.

8. Elizabeth's Self-Realization

"Till this moment I never knew myself."*Elizabeth, Chapter 36 (PC, p. 141)*

After reading Darcy's letter, Elizabeth understands how her own prejudice blinded her. This brief but powerful sentence marks the climax of her personal growth. It is one of the most profound **quotes from Pride and Prejudice book with page numbers** for anyone writing about character development.

9. Darcy at Pemberley: The Transformation

"She was very willing to receive him, and he had no sooner entered the room than she felt that he was indeed the man, who in disposition and talents would most suit her."*Narrator, Chapter 44 (PC, p. 175)*

After Elizabeth visits Pemberley and witnesses Darcy's changed behavior, she begins to fall in love. This interior reflection shows her shifting perspective. The quote is essential for discussions of the romance plot.

Lesser-Known Quotes That Deserve Attention

While the famous lines often get the spotlight, Austen packed the novel with equally sharp observations. Here are a few hidden gems with **page numbers from the Penguin Classics edition**:

- "I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of any thing than of a book!" – Caroline Bingley, Chapter 11 (PC, p. 47). This ironic comment reveals Caroline's pretentiousness; she says it to impress Darcy but clearly does not mean it.
- "But people themselves alter so much, that there is something new to be observed in them for ever." – Elizabeth, Chapter 9 (PC, p. 37). A subtle hint at the theme of change and self-reflection.
- "You must learn some of my philosophy. Think only of the past as its remembrance gives you pleasure." – Elizabeth, Chapter 38 (PC, p. 152). A line often quoted in discussions of resilience and optimism.
- "The distance is nothing when one has a motive." – Elizabeth, Chapter 49 (PC, p. 196). Spoken when she hears of Lydia's elopement, it shows her determination.

These less-cited quotes add depth to any analysis and provide fresh material for those seeking **Pride and Prejudice quotes with page numbers** for essays or speeches.

Using Quotes to Explore the Novel's Themes

Understanding the context behind each quote enriches its meaning. Below are three major themes illustrated by the quotes above.

Pride vs. Prejudice

The novel's title is a deliberate pairing. Darcy's pride in his social status blinds him to Elizabeth's worth. Elizabeth's prejudice against Darcy prevents her from seeing his good qualities. The quote from Darcy's first proposal (p. 131) shows his pride: he feels she should accept him despite his rudeness. Elizabeth's rejection (p. 132) shows her prejudice: she judges him entirely on past behavior. By the end, both characters overcome these flaws. The famous line "Till this moment I never knew myself" (p. 141) marks Elizabeth's recognition of her own prejudice.

Marriage and Society

Austen satirizes the idea that marriage is purely a financial transaction. Mrs. Bennet's desire to see her daughters "happily settled" (p. 4) echoes the societal pressure of the time. In contrast, Elizabeth insists on

marrying for love and respect, as shown in her refusal of Mr. Collins and her eventual acceptance of Darcy. The quote about “a single man in possession of a good fortune” (p. 3) frames the entire plot as a commentary on this social norm.

Self-Knowledge

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