Pride and Prejudice

1. Identity card

Title: *Pride and Prejudice*

Author: Jane Austen

Date of publication: 1813

Genre: Novel of manners / Romantic fiction

Historical and Cultural Context: Written during the Regency period in England, the novel explores the role of marriage, social class and gender expectations. Through irony and wit, Austen criticizes the values of her society while highlighting the importance of personal growth and independent judgment.

2. Plot summary

In a nutshell: the novel follows Elizabeth Bennet, an intelligent and independent young woman, as she navigates family expectations, social conventions and matters of love. Her first impressions of the wealthy Mr. Darcy lead to mutual misunderstandings, but as they come to know each other, both overcome their pride and prejudice. Their relationship illustrates the importance of self-knowledge, respect and personal change.

Key Moments:

- ➜ Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy arrive at Netherfield.
- ➜ Elizabeth rejects Mr. Darcy's first proposal.
- ➜ Elizabeth reads Darcy's explanatory letter.
- ➜ Lydia elopes with Wickham.
- ➜ Elizabeth accepts Darcy's second proposal.

3. Main characters

Name	Role	Symbol
Elizabeth Bennet	protagonist	independance, intelligence
Fitzwilliam Darcy	wealthy gentleman	pride, personal growth
Jane Bennet	Elizabeth's sister	kindness,sincerity
Charles Bingley	Darcy's friend	openeness, generotisity

4. Major themes and links to the LLCER program

Première – Rencontres

How does the novel illustrate this theme?

- ➜ Encounters challenge first impressions and personal beliefs.
- ➜ Relationships evolve through dialogue and mutual understanding.
- ➜ Love develops alongside self-discovery.

Key examples

- ➜ Elizabeth meeting Darcy.
- ➜ Darcy's first proposal.
- ➜ Elizabeth changing her opinion after reading Darcy's letter.

Terminale – Expression and construction of the self

How does the novel illustrate this theme?

- ➜ Elizabeth and Darcy grow through self-reflection and personal change.
- ➜ The novel explores how identity evolves by questioning one's own beliefs.
- ➜ Self-knowledge allows the characters to overcome pride and prejudice.

Key examples

- ➜ Elizabeth reading Darcy's letter.
- ➜ Darcy's transformation after his first proposal.
- ➜ Elizabeth accepting Darcy's second proposal.

5. Key quotes and key words

"I could easily forgive his pride, if he had not mortified mine."

pride – prejudice – marriage – social class – reputation – love – independence

6. Author's message

- ➜ First impressions can be misleading.
- ➜ Personal growth comes from self-reflection.
- ➜ Love should be based on mutual respect rather than social status.
- ➜ Independent thinking is essential to overcome prejudice.