

1. Make a circle (6 to 8 inches in diameter) in the center of the page and draw a box at the bottom of your page that is approximately 2 inches high and 4 inches wide.
2. Divide the rest of the page into 8 zones in which you will write. You decide the design. The 8 zones should be equal and should fill the rest of the page.
3. Number the zones 1 through 8.
4. At the top of the middle circle, write *Great Expectations*. The opening scene of this novel is quite famous. Draw a small gravestone in the center of the circle, and then explain the significance of opening the novel with this scene.

Zone 1—Explain the meaning of the title *Great Expectations*.

Zone 2—Select an event or scene from any part of *Great Expectations* that represents a big change. Sketch the before and after images of this change.

Zone 3—Because of his childhood experiences including watching his father being thrown into debtors' prison, Dickens developed a deep awareness of social ills and eventually became an outspoken critic of unjust economic and social conditions. Dickens believed in the ethical and political potential of literature, and he treated his fiction as a springboard for debates about moral and social reform. Describe a scene or a character in *Great Expectations* that reveals Dickens' commitment to social justice. What commentary is Dickens making about Victorian England specifically and about humanity generally?

Zone 4—Choose an image or a set or images—clocks, chains/locks/keys, hearts, weather, etc.—and describe how Dickens uses those images to convey a greater truth.

Zone 5—If not for Miss Havisham's desire for revenge, events would not have unfolded as they did. Think of the novel in its entirety. What does revenge look like? Sketch a scene, a character, or a result.

Zone 6—Think about the marriages in *Great Expectations* (Bidley & Joe, Estella & Bentley, Clara & Herbert, Wemmick & Miss Skiffins, Miss Havisham & Compeyson, Joe & Mrs. Joe). Select one character and rewrite ONE of the wedding vows to make it unique to a character's beliefs and background. Explain why this vow should be changed from the original.

Zone 7—Ghosts. What does the story remind you of? Other books, plays, shows, people?

Zone 8—Put your sheet in the middle of the room. Everybody take somebody else's sheet. Read through all of the zones on your new sheet. Respond to this person's comments, choices, and insights. What patterns do you notice?