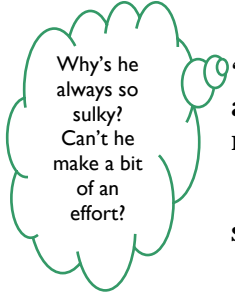


Elizabeth's prejudice – thought tracking exercise

**What are Elizabeth and Darcy thinking as they talk?**

Draw and write in thought bubbles for each character as they listen to the other, but remember that Darcy in particular *thinks* much more than he *says*.



"It is *your* turn to say something now, Mr Darcy – *I* talked about the dance and *you* ought to make some kind of remark on the size of the room, or the number of couples."

He smiled and assured her that whatever she wished him to say should be said.

"Very well. That reply will do for the present. Perhaps by and by I may observe that private balls are much pleasanter than public ones. But *now* we may be silent."

"Do you talk by rule, then, while you are dancing?"

"Sometimes. One must speak a little, you know. It would look odd to be entirely silent for half an hour together; and yet for the advantage of *some*, conversation ought to be so arranged, as that they may have the trouble of saying as little as possible."

"Are you consulting your own feelings in the present case, or do you imagine that you are gratifying mine?"

"Both ... for I have always seen a great similarity in the turn of our minds. We are each of an unsocial, taciturn disposition, unwilling to speak, unless we expect to say something that will amaze the whole room, and be handed down to posterity with all the *éclat* of a proverb."

"This is no striking resemblance of your own character, I am sure... How near it may be to *mine*, I cannot pretend to say. *You* think it a faithful portrait, undoubtedly."

"I must not decide on my own performance."

He made no answer, and they were again silent till they had gone down the dance, when he asked her if she and her sisters did not very often walk to Meryton? She answered in the affirmative; and, unable to resist the temptation, added, "When you met us there the other day, we had just been forming a new acquaintance." [Pause] ...

... "Mr. Wickham is blessed with such happy manners as may ensure his *making* friends—whether he may be equally capable of *retaining* them is less certain."

"He has been so unlucky as to lose *your* friendship ... and in a manner which he is likely to suffer from all his life." (Interrupted by Sir William Lucas dropping hints about Bingley and Jane.)

"Sir William's interruption has made me forget what we were talking of."

"I do not think we were speaking at all. Sir William could not have interrupted any two people in the room who had less to say for themselves. We have tried two or three subjects without success, and what we are to talk of next, I cannot imagine."

## Elizabeth's prejudice – thought tracking exercise

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“What think you of books?”

“Books!— Oh! no. I am sure we never read the same, or not with the same feelings.”

“I am sorry you think so; but if that be the case, there can at least be no want of subject. We may compare our different opinions.”

“No—I cannot talk of books in a ballroom; my head is always full of something else.”

“The *present* always occupies you in such scenes—does it?”

“Yes, always ... I remember hearing you once say, Mr Darcy, that you hardly ever forgave, that your resentment once created was unappeasable. You are very cautious, I suppose, as to its *being created*?”

“I am.”

“And never allow yourself to be blinded by prejudice?”

“I hope not.”

“It is particularly incumbent on those who never change their opinion, to be secure of judging properly at first.”

“May I ask to what these questions tend?”

“Merely to the illustration of *your* character. I am trying to make it out.”

“And what is your success?”

“I do not get on at all. I hear such different accounts of you as puzzle me exceedingly.”

“I can readily believe ... that reports may vary greatly with respect to me; and I could wish, Miss Bennet, that you were not to sketch my character at the present moment as there is reason to fear that the performance would reflect no credit on either.”

“But if I do not take your likeness now, I may never have another opportunity.”

“I would by no means suspend any pleasure of yours ...”

