

## 2a understanding words in context Week 5 2.10.23

### Great Expectations by Charles Dickens (as adapted by Michael Lawrence)

My first name is Philip and my last name is Pirrip, but when I was very small the best I could make of these two together was 'Pip', so I called myself Pip, and Pip I remained, to myself and to everyone else. I was the last of seven children, and the only boy to survive. My parents died too when I was very young, whereupon I went to live with my older sister and her husband, Joe Gargery.

We lived near the river, within twenty miles of the sea. Marsh country it was: a dark, flat wilderness with lakes and mounds and gates, with scattered cattle grazing where they could. But the bleakest of all was the churchyard, a very neglected place, overgrown with nettles.

On a certain afternoon, as the light began to fade and a raw wind rushed in from the sea, I went alone to the churchyard to visit the dead of my family. Standing there, by my parents' headstones and the row of tiny graves that contained my five brothers, such a mournful feeling crept upon me that I began to shiver and cry.

"Hold your noise!" cried a terrible voice. I whirled about, fist to mouth. A fearful man had risen from among the graves. He was dressed in mud-spattered grey, with an old rag tied about his head and a great iron chain on his leg.

1. What words tell us that the churchyard is usually deserted?  
(Find the words; don't copy out complete chunks of text)
2. What does the author mean when he says there were '*scattered cattle grazing...*'?

(Tip: think about what **each** of these words mean)

3. What is the **effect** of the word 'mournful' in the third paragraph?  
( this question is **not** asking what the word means , it is asking what the effect of the word is)
4. In the third paragraph, **what words** does the author use to set the atmosphere and mood of the scene?
5. In the final paragraph, **why** does Pip '*whirl around, fist to mouth...*'?



