



STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 9-12

Les Misérables

Victor Hugo



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

Les Misérables

#N/A

STUDENT PACKET

NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name _____

Les Misérables
Study Questions
Use During Reading

Directions: Write a brief answer to each study question as you read the novel at home or in class. Use the questions for review before group discussions and before your novel test.

* Questions with stars are open-ended questions. There is no right or wrong answer, but be prepared to explain the reasons for your answer.

Pages 15-61

1. Why was Jean Valjean sent to prison as a young man?
2. How does the bishop help Jean Valjean avoid arrest?
3. What does Jean Valjean take from Petit Gervais?
4. Why does Fantine give Cosette to the Thénardières?
5. How does "Monsieur Madeleine" risk his life to save two children?
6. How does Monsieur Madeleine make his fortune?
7. How does Monsieur Madeleine spend most of his money?
8. Why does Javert feel "the same sort of shudder which a bull-dog would feel who should scent a wolf in his master's clothes" (p. 61)?
- * 9. How will the Thénardières treat Cosette?
- * 10. Name a real person who, like Jean Valjean, helped his whole community to prosper.

Pages 62-98

1. What crime has the man who calls himself Father Champmathieu been accused of committing?
2. Why do most people think that the accused man is Jean Valjean?
3. Why does Jean Valjean decide to reveal his identity to the court?
4. How does Jean Valjean prove that he is who he says he is?
5. What promise has Jean Valjean given to Fantine?
6. Why is Fantine so upset when she first sees Javert?
7. Explain what is meant by "No orthography can express the tone in which this was pronounced." (p. 92)
8. Why does Jean Valjean say that Javert has killed Fantine?

Name _____

frugal benevolent stoical	laconic rejuvenate conciliated	deference degrading	prostrate pell-mell
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Directions: Match ten of the words in the vocabulary box above with their antonyms (opposites) below.

1. _____ antagonized
2. _____ communicative
3. _____ flinching
4. _____ disrespect
5. _____ uncharitable
6. _____ belatedly
7. _____ debilitate
8. _____ wasteful
9. _____ elevating
10. _____ supine

Name _____

Project: Write an essay about Javert’s suicide. Explain why he killed himself—and express your opinion about other choices he could have made.

Step 1: To help understand Javert’s internal conflict, pretend that you are Javert and fill in the following chart:

Is Jean Valjean someone I admire?

Reasons I Do	Reasons I Don't

SAMPLE