**SETTING AND ATMOSPHERE ACTIVITY SHEET 3**

***GREAT EXPECTATIONS*: VIEWING ACTIVITIES**

Watch the sequence closely, then discuss the following questions in small groups:

1. How does the filmmaker ‘set the scene’ in the very first moments? How do you think the choice of this first shot is supposed to make the audience respond?
2. Listen to the voiceover. This is taken directly from the novel on which the film is based. How do these words set the scene for the sequence that follows? How do the words that are being read out relate to what we see on screen, and what we hear?
3. How effective do you think the opening shot is for this kind of film? What other ways might the director have used to start the film?

Watch the sequence again closely and on this second viewing, work in small groups to answer the following questions and complete the table below.

1. How many separate shots can you count in this sequence? Count when there is a change from one shot to another (but not when the camera simply moves to follow Pip).
2. How long is each of these shots? What can you see in each shot? How would you describe the pace of this short sequence?

**CREATIVE RESPONSE**

1. Imagine you were transported back in time to this set to take the director’s place. You have the choice of where to place the camera and how it should move. Storyboard a *different* opening sequence, one which you think would be appealing to today's audience. For example, would you use an extreme close-up? Would your camera move differently? Would your shots be shorter? Annotate your storyboard with clear explanations of the choices you would make and the effect you would hope to have on the modern viewer.
2. Based on your notes about the sounds and images used in the clip, write the opening descriptive paragraphs of a new story, focusing on setting and atmosphere. You don't need to worry about plot and character in this exercise, just try to give your reader a clear impression of the atmosphere that this opening scene creates.

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| **Shot number** | **Visuals** | **Camera angle/movement** | **Duration** |
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SHOT DIALOGUE / DESCRIPTION

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