

**Level:** Upper-Intermediate / B2 onwards

**Time:** approx. 90 minutes

**Main Aim(s):**

- To introduce students to the plot and characters in *Emma*
- To engage students with the text and encourage extensive reading

**Subsidiary aim(s):**

- To help students improve their listening and note-taking skills
- To help students improve their vocabulary
- To provide opportunities to develop the four skills
- To work on past perfect simple and past perfect continuous tenses

**Materials:**

- Optional: some pictures of mobile phones, personal computers, Twitter and Facebook logos
- Student worksheets (includes an extract from the novel *Emma*, by Jane Austen)  
The YouTube video by PBS on the Morgan Library Exhibition on Austen's letters  
Link: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSCF\\_OP506g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSCF_OP506g)  
(Or transcript of the video on Austen's letters – included in the answer key)
- Dictionaries
- Optional: further grammar activities on past perfect

**Extra online resources:**

- British Council LearnEnglish: **Past perfect**  
<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/grammar-reference/past-perfect>
- The Morgan Library & Museum: **A woman's wit: Jane Austen's life and legacy**  
<http://www.themorgan.org/exhibitions/exhibition.asp?id=22>

**Introduction:**

This unit is designed to develop students' understanding of the importance of letters in Austen's work and in her own life. It is based on *Emma*, a novel where written communication between the characters has a significant importance on the plot. At the same time it introduces some of the characters and the plot of the novel.

