

Q. Brief Biography of Jane Austen.

Ans : Jane Austen was the seventh child of the parish rector in the town of Steventon, where she and her family resided until moving to Bath in 1801. Though her parents were members of the English gentry, they remained relatively poor. Modest to a fault about the value of her work, Jane Austen nevertheless produced some of the enduring masterpieces of English literature, including the novels *Pride and Prejudice*, *'Sense and Sensibility'*, *'Emma'* and *'Persuasion'*. Her novels were published anonymously until after her death, when her authorship became known. While it was not unheard of for women to publish under their own names in Austen's lifetime, it was still a rarity. Despite the fact that her books focus on the intricate rituals of courtship and marriage among the British middle class, Austen herself remained single throughout her life, preferring the life of a writer over that of a wife and hostess.

Austen's initial title for her manuscript was "First Impressions." Though the book was eventually published as *Pride and Prejudice*, the initial title hints at the story's concern for social appearances and the necessity of finding people's true qualities beneath the surface.