

Year 7 Homework Booklet – Autumn 1

Homework Task 1 –

1) Which of these is the correct definition of a noun? (1)

- a) A word which describes an action (or a *doing* word).
- b) A word which describes an object (or a describing word).
- c) A word which describes how an action is performed.
- d) A word which names a thing.
- e) A word which replaces the name of a thing.

2) Which of these is the correct definition of a pronoun? (1)

- a) A word which describes an action (or a *doing* word).
- b) A word which describes an object (or a describing word).
- c) A word which describes how an action is performed.
- d) A word which names a thing.
- e) A word which replaces the name of a thing.

3) Which of these is the correct definition of a verb? (1)

- a) A word which describes an action (or a *doing* word).
- b) A word which describes an object (or a describing word).
- c) A word which describes how an action is performed.
- d) A word which names a thing.
- e) A word which replaces the name of a thing.

4) Which of these is the correct definition of an adjective? (1)

- a) A word which describes an action (or a *doing* word).
- b) A word which describes an object (or a describing word).
- c) A word which describes how an action is performed.
- d) A word which names a thing.
- e) A word which replaces the name of a thing.

Read the following extract:

In the whole of his entire, actual life, Eric Doomsday had never got anything through the post.

No letters, no postcards, no parcels, no nothing. He did get a pizza menu once, although, as it had been addressed to a Mrs Eric Dumsday, he didn't think it counted.

And yet here he was, standing in his bedroom, holding a purple envelope that had just been delivered to his house, that had his name written on it. Eric turned the envelope around in his hands. On the back, someone had drawn beautiful swirls and spirals in silver ink, and it had been sealed with a large red star. Hands trembling, Eric carefully lifted open the flap. Inside was a small piece of golden paper. It was an invitation.

Eric held his breath and looked again at the front of the envelope, just to make doubly sure that he hadn't accidentally opened something that was addressed to someone else. He had made that mistake once before with a letter that he thought had been for him but that had, in fact, been addressed to his Auntie Elsie. She had been staying with them while her house was being redecorated. Before Eric realized his mistake, he had spent a very worrying twenty minutes thinking he needed to get a rather large boil removed from his bottom.

But this time there was no mistake.

He, Eric Doomsday, of number 18 Ottershaw Drive, had been invited to a birthday party. And not just any birthday party either. No, Eric had been invited to Hattie Lavernock's birthday party. He stood there, in his vest, pants and socks, staring at the golden invitation, and lost himself in a daydream of party games and laughter.

DING DONG DING DONG DING DONG Eric's daydream was shattered by the sound of someone ringing the front doorbell, followed, a few moments later, by the thunder of heavy footsteps coming up the stairs, and a barrage of excited squeals.

OHMYGOSHOHMYGOSHOHMYGOSH!"

Eric's best friend, Vinnie Mumbles, crashed through his bedroom door, a huge smile plastered right across her face. In fact, Vinnie was so excited that her brain seemed to completely ignore that she was standing in front of a boy in his vest and pants.

"I got one too," said Eric, holding up his invitation. In his state of extreme excitement, his brain had also seemed to completely ignore that he was standing in front of a girl in his vest and pants.

Vinnie grabbed it from his still trembling hand and walked over to the window. She held them up to the light, like she was checking to see if they were forgeries.

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“It...it’s real,” she said, beaming. “It’s only blummin’ real.”

The excitement of getting an invitation to Hattie Lavernock’s birthday party suddenly burst out of Eric in all directions and he did a little happy dance. Unfortunately, as he did, his foot slipped on some playing cards that lay strewn on the carpet and he fell backwards into a half-eaten bowl of cornflakes that he’d put on his chair for safekeeping.

Vinnie clasped the invitations to her chest.

“This is our chance,” she said.

Eric stood up from the chair and tried to reach the bowl that was now, thanks to the soggy cereal, glued onto his left bottom cheek. He let out a small sigh. He was sick and tired of accidentally getting things stuck onto different bits of his body. Last week, Eric had somehow managed to get the bread bin jammed on his foot while he had been making some toast. And then only yesterday, the World Marble Championship Final that Eric was playing against himself in his bedroom had to be interrupted when he got the waste-paper bin stuck on his head.

“Chance for what?” he said.

Vinnie smiled. “Our chance to be liked,” she said, watching Eric waggle his bum around. “How many parties have you ever been to before?”

Eric stopped waggling. “Er...” he said.

“That weren’t your own,” added Vinnie.

“Er...” said Eric, still thinking.

“Or mine,” added Vinnie.

“Er...” said Eric again.

“Or your grandma’s,” said Vinnie.

Eric counted on his fingers.

“Er, well, none,” he said.

“Exactly,” said Vinnie. “It’s the same with me. Our class has thirty pupils in it so, since we started school, there have been a grand total of 168 birthdays and we haven’t been invited to any. On a popularity scale of one to ten, we are a pair of zeros.”

“So why has Hattie Lavernock invited us this year?” said Eric. “She must be at least a ten.”

“Search me,” said Vinnie. “Hey, maybe she got a kick out of the last presentation I did to the class? You know, the one on the history of the internal combustion engine that Ms Mustering gave me top marks for.”

Vinnie gave Eric their special secret smile where she curled her fingers around her top lip like a moustache and opened her eyes as wide as they would go.

But Eric didn’t have a chance to say what he thought of Vinnie’s theory because, at that moment, with a loud slurping noise, the cereal bowl unstuck itself from his left bottom cheek and slithered and slopped down his leg. It left behind a large trail of soggy cornflakes that made it look like Eric had had a terrible accident before he could get to the toilet.

1) Write one sentence showing us how Eric felt in the following question.

‘Eric held his breath and looked again at the front of the envelope’

2) What does the verb ‘clasped’ suggest about how Vinnie felt about being invited to the party?

3) Write a paragraph answering the following the question, using evidence from the text.

How does the author present Eric’s character?

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Homework Task 2 –

1. Which information is used at the top right of the letter?

- a. Date
- b. Recipient name and address
- c. Salutation
- d. Sender address

2. Which information follows the sender's address?

- a. Date
- b. Recipient name and address
- c. Salutation
- d. Sender address

3. How should the date be written in a formal letter?

- a. In numbers but with the month as a word
- b. In numbers only
- c. In words but with the month as a number
- d. In words only

4. What is on the left of the page and level with the date?

- a. Recipient name and address
- b. Salutation
- c. Sender address
- d. Valediction

5. What is written below the recipient's address?

- a. Recipient name
- b. Salutation
- c. Valediction
- d. Your (sender) name

6. What might you include next in your letter?

- a. A reference to show your reason for writing
- b. A title, e.g. "A letter of complaint to the bank"
- c. Your (sender) name
- d. Your reason for writing

7. What should your first paragraph state?

- a. A reference to show your reason for writing
- b. Tasks for the recipient to carry out
- c. What you wish to happen next
- d. Your reason for writing

8. Which term describes the middle of a letter?

- a. Body
- b. Ending
- c. Head
- d. Opening

9. The concluding paragraph states

- a. A farewell
- b. A greeting
- c. What has already happened
- d. What you wish to happen next

10. At the very end of the letter you need to

- a. Print the recipient's name
- b. Print your name
- c. Sign and print your name
- d. Sign your name

Your school is running a summer school, where they will take students abroad to Rome. There are only 10 places available.

Write a letter to your history teacher explaining why you should be picked to go.

Include all the features of a formal letter.

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Homework Task 3 –

1) Which of the following is an example of a verb? (1)

- a) After
- b) School
- c) I
- d) Went
- e) Home.

2) Which of the following definitions of a modal verb are correct? (1)

- a) A word like they, we, and it.
- b) These are verbs that indicate likelihood, ability, permission or obligation.
- c) A word which describes how a verb is completed.
- d) Modal verbs do not have suffixes.

3) Underline the verb in this sentence. (1)

Almost all healthy foxes in this area can run quickly.

4) Underline the verbs in this sentence (3)

The squirrel ran, hopped, and jumped over the field.

5) Which of these sentences doesn't contain a verb? (2)

- a) They plough through the moon-stuff.
- b) Just under the surface.
- c) Lifting the moon's skin.
- d) Like a muscle.

6) Which of these are different versions of the verb 'be'? (3)

- a) Will
- b) Are
- c) Is
- d) Lift
- e) Am

Read the following extract:

Mildew and his friend Sponge were taking a much needed breather on the twice- weekly jog up the side of Pig's Pike. They stood panting, gazing down at the blackened and gloom- laden, gargoyle- infested monstrosity that was their school.

Maudlin Towers School for the Not Particularly Bright Sons of the Not Especially Wealthy sat between the twin hills of Pug's Peak and Pig's Pike in the windswept north country of Cumberland, squatting like an obscenely ornate jet brooch pinned to the bosom of a sour- faced duchess.

Mildew's full name was Arthur Mildew, but no one in the school used first names. Sponge's full name was Algernon Spongely- Partwork, but everyone called him Sponge. They were not happy.

'I'm not happy, Sponge,' said Mildew.

'Me neither,' said Sponge with a sigh.

Mildew helped Sponge take off the backpack that their criminally insane sports teacher, Mr Stupendo, insisted the boys wore on these runs as an extra layer of torture. Mildew groaned with the effort, dropping the backpack to the ground.

'What on earth have you got in there?' he said. 'It weighs a ton.'

'Stupendo caught me filling it with socks again and forced me to load it up with the contents of my trunk.'

Mildew opened the pack and saw items of clothing, shoes, several books and a brass telescope.

'Why on earth do you have a telescope?' he asked.

'I don't really know,' said Sponge. 'My Uncle Tarquin bought it for me last Christmas. I'd forgotten I even had it to be honest. I wish I hadn't.'

'Bad luck,' said Mildew. 'It's rather heavy.'

'I know. By the way – why have you got a bandage on your arm, Mildew?' asked Sponge. 'Did you have an accident in the half- term hols?'

'I've tried to tell you three times now, Sponge,' said Mildew. 'But every time I do, you start to hum to yourself and I get interrupt–'

'Put some pep into it, Mildew!' shouted Mr Stupendo, stroking his horribly large mustachios, his bald head glistening like a damp egg. 'Why, at your age I could lift a dead sheep over my head with barely a bead of sweat!'

Mr Stupendo had been a circus strongman before the life of a sports teacher had tragically caught his eye.

'But, sir,' pleaded Mildew, 'my knees.'

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‘Nonsense,’ said Mr Stupendo, cuffing him round the ear and sending him sprawling headlong into the bracken. ‘You’re far too young to have knees, Mildew. Come on! The last one to the top is a Russian.’

Mr Stupendo bounded up the path. There were pitiful groans from the boys around him as Mildew got to his feet, and their wretched, downtrodden whining suddenly stirred something in him.

‘Look here,’ he cried, waving his fist in the air. ‘What say we show old Stupido what we’re made of and beat the old hippo to the top?’

‘Shut up, Mildew, you blister,’ said Kenningworth, cuffing him playfully round the ear and sending him sprawling into the bracken once again.

Mildew saw the boys disappearing up the track as he got to his feet. He spat out a piece of the indigenous flora and stared down at Maudlin Towers, a cloud- shadow darkening its already grim and grimy, gargoyle- encrusted walls. Surely, he thought, *this must be the very worst of schools.*

‘Are you all right?’ said Sponge.

‘I suppose so,’ said Mildew with a sigh that he hoped might hint at the enormity of his despond.

‘Someone needs to teach Kenningworth a lesson,’ said Sponge. ‘My mother says he – ’

Mark the following statements as true or false.

1. Maudlin School is for rich people.
2. Sponge and Mildew get their names from their surnames.
3. Sponge always interrupts Mildew.
4. Mr Stupendo was their English teacher.
5. Mildew had to carry a bag full of the contents in his trunk, on his run, as a punishment.
6. Mr Stupendo had a lot of hair on his head.
7. Mr Stupendo was a circus strong man before he became a sports teacher.
8. Kenningworth playfully slaps Mildew making him fall into the bushes.
9. Kenningworth feels sorry Sponge and Mildew.
10. Mildew thinks this must be the very worst of schools.

Write one paragraph for each of the following questions, using evidence from the text to support your point:

- 1) What impression does the author create of the school and what does this suggest about Mildew and Sponge’s experience there?
- 2) How does the author show the reader Mr Stupendo is a character we should dislike?

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Homework Task 4 –

In English, some words help to develop ideas, for example "therefore", "furthermore" or "nonetheless"; these are called discourse markers and are usually used in formal writing or speaking situations.

Discourse markers help you to structure your ideas by linking them logically. At the same time they help your audience to follow your ideas, or the thread of your argument.

For example, I might wish to persuade someone to buy a warm winter coat from my friend's shop. First I would need to list all of the reasons this would be an excellent idea, before making my suggestion for a solution to the problem. I might say: "Your coat is beginning to fray at the edges of the sleeves and I've noticed that there is a tear where the hood joins. It's the end of winter and all the shops are selling their coats at a discount; therefore you would probably be able to get a bargain. I know it's an expense; nonetheless, it's better to buy a coat now rather than waiting until the autumn when they are full price." Furthermore, I happen to know that my friend's shop has an excellent range of coats for sale right now at half price!

These words are rather formal for a chatty conversation such as this one, but you can see how they help to link ideas and provide structure for a group of sentences.

Find the correct discourse marker for the following sentences:

- You are very late but I'm concerned, you can join in.
 - as far as
 - as regards
 - however
 - on the other hand
- He ate chocolate and I drank tea; she,, wanted a meal.
 - as far as
 - as regards
 - on the other hand
 - while
- The athletes swim firstly, run secondly and they cycle.
 - fourthly
 - lastly
 - on the other hand
 - while
- It rained all day;, we still went swimming in the sea.
 - as far as
 - as for
 - nevertheless
 - with regard to
- It rained all day;, we didn't swim in the sea.
 - as far as
 - consequently
 - us
 - we
- He ate ice cream and she ordered coffee, I chose pizza.
 - as far
 - as regards
 - while
 - with regard to
- Ten people were invited, so a waiting list was compiled.
 - as a result
 - as far as
 - in addition
 - therefore
- You are late;, you may not sit the examination.
 - as far as
 - however
 - therefore
 - while
- the letter I sent you last week, I wish to discuss the bill.
 - However
 - On the other hand
 - Therefore
 - With regard to
- They have all completed their tests;, I'm way behind.
 - as for me
 - for mine
 - I
 - my test

A parent has complained to your headteacher saying "technology ruins teenagers".

You need to write a speech for an assembly to parents, explaining your opinion on this topic.

Include whether you agree or disagree with the parent. Your argument should be persuasive.

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Homework Task 5 –

The Chocolate Heart was planted smack in the middle of the wealthy merchants' district, with bright pink and blue buildings and expensive carriages everywhere. It should have been a lovely sight on a brisk autumn day like today, but I didn't have time to appreciate the spectacle. The traders' market where Marina bought all of her supplies was a full two miles away, in the dingy, tightly packed sixth district where none of her fancy customers would ever dream of going. If I followed the broad and winding road that spiralled out through all of Drachenburg's districts like the curl of a giant snail's shell, I would never reach it in time.

I ran through the smelly alley ways instead, cutting straight across the city. There were people in Drachenburg who were born, lived and died in just one district, and treated all the others like dangerous foreign countries. But to me every bit of it was home, from the sunny yellow first district at the city's heart, where the royal palace stood in unshakeable golden splendour, to the grimy, heaving fifteenth district, where even the king's soldiers hesitated to go. I'd learned a long time ago that the skinny, shadowy alley ways, tucked away like shameful secrets behind the houses in every district, were the secret veins of the city, connecting all the different neighbourhoods into a living, breathing whole.

I had to dart and skip from side to side as I ran to escape the disgusting runoff that gushed down the centres of those alley ways. Unfortunately for my fabulous outfit, there was no way to escape the smell. It had rained for the past week, so the gutters were bubbling and overflowing with a noxious, clumpy, dark liquid goo made up of rain water mixed with leavings from chamber pots, horse droppings and rubbish. Even when I held my breath, I could feel the stench floating up to stick itself against my skin and clothes.

But it was worth it. Every time I leaped out from the end of another curving passage way, I emerged into a whole new world of colour, filled with different kinds of people, sights and smells. From the third district to the fourth, the fifth ...

There.

The big old brick warehouse hulked in front of me, all of the doors at the front propped open. No smoke was coming out of them, which was a definite relief. I didn't hear any screams yet either.

Good. I still had time.

I started for the closest door – and heard an all-too familiar roar of rage.

Too late! I sprinted forward in panic.

Mark the following statements as true or false.

1. The narrator was in no rush; she takes her time to pace through the district.
2. The centre of the merchant's district was beautiful and colourful.
3. Marina had fancy customers.
4. The narrator was a posh little girl.
5. Some people in Drachenburg did not move out of their own district their whole lives.
6. The dark, dirty alleyways connected all the different areas of the city together.
7. There were tall buildings making everything dark and gloomy.
8. People tried really hard to keep the district clean.
9. The alley ways had an awful stench.
10. The narrator had a moment of relief before panicking.

Write one paragraph for each of the following questions, using evidence from the text to support your point:

- 1) How does the author present the narrator's love for her city?
- 2) How does the author create a sense of urgency in the passage?

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Homework Task 6 –

Choose the correct definitions for the following terms.

1. Protagonist

- a. Leading character
- b. Minor character
- c. Playwright
- d. The chorus

2. Third person narrative.

- a. Narrator using "he", "she" or "it" as viewpoint
- b. Narrator using "I" as viewpoint
- c. Narrator using "they" as viewpoint
- d. Narrator using "you" as viewpoint

3. First person narrative.

- a. Narrator using "he" as viewpoint to tell a tale
- b. Narrator using "I" as viewpoint to tell a tale
- c. Narrator using "it" as viewpoint to tell a tale
- d. Narrator using "you" as viewpoint to tell a tale

4. Setting

- a. The characters of the tale
- b. The language of the tale
- c. The painted scenery used on stage
- d. Where the tale takes place

5. Atmosphere

- a. The creation of a character in a tale
- b. The creation of a mood or feeling in a tale
- c. The scenery of the sky in a play
- d. The scenery used in a round theatre

6. Imagery

- a. Imaginary words and phrases
- b. Imagined words and phrases
- c. Words making pictures in your mind
- d. Words making pictures on your page

Read the following passage from *Oliver Twist*.

‘Oliver thought the old gentleman must be a decided miser to live in such a dirty place, with so many watches; but, thinking that perhaps his fondness for the Dodger and the other boys, cost him a good deal of money, he only cast a deferential look at the Jew, and asked if he might get up.’

In this part of the text, Oliver wakes up in Fagin’s house and witnesses Fagin gloating over his gold jewels and watches. Write a PREZEL paragraph explaining how Dickens shows his protagonist, Oliver, to be naïve.

P: Dickens presents Oliver as naïve because...

R: This can be seen when....

E: This meant that...because...

This shows that...because...

This also alludes to the notion that...because...

Z: The connotations of “...” suggest...because....

E+L: Dicken’s is encouraging his reader to feel...towards Oliver/Fagin because during the Victorian era....and Dickens was critical of this because...

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Homework Task 7 –

An idiom is an expression with a different meaning than its literal one, e.g. if something is hard to find you may say it's like trying to find a needle in a haystack.

1. **Which one exaggerates a problem?**
 - a. Making a molehill out of a mountain
 - b. Making a mountain out of a molehill
 - c. Making a pebble out of a rock
 - d. Making an acorn out of an oak
2. **Which idiom means "an unsuccessful search"?**
 - a. A wild bird chase
 - b. A wild duck chase
 - c. A wild goose chase
 - d. A wild swan chase
3. **Which one means "to cause disagreement"?**
 - a. Bone of content
 - b. Bone of contentedness
 - c. Bone of contention
 - d. Bone of contentment
4. **Which one means "very bored"?**
 - a. Bored to cry
 - b. Bored to laugh
 - c. Bored to smile
 - d. Bored to tears
5. **Which one means "unlikely to happen"?**
 - a. A pig in a poke
 - b. Pig-headed
 - c. Pig-iron
 - d. Pigs might fly
6. **Which one means "to become angry"?**
 - a. To see blue
 - b. To see green
 - c. To see red
 - d. To see white
7. **Which expression means "you need to do better"?**
 - a. Pull your sock up
 - b. Pull your socks up
 - c. Put a sock in it
 - d. Sock it to them
8. **Which idiom means "to be the best"?**
 - a. A hornet's nest
 - b. The bee's knees
 - c. The bee's sting
 - d. The wasp's nest
9. **Which phrase means "just"?**
 - a. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
 - b. A stitch in time saves nine
 - c. By the chattering of your teeth
 - d. By the skin of your teeth
10. **Which expression means "doesn't fit in"?**
 - a. A kettle of fish
 - b. Fish out of water
 - c. Other fish to fry
 - d. Swim like a fish

Read the following extract:

'What's the matter?' demanded Oliver.

'Hush!' replied the Dodger. 'Do you see that old cove at the book-stall?'

'The old gentleman over the way?' said Oliver. 'Yes, I see him.'

'He'll do,' said the Doger.

'A prime plant,' observed Master Charley Bates.

Oliver looked from one to the other, with the greatest surprise; but he was not permitted to make any inquiries; for the two boys walked stealthily across the road, and slunk close behind the old gentleman towards whom his attention had been directed. Oliver walked a few paces after them; and, not knowing whether to advance or retire, stood looking on in silent amazement.

The old gentleman was a very respectable-looking personage, with a powdered head and gold spectacles. He was dressed in a bottle-green coat with a black velvet collar; wore white trousers; and carried a smart bamboo cane under his arm. He had taken up a book from the stall, and there he stood, reading away, as hard as if he were in his elbow-chair, in his own study. It is very possible that he fancied himself there, indeed; for it was plain, from his abstraction, that he saw not the book-stall, nor the street, nor the boys, nor, in short, anything but the book itself: which he was reading straight through: turning over the leaf when he got to the bottom of a page, beginning at the top line of the next one, and going regularly on, with the greatest interest and eagerness.

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What was Oliver's horror and alarm as he stood a few paces off, looking on with his eyelids as wide open as they would possibly go, to see the Dodger plunge his hand into the old gentleman's pocket, and draw from thence a handkerchief! To see him hand the same to Charley Bates; and finally to behold them, both running away round the corner at full speed!

In an instant the whole mystery of the handkerchiefs, and the watches, and the jewels, and the Jew, rushed upon the boy's mind.

He stood, for a moment, with the blood so tingling through all his veins from terror, that he felt as if he were in a burning fire; then, confused and frightened, he took to his heels; and, not knowing what he did, made off as fast as he could lay his feet to the ground.

This was all done in a minute's space. In the very instant when Oliver began to run, the old gentleman, putting his hand to his pocket, and missing his handkerchief, turned sharp round. Seeing the boy scudding away at such a rapid pace, he very naturally concluded him to be the depredator; and shouting 'Stop thief!' with all his might, made off after him, book in hand.

But the old gentleman was not the only person who raised the hue-and-cry. The Dodger and Master Bates, unwilling to attract public attention by running down the open street, had merely retired into the very first doorway round the corner. They no sooner heard the cry, and saw Oliver running, than, guessing exactly how the matter stood, they issued forth with great promptitude; and, shouting 'Stop thief!' too, joined in the pursuit like good citizens.

Although Oliver had been brought up by philosophers, he was not theoretically acquainted with the beautiful axiom that self-preservation is the first law of nature. If he had been, perhaps he would have been prepared for this. Not being prepared, however, it alarmed him the more; so away he went like the wind, with the old gentleman and the two boys roaring and shouting behind him.

In this part of the text, Oliver realises the boys are thieves and the gang earns its riches through pickpocketing. Write a PREZEL paragraph explaining how Dickens shows the boys and the gang are corrupt in this passage.

You can compare the innocence of Oliver and Mr Brownlow to the boys for a more in-depth explanation.

P: Dickens presents the Artful Dodger and Master Charley Bates as corrupt here because...

R: This can be seen when....

E: This meant that...because...

This shows that...because...

This also alludes to the notion that...because...

Z: The connotations of “...” suggest...because....

E+L: Dicken's is encouraging his reader to feel...towards the boys/Oliver because during the Victorian era....and Dickens was critical of this because...