

## Year 8 Homework Booklet – Autumn 1

### Homework Task 1 – Rich or Poor in the Victorian Era

#### Quick Recall:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ was the most powerful nation in the world in the Victorian era.
2. London had a \_\_\_\_\_ population during the Victorian era and this led to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, poor living conditions.
3. Poor sanitation and a lack of \_\_\_\_\_ led to disease and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Victorian society was divided by \_\_\_\_\_ and life was far more \_\_\_\_\_ for those living in poverty than for the elite in Victorian London who lived in \_\_\_\_\_.

**Missing words:** wealth            impoverished    luxury    hygiene            Britain  
                          overcrowding    arduous            growing            death

**WGLL:** Firstly, life was arduous in the Victorian era because of child labour. For example, many poverty-stricken children often had to work in terrible conditions instead of going to school. Many worked with their parents at home or in workshops in dangerous work where they could be seriously injured, making matchboxes or sewing. Children could also earn a bit of money as chimney sweeps, but this made many Victorian children deathly ill and resulted in many child fatalities. Crossing the street in the 19th century could be dirty and dangerous. London's streets were dirty because horses were used as a method of transport and they left a lot of dirt behind, they were also dirty because in the Victorian era, there was no sewage system, which meant that when people went to the toilet, their waste would be thrown out onto the street. Many Londoners died from illnesses such as cholera, measles and scarlet fever. Babies in over-crowded and damp housing were the most at risk from diarrhoea and tuberculosis. Even those in rich families died because of poor medical knowledge. Due to the high risk of disease and death, parents could also die at a young age so London had many orphans, rich and poor. Orphans who could not find a place in an orphanage sometimes had to live on the streets or in workhouses. Workhouses provided food and shelter in return for hard, unpleasant work. Conditions were very harsh and people would only go to workhouses as a last resort.

#### Answer questions in full sentences:

1. Why was life arduous in the Victorian era?
2. What kind of jobs did children work in and what could this result in?
3. What was the result of many children working as chimney sweeps?
4. Why were the streets dirty in Victorian London and what diseases did the poor sanitation cause?
5. Who did diseases affect in Victorian London and what did this cause there to be a high number of?
6. What happened to orphans who could not find an orphanage to live in?
7. What were people forced to do in the workhouse and what were the conditions like there?

#### Extended writing task: Read the following:

My name is Emily. My father is a wealthy man. He works as a doctor and has lots of rich clients who visit him. I live with my father and my two younger brothers in a big house in Mayfair in London. My mother died when I was five years old, so I don't really remember her. She died whilst giving birth to my youngest brother. Every Sunday I go to church and pray for my mother in heaven. As well as my father and brothers, there are five servants who live in our house and look after us. We have a cook who makes all of our meals and servants who wait on us at the table. My brothers and I also have a governess who teaches us lessons. Our governess also takes us on special trips and treats. We get to go to the theatre and

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concerts in London. I like living in London but sometimes it can be very dirty and crowded. Last summer I went for a walk along the river Thames with my governess. The smell of the river was so bad that I fainted!

**Write a PRECPRE paragraph explaining how life for Emily would juxtapose to lives of the poor in Victorian London.**

P: Firstly, within the Victorian era, life was very arduous for those who were poverty-stricken because...

R: For example, many poverty-stricken...

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

This also tells us that...because...

I can infer that this meant life was arduous because...

C+ P: In contrast, life was very luxurious for the rich because...

R: For example, Emily's life would juxtapose the lives of poor Victorians, as she was able to...

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

This also tells us that... because...

I can infer that this meant life was comfortable for the rich because ...

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### Homework Task 2 – Egeus

#### Quick Recall:

1. Egeus wants his daughter Hermia to marry \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Egeus is angered by Hermia's love for another man, \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Egeus is an overbearing \_\_\_\_\_, because he would rather have Hermia killed for disobeying him than allow her to love \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Lysander and Hermia are in love despite Egeus's \_\_\_\_\_ for his daughter.
5. Hermia loves Lysander and is determined to be with him despite the fact that \_\_\_\_\_ expects her to follow his orders.
6. Theseus will use the force of the \_\_\_\_\_ against Hermia if she does not follow her father's wishes because he is an overbearing patriarch.

#### Enter missing words:

Demetrius, patriarch, law, autonomously, Lysander, Egeus, expectation,

**WGLL:** Throughout Act 1, Egeus is presented as an overbearing and controlling patriarch. This is shown when confronting Lysander, Egeus angrily states “With cunning hast thou filched my daughter’s heart.” This quotation suggests that Lysander angers Egeus, as he has attempted to win over his daughter. Arguably, it is not simply Lysander that has angered Egeus, but rather the challenge to his authority as the “naturally superior” patriarch that his daughter’s capability of loving freely creates. In particular, the word “filched” has connotations of theft or robbery. Here, Shakespeare’s use of this word highlights the fact that in Egeus’s view, his daughter’s heart is something that he possesses that has been stolen from him, rather than his daughter. Egeus’s harsh and controlling nature presents him as overbearing and controlling; however, in the Shakespearean era it was believed that women were owned wholly by their fathers, so Egeus’s belief that he owned his daughter and her right to love would have been believed by the masses of contemporary audience members.

#### Answer questions in full sentences:

1. How is Egeus presented throughout Act 1?
2. What is a patriarch?
3. What does Lysander challenge?
4. How does Egeus view his daughter’s heart?
5. How would the contemporary audience member have reacted?

**Extended writing task:** Write a PREZEL paragraph answering the question: How is Hermia confined by her father's expectations?

Use the quote: “I beg the ancient privilege of Athens, As she is mine, I may dispose of her.”

P: Shakespeare presents the idea that Hermia is confined by her father’s expectations

R: This can be seen in the quotation ...

E: This suggests that Hermia is confined because...

This also implies that Egeus is controlling patriarch because ...

This could also be said to show that Hermia is controlled by the expectations of all men because ...

Z: Shakespeare’s use of the verb “dispose” suggests ...

E: This has the effect of ...

L: This links to ancient Athenian opinion because ... This would contrast Elizabethan England by ...

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### Homework Task 3 – Mr and Mrs Bumble

#### Quick Recall:

1. The boys in the w..... are starving despite the fact that Mr. and Mrs. B..... are given the funds to feed them.
2. Mr and Mrs Bumble are c.....and abuse their p.....within the workhouse for their own selfish gain.
3. The Bumbles use their i..... to abuse the boys at the orphanage. Dickens presents the reader with the corruption of Mr. and Mrs Bumble to demonstrate the fact that orphans were m..... and treated unfairly in V..... society.

**Missing Words:** corrupt, Victorian, influence, Bumble, position, mistreated, workhouse.

**WGLL:** The Bumble's are presented as corrupt and immoral characters. This is shown in the quotation "He was furious. How could the ungrateful boy ask for more?" This quotation implies that Mr. Bumble is a cruel and immoral man, who is completely shocked at the fact that Oliver has the confidence to ask for more food when he is starving. This presents Mr. Bumble as immoral, because although he is given the money to pay for the boys clothing and food, he takes the money for himself and allows the boy to starve and suffer. Furthermore, Mr. Bumble is cruel because not only does he expect the boys to starve and suffer, but he expects them to do so silently, and is completely shocked when they have the bravery to ask for the food that they deserve. In particular, the adjective "furious" emphasises just how uncaring and cruel Mr. Bumble is, because he is willing to allow poor and uncared for children to starve, and responds to their cries for help with anger and furiousness. In the Victorian era, poor people were often treated like criminals and the workhouse was viewed by many as a "prison for the poor", because of this, a Victorian reader may not have been shocked at Mr. Bumble's corrupt nature.

#### Answer questions in full sentences:

1. How are the Bumble's presented throughout the chapter? The Bumble's are presented as corrupt and immoral characters.
2. What does the quotation "He was furious. How could the ungrateful boy ask for more?" imply?
3. Why is Mr. Bumble presented as immoral?
4. How is Mr. Bumble presented as cruel?
5. What does the adjective "furious" have connotations of and what do these connotations emphasise?
6. How were poor people treated in the Victorian era and how would this have affected the way that Victorian readers view Mr. Bumble?

**Extended writing task:** Write two PREZEL paragraphs answering: How does Dickens show that Mr and Mrs Bumble were corrupt?

You might want to use the following quotes:

- "She was more worried about her personal income than the well-being of the children in her care."
- "He was furious. How could an ungrateful boy ask for more?"

P: Firstly, Dickens presents Mr Bumble as corrupt because...

R: This can be seen when....

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

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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 Mr and Mrs Bumble because during the Victorian era....and Dickens was critical of this because...

P: Firstly, Dickens presents Mrs Bumble as corrupt 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 Mr and Mrs Bumble because during the Victorian era....and Dickens was critical of this because...

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### Homework Task 4 – Hermia and Lysander

#### Quick Recall:

1. There is a love \_\_\_\_\_ involving \_\_\_\_\_, Lysander and Demetrius.
2. Lysander and Hermia plan to \_\_\_\_\_ to his aunt's house.
3. Lysander explains that 'The course of true \_\_\_\_\_ never did run \_\_\_\_\_.'
4. \_\_\_\_\_ aimed to suggest that love is not easy, and that in order to have "true love" one must face many challenges and tribulations.
5. Athens is an \_\_\_\_\_ society because within \_\_\_\_\_, people are not allowed to love \_\_\_\_\_.

**Missing Words:** elope freely smooth' oppressive Athens Hermia Shakespeare triangle love

**WGLL:** Lysander tells Hermia that 'the course of true love never did run smooth.' He is saying that love is a difficult journey and will always face obstacles. Shakespeare suggests that Lysander understands that the act of love requires hard work and thus the lovers must not give up their faith in being together, despite Hermia's father threatening to have them killed if Hermia disobeys him. Lysander knows that both, he and Hermia, must make tough decisions in order to win the battle that they face against Egeus, Theseus and Demetrius. Shakespeare makes it clear that Lysander is attempting to comfort Hermia because they are not allowed to get married. He also foreshadows the misfortune and failures of "love" that Lysander and Hermia will experience before the happiness that they wish for. Lysander's emphasis on 'true love' suggests that his relationship is based on a very powerful emotion and will therefore outweigh any of their troubles. This makes an audience empathise with the young couple as they are helpless against those who are more powerful than them; all they want is to be together. Some audiences might admire Lysander for being resilient against the harsh rule of Athens as he is suggesting that there is a way to work around Theseus' strict rule. Although Shakespeare signposts trouble with this phrase, the audience become apprehensive and await a happy ending hoping that Hermia and Lysander will get married (as a Shakespearean comedy was known to end with at least one marriage).

#### Answer questions in full sentences:

1. What does Lysander tell Hermia?
2. What is Lysander saying about love?
3. Why is Lysander trying to comfort Hermia?
4. What does the emphasis on true love suggest?
5. Why does this quotation make the audience empathise with the young couple?
6. How else does this make an audience feel about Lysander and why?

**Extended writing task:** Write two PREZELS answering the question: How does Shakespeare present the idea 'The course of true love never did run smooth'?

Must include the quote "The course of true love never did run smooth." Consider how this is a metaphor – a turbulent and dangerous river which makes several turns and twists – how might this be similar to a dangerous journey or a relationship that faces challenges?

P: Shakespeare presents the idea of "true love never did run smooth" by ...

R: This can be seen in the quotation ...

E: This suggests that Lysander and Hermia's relationship is ... because... This also implies that ... because ... This could also be said to show ... because ...

Z: Shakespeare's use of the metaphor ... suggests ...

E: This has the effect of ...

L: This links to ancient Athenian opinion because ... This would contrast Elizabethan England by ...

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### Homework Task 5 – Noah Claypole

#### Quick Recall:

1. Noah torments Oliver because he is threatened by \_\_\_\_\_ presence at the Sowerberry's.
5. Oliver attacks \_\_\_\_\_ after he is antagonised continuously by him.
6. Noah is malicious and \_\_\_\_\_ because he attempts to cause physical and \_\_\_\_\_ harm to Oliver, but he is also cowardly because when Oliver retaliates and attacks him he cries.
7. Arguably, in his deliberate creation of Noah's character, Dickens is intentionally being \_\_\_\_\_ of the dangers faced by \_\_\_\_\_ being of sold into work in the Victorian era.
8. Despite his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ nature, Noah is also presented as cowardly because he bursts into tears when Oliver attacks him despite the fact that he \_\_\_\_\_ him.
9. Dickens uses Claypole as a \_\_\_\_\_ symbol to expose and criticise the \_\_\_\_\_ that poor orphans had to face outside of the workhouse.

#### Missing Words: emotional dangers provoked critical Oliver's Noah facetious (x2) children malicious

**WGLL:** Throughout the chapter, Noah is presented as a facetious bully. This is shown when discussing Oliver's mother's death, he states that Oliver's mother was a "downright badun" This quotation shows how truly malicious Noah is, as he is attempting to emotionally hurt Oliver and is using the death of his mother to hurt his feelings. Furthermore, it can be suggested that Noah takes joy in jibing Oliver about the death of his mother, as he repeatedly taunts him after Oliver asks him to "leave her out of it." This shows that not only does Noah have no regard for Oliver's feelings, but that he is also aiming to hurt him emotionally as much as he possibly can. However, it could be argued that Noah is insecure that Oliver is going to take his place in his own home, so arguably he is not acting out of sheer cruelty, but jealousy and fear that Oliver will replace him at the Sowerberrys'. In particular, the phrase "badun" suggests that Noah intends for Oliver to be ashamed of his mother and feel inadequate himself because Noah wants to have power and authority over him. In the Victorian era, orphans like Oliver were expected to "be seen and not heard" so a Victorian reader would have been shocked at the manner in which Oliver defended himself against Noah.

#### Answer questions in full sentences:

1. How is Noah presented throughout the chapter?
2. What does the quotation "downright badun" imply?
3. What does Noah take joy in and how does the reader know this?
4. What might Noah be insecure about?
5. What does the phrase "badun" suggest about Noah's intentions?
6. How were orphans expected to behave in the Victorian era and how would this have led Victorian readers to view Oliver's behaviour?

**Extended writing task:** Write two PREZEL paragraphs answering: How does Dickens present the character of Noah Claypole?

When answering this question, include quotations from Noah such as 'a regular downright badun' to reveal his malicious nature. You may also wish to include responses from Oliver such as 'leave her out of it' to show the effect it has on the protagonist.

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P: Firstly, Dickens presents Noah Claypole as...

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 Claypole because during the Victorian era....and Dickens was critical of this because...

P: Furthermore, Dickens presents Noah as....

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 Claypole because during the Victorian era....and Dickens intended to...

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### Homework Task 6 – Helena’s Soliloquy

#### Quick Recall:

1. Helena is in love with \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ is where a character speaks to himself or herself or to the \_\_\_\_\_ rather than to the other characters.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ will tell Demetrius about Lysander and \_\_\_\_\_’s, plan to leave Athens because she wants Demetrius to love her instead of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Helena feels saddened throughout her soliloquy because she feels \_\_\_\_\_ love towards \_\_\_\_\_.

**Missing Words:** Helena, soliloquy, Hermia, Demetrius, Demetrius, audience, Hermia, unrequited,

**WGLL:** A soliloquy is a speech in which a character speaks to himself or herself or to the audience rather than to the other characters. At the end of Act 1, Helena tells the audience about her unrequited love for Demetrius: she loves him, but he doesn’t love her in return. She feels sad that Demetrius loves Hermia instead of her, telling her, “Demetrius loves your fair ...” Hermia doesn’t love Demetrius, but he still thinks Hermia is the most beautiful girl he has seen and wants to marry her. Helena is particularly sad because Demetrius used to love her before he saw Hermia: *“For ere Demetrius look’d on Hermia’s eyne, He hail’d down oaths that he was only mine.”* This suggests the betrayal Helena feels, as the love that she thought was hers to claim and forever love, has now been suddenly snatched away from her, and thus can lead the audience to feel sympathy from Helena’s soliloquy because she did not expect to be stripped off her true love. The use of the verb ‘oaths’ highlights that Demetrius promised to marry Helena before he fell in love with Hermia. In order to make Demetrius love her again, Helena decides to tell him that Hermia and Lysander are going to run away together: *“I will go tell him of fair Hermia’s flight ...”* Helena expects Demetrius to thank her for giving him this information. She is so in love that she will do anything just to get him to say a kind word to her. An audience would feel sympathy for Helena because she is so miserable, but they would also think she is foolish to love someone who doesn’t return her love.

#### Answer questions in full sentences:

1. What is a soliloquy?
2. Why is Helena’s love for Demetrius unrequited?
3. How does the soliloquy lead the audience to feel sympathy for Helena?
4. What does the use of the verb ‘oath’ highlight?
5. What does Helena decide to tell Demetrius, and why does she do this?
6. How would an audience feel when they saw this scene?

**Extended writing task:** Write a PREZEL answering the question: Why might audiences feel sympathy towards Helena during her soliloquy?

Quotes to use: “That he hath turn’d a heaven unto a hell?” “And even for that do I love you the more. I am your spaniel; and, Demetrius”

P&R: Helena is feeling saddened throughout her soliloquy as she says/states ‘...’.

E: This suggests that Helena is...because/and thus/and therefore...

This also could imply that Helena feels...because/and thus/and therefore...

However, one could argue that...because/and thus/and therefore...

Z: The use of (language device) in ‘...’ suggests...because...However, it could highlight...because...

E&L: This would have encouraged an Elizabethan audience to feel...because during this time...

However, an audience today would still feel... because...

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### Homework Task 7 – Oliver Escapes

#### Quick Recall:

1. Oliver started his life in a \_\_\_\_\_ which suggests that his life was \_\_\_\_\_ from the outset.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ were common in \_\_\_\_\_ due to the high level of d \_\_\_\_\_ that killed much of the population.
3. Life as an orphan which arduous and orphans were often used for \_\_\_\_\_ work and for the \_\_\_\_\_ gain of members of the elite such as Mr. Bumble.

**Missing Words:** difficult, laborious, selfish, Victorian Britain, orphans, diseases, workhouse

**WGLL:** Throughout the novel, Oliver’s life is presented as despairing from the outset. This is shown in the quotation “he was badged and ticketed, and fell into his place at one....the orphan of a workhouse”. This quotation implies that from the very outset of his life, Oliver was destined to experience the laborious and dirty conditions of the workhouse. Furthermore, because Oliver was born into a workhouse, it can be inferred that Oliver is an orphan and thus the reader can infer that he is alone in the world, without a friend, parent or loved one. This suggests that from his birth, Oliver was born into a despairing life in which he was going to have to experience an immense amount of pain and suffering before he could ever be happy and fulfilled. In particular, the word “workhouse” has connotations of dirt, desertion and labour. Therefore, Dickens use of the word “workhouse” may lead the reader to feel pity towards Oliver, because he is a sweet and innocent child who is being forced to live out their life in a dirty and horrible prison. In the Victorian era, the workhouse was believed to be among the worst places on earth, and so from the very outset a Victorian reader would have felt horrified that Oliver, an innocent child, was born into such a terrible place.

#### Answer questions in full sentences:

1. How is Oliver’s life presented from the outset?
2. What does the quotation “he was badged and ticketed, and fell into his place at one.... the orphan of a workhouse” imply?
3. What can be inferred about Oliver because he was born into a workhouse?
4. What does the word “workhouse” have connotations of and how would this make a reader feel toward Oliver?
5. What did Victorians believe about the workhouse and what would this have made them feel towards Oliver?

**Extended writing task:** Write a PREZEL paragraph answering: How does Dickens show that Oliver Twist’s life was despairing from the start?

Quotes to use: “Four days of endless walking” “He was begging for food”

P: Firstly, Dickens describes how Oliver Twist’s journey to London as despairing 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 sympathy towards Oliver because during the Victorian era....and Dickens was critical of this because...