

Classic Readers

DAVID COPPERFIELD

Activity Book

A black and white illustration featuring two characters. In the foreground, a young boy with dark hair and a serious expression looks upwards. Behind him, a man wearing a dark top hat and a suit jacket looks forward with a stern expression. The illustration is rendered in a style that uses strong highlights and shadows, giving it a dramatic and somewhat somber feel.

Charles Dickens

DAVID COPPERFIELD

Retold by Alfred Lee

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Chapter 1

Young David

1- Pre-reading:

- a- Do you remember anything about your childhood?
- b- What memories are you still carrying from the past?
- c- Do you think that early childhood can foreshadow the future life of a person?

2- During reading:

- As you read find out who the following characters are:

- a- Clara Copperfield.
- b- Miss Betsey Trotwood.
- c- Clara Peggotty.
- d- Mr. Murdstone.
- e- Daniel Peggotty.
- f- Miss Murdstone.

3- After reading:

A- Choose the right answer from a, b, or c:

- 1- Miss was the richest person in David's family.
 - a) Peggotty
 - b) Miss Murdstone
 - c) Miss Betsy Trotwood
- 2- Clara Copperfield gave birth to a
 - a) girl
 - b) a boy
 - c) twins

- 3- David went with Peggotty to
a) Blunderstone b) London c) Yarmouth
- 4- Clara Copperfield was married to
a) Mr. Murdstone b) Uncle Daniel c) Ham Peggotty
- 5- Mr. Murdstone acted in a way.
a) gentle b) rude c) calm

B- Read the sentences and correct the mistakes:

- a- David saw his father before he died.
b- Miss Trotwood was David's servant.
c- Clara Copperfield was sure the baby was a girl.
d- David went for a holiday to the west coast.
e- David's mother took complete control of the house.

C- Answer the following questions:

- 1- When was David born?
2- How did Miss Betsey Trotwood react to David's birthday?
3- Who did David's mother marry?
4- Why did David go to Yarmouth?
5- What kind of stepfather was Mr. Murdstone?
6- How did Mr. Murdstone treat David?
7- Who came to stay with David's family? Why?

D- Write (T) for True and (F) for False:

- 1- David's early life was miserable. ()
- 2- Miss Trotwood had 3 children. ()
- 3- Miss Betsey promised to educate David. ()
- 4- Peggotty did not like Mr. Murdstone. ()
- 5- David was happy for his mother's marriage. ()

F- Fill in the gaps using the following words:

stressed - troubles - week - death - eagerly – mood - firmness

David tells us that he was born six months after the of his father. David's mother was surprised by a visit from David's aunt, Betsey Trotwood, She was a strong woman who had with marriage. Miss Trotwood stormed out in a bad as soon as the doctor told her that the baby was a boy. One day, Peggotty suggested to David that they should go visit her family for a in Yarmouth, and he agreed. When David returned, he found that, while he was gone, Clara and Mr. Murdstone were married. Mr. Murdstone to Clara the idea of, and he made it clear to David that if he did not act the way Mr. Murdstone expected, he would be beaten.

An interactive literature class

- 1- Why do you think Dickens starts his novel by using a first-person narrator? What are the advantages of doing so?
- 2- What is the significance of Mr. Murdstone and Miss Betsey Trotwood's names?
- 3- Would you accuse David's mother of being the reason of David's miserable childhood?

Chapter 2

Off to School

1- Pre-reading:

- a- What is the significance of the expression “sent away”?
- b- Have you ever been forced to do something against your will?
- c- How important are friends in your life?

2- During reading:

- As you read find out who the following characters are:

- a- Mr. Barkis.
- b- Mr. Mell.
- c- Mr. Creakle.
- d- Tommy Traddles.
- e- James Steerforth.

3- After reading:

A- Choose the right answer from a, b, or c:

- 1- David's life was at the Murdstones.
 - a) joyful
 - b) miserable
 - c) happy
- 2- David was locked up for days.
 - a) five
 - b) four
 - c) three

- 3- Mr. Barkis is willing to Peggotty.
a) lunch with b) go out with c) marry
- 4- The worst thing at Salem House was the
a) sign b) food c) bed
- 5- Steerforth was than David.
a) younger b) older c) the same age

B- Read the sentences and correct the mistakes:

- a- Mr. Mell sent David as a punishment for his wickedness.
b- Tommy Traddles was a lucky boy.
c- The only boy he dared not beat was David Copperfield.
d- The Murdstones were so delighted to see David.
e- Peggotty had a new baby.

C- Answer the following questions:

- 1- Why was David locked up in his room?
2- What news did Peggotty tell David?
3- Describe Mr. Barkis.
4- What boarding school did David attend in London?
5- Why was the London school deserted?
6- How did Mr. Creakle run the school?
7- How was David's life at Salem School?
8- What happened to David's mother?

D- Write (T) for True and (F) for False:

- 1- David couldn't learn his lessons when the Murdstones were there. ()
- 2- Salem House was a clean and beautiful place. ()
- 3- David made some friends at school. ()
- 4- All the children hated Mr. Mell. ()
- 5- David's mother had a new baby. ()

E- Re-arrange the incidents:

- 1- David was locked in his room.
- 2- David was sent to a boarding school in London.
- 3- Mr. Murdstone beat David with his stick.
- 4- David met Mr. Creakle.
- 5- David returned to Blunderstone for Christmas.
- 6- At Salem house, David made new friends.

F- Fill in the gaps using the following words:

neck - boarding - beat - bit - London - holiday - wondering

One day Mr. Murdstone took David up to his room to him. As a result, David him. So, David was punished and it was decided that David should be sent to school in London. David went to Yarmouth by coach, then another coach took him to When he arrived at the school, David found out that he had arrived during a and the other boys were gone. David also learnt that he must wear a sign on his that said, "Take Care of Him. He Bites." He spent the week of vacation studying with Mr. Mell, and what the other boys would do when they saw his sign.

An interactive literature class

- 1- Do you think David's mother is right to marry Mr. Murdstone?
Why?
- 2- Mr. Creakle and Mr. Murdstone are very much alike.
Compare and discuss.
- 3- David's life will be full of sadness and misfortune.
Discuss
- 4- Write your own personal point of view of Steerforth.