



Wednesday 20th January

English Lesson

OLIVER TWIST

CHARLES DICKENS



Retold by Gill Tavner
Illustrated by Karen Donnelly



THE CHARACTERS



Oliver Twist

Oliver is an orphan. Is he strong enough to resist Fagin's attempts to make him a thief?

The Artful Dodger

Dodger is Fagin's favourite and very good at his job. Can Oliver trust this new friend?



Fagin

Fagin looks after orphaned boys, as long as they earn him money. Can he make himself rich by turning Oliver into a thief?

Mr Brownlow

Mr Brownlow is a respectable and warm-hearted old gentleman. Can his fondness for Oliver overcome distrust and doubt?



Bill Sikes

Sikes is a hardened criminal who works with Fagin. Can he control Nancy and still keep her love? Will he ruin Oliver?



Nancy

Nancy works for Fagin and loves Bill Sikes; she has a warm heart. Can she save Oliver?



Mrs Maylie

Mrs Maylie shows Oliver love and compassion. Is she strong enough to keep him safe from Fagin?





OLIVER TWIST

Oliver Twist didn't know who had named him. It wasn't his father, who had never seen him, and it certainly wasn't his mother, who died giving birth to him. It was probably someone in the cold, grey workhouse in which he lived with hundreds of other orphaned boys.

Life in the workhouse was cruel and hard, but the worst thing of all was the lack of food. At meal times, in the cavernous grey stone hall, the boys queued before the fat Master for their one ladleful of grey, watery gruel. Having returned to their hard benches, they would devour their gruel in seconds, licking their bowls and spoons so clean that washing up was never necessary. Still their stomachs rumbled.

They were terribly thin and always hungry. Not just peckish, really hungry. When they felt that they could bear it no longer, the orphans decided to take action. One of them must be

brave enough to ask for more. The boy they chose was Oliver Twist.

The evening arrived. As the boys finished licking their spoons, the room became quiet but for the soft sound of two timid, terrified feet tapping to the front. Oliver looked up at the Master and held out his bowl.



'Please, sir. I want some more.'

Silence.

The Master turned grey and whispered 'More?'

Then he turned from pale grey to crimson.

'MORE?' he bellowed, grabbing Oliver roughly. 'Mr Bumble, come quickly. This boy has asked for MORE!'





Mr Bumble dragged Oliver in front of the owners of the orphanage. They decided that he was a dangerous influence, and they must get rid of him immediately.

So, Oliver was thrown from the only home he remembered and sent to work for a cruel family. The adults worked him hard and beat him, and the children bullied him. Unable to stand it any longer, Oliver ran away.



What adjectives can we use to describe Oliver's time in the workhouse?



What adjectives can we use to describe Oliver's time in the workhouse?

Horrible

scary

dirty

Miserable

sad

unclean

lonely

mean

smelly

unkind

starving

famished





Look at these pictures.

What adjectives can we use to describe them?



Create a word bank of your adjectives

Word bank



What it feels like:

Boring damp scary strict evil
frightful dangerous cold lonely feels like a
prison unloved frightening haunted creepy

What it looks like:

enormous gross gloomy dreadful untidy vast
disgusting horrid ragged stony grim dusty muddy
dirty ancient tall scruffy mucky dull
rusty metal gates bumpy floors and walls black and white
looks like a prison not looked after
extraordinarily disgusting uncomfortable

What it sounds like:

Deafening loud quiet Doors banging loudly
Wind blowing Rats crawling creepily Water dripping

What it smells like:

dreadful disgusting damp horrid
appalling dusty dirty awful
extraordinarily disgusting



English Drop-in

- ▶ Don't forget, if you have any questions please feel free to contact Mrs Lorimer on teams.