

Literary Lives: Charles Dickens

Comprehension Questions

1. What is Charles Dickens famous for?

2. What happened to Dickens when he was 12?

3. What was Dickens' first job after leaving school?

4. How many instalments were there of 'The Pickwick Papers'?

5. What was Dickens' 'comeback' novella, published in 1843? What is it about?

6. How did Dickens meet Ellen Ternan?

7. Name two organisations Dickens help to raise money for.

8. What is Mesmerism?

9. What happened to Dickens in 1865?

10. What is unusual about 'The Mystery of Edwin Drood'?

Extension:

What evidence is there that Dickens was a very successful author? Find examples from throughout the text.

How did Dickens' experiences as a child impact on his later life? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.

What are your impressions of Dickens? Do you think he was a good man? Use evidence from the text to explain your answer.
