


CHAPTER FOUR

Fagin's Game

After breakfast Fagin and the two boys played a strange game. The old man put a wallet, a watch, some money and some handkerchiefs in his pocket. 

Then he walked around the room. The boys followed him. Sometimes he stopped. 'I'm looking at a shop window,' he said. Or, 'I'm talking to a friend.' The boys moved quickly and took the things from his pockets. 'Good! Well done!' said Fagin, or, 'No! I felt that! Try again!'

They played the game many times. Oliver watched and laughed a lot.

'Do you want to play the game, Oliver?' Fagin asked.

'Yes, please,' Oliver said. He wanted to play too. Soon he was good at the game. 'You're a good boy, Oliver,' said Fagin.

When the game was over two young ladies came to visit Dodger and Charley Bates. One was called Bet and the other Nancy. Their hair was long and their dresses were dirty.



Oliver Twist

One morning Fagin said to Oliver, ‘You can go out with Dodger and Charley Bates today.’ Oliver was happy and excited. He wanted to work.

He followed the two boys to the market. They walked very slowly.

Suddenly Dodger stopped. ‘Be quiet!’ he said. ‘Do you see that old man near the bookshop? He’s perfect.’

The old man was in front of the bookshop window. Dodger and Charley Bates went behind the old man. Dodger put his hand in the old man’s pocket and pulled out a handkerchief. He gave it to Charley Bates and they both ran away.

Oliver immediately understood the strange game. He also understood the mystery of Fagin’s watches and jewels. He began to run. At that moment the old man put his hand in his pocket. He did not find his handkerchief. He turned around and cried, ‘Stop, thief!’¹ Other people cried, ‘Stop, thief!’ Dodger and Charley Bates cried, ‘Stop, thief!’ Everyone ran after poor Oliver.

Oliver ran and fell. A policeman caught him and said, ‘Get up!’

‘I didn’t steal² the handkerchief!’ cried Oliver. ‘Two other boys stole it, but they aren’t here.’

‘You’re the thief,’ said the policeman.

‘No, no! Stop! I work at the bookshop and I saw everything,’ said another man. ‘This boy is innocent. Two other boys stole the handkerchief.’

1. **thief** : (pl. thieves) this person takes things from others.

2. **steal** : take something that is not yours.





Oliver Twist

Oliver was free. But he was very weak and fell to the ground.

The old man was very kind and said, 'Oh, the poor boy! Look at his white face. He must come home with me.' He called a carriage ¹ and took Oliver to his house. The old man's name was Mr Brownlow. He lived in a very nice house in a quiet London street.

When Dodger and Charley Bates arrived home Fagin asked, 'Where's Oliver?'

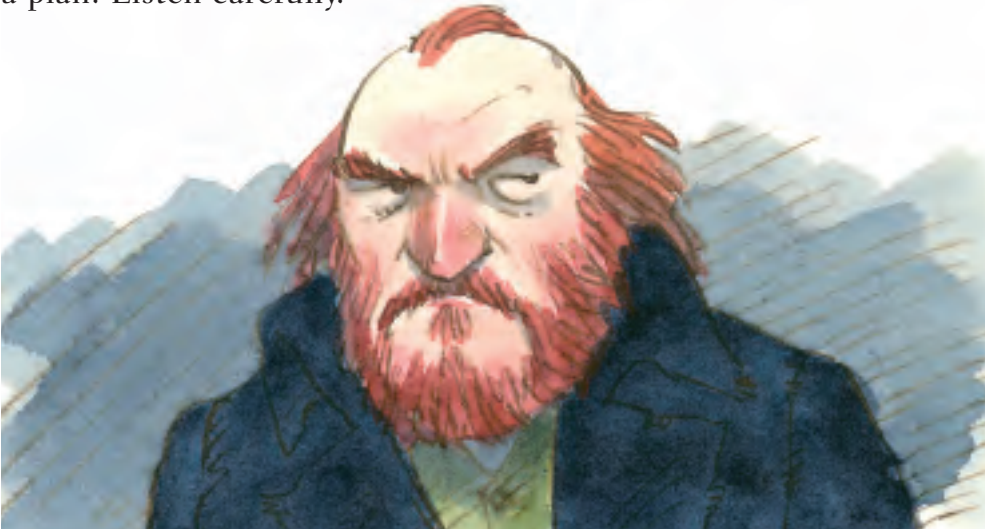
'A policeman took him away,' said Dodger.

'What!' cried Fagin. He was furious. 'Oliver could tell the police about us. We must find him.'

A strong man opened the door and entered the room. He had dirty clothes. He was about 35 years old and had angry eyes. His name was Bill Sikes. He was Fagin's friend. An old dog followed him.

'You're angry today, Mr Sikes,' said Fagin.

'Give me something to drink, Fagin,' said Sikes angrily. Fagin told Sikes about Oliver. Sikes said, 'We must find that boy! I have a plan. Listen carefully.'



1. carriage :



UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT



1 LANGUAGE

Choose the correct words in italics to complete the summary.

After *breakfast / lunch* Fagin and the two boys played a strange *game / came*.

The old man *put / cut* a wallet, a watch, money and some handkerchiefs in his *rockets / pockets*.

Then he walked *around / along* the room. The boys followed him.

Sometimes he *stopped / started*. 'I'm looking in a shop window,' he said.

Or, 'I'm *talking / walking* to a friend.' The boys moved *slowly / quickly* and took the things from his pockets. 'Good! Well done!' said Fagin, or, 'No! I *felt / saw* that! Try again!'

They played the game many *times / days*. Oliver watched and *learnt / laughed* a lot.



Now listen and check your answers.

2 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Oliver didn't want to play the game. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Bet and Nancy were two rich ladies. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 One day Oliver went out with Dawkins and Charley Bates. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Dawkins and Charley were thieves. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 They stole a watch. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Oliver went to prison. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 A kind gentleman took Oliver to his house. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Oliver went back to Fagin's house. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

T: GRADE 5

3 SPEAKING

Topic – Entertainment

Find some pictures of you or people in magazines doing things they enjoy. Use them to help you talk about:

- 1 What they / you are doing.
- 2 Why you think they are enjoying / not enjoying themselves.
- 3 Which things you prefer doing.
- 4 What sort of entertainment you like best and why.

4

LANGUAGE

Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using no more than three words. There is an example at the beginning (0).

- 0 There are a lot of different types of wallets here.
You can*find*..... a lot of different types of wallets here.
- 1 All the jewels must be put in the box.
You all the jewels in the box.
- 2 School books are available at the bookshop.
You school books at the bookshop.
- 3 The big watch costs less than the small watch.
The big watch wasn't the small watch.
- 4 The weight of the box is three kilograms.
The box three kilograms.
- 5 She received her education in England.
She was England.

5

VOCABULARY

Match these different types of criminals to each definition. Use your dictionary to help you.

- 1 murderer 2 thief 3 pickpocket
- 4 burglar 5 robber

- A Someone who takes things from other people's houses.
- B Someone who uses a gun or violence to steal something.
- C Someone who takes something that isn't theirs.
- D Someone who takes something from someone's pockets.
- E Someone who kills another person.

Which one is different to the others?

6

A GAME

Follow the instructions and play this game with another student.

- 1 Take some objects from your pockets or your pencil case. Put them in a handkerchief, or some paper.
- 2 Turn your back. Let another student take something from under the paper, or handkerchief.
- 3 Ask questions about the object you think they have. You are not allowed to say the name of the object. Example: Does it tell the time?

London in Dickens's Time

Great Britain was a very important, rich nation in the middle of the nineteenth century. London was one of the biggest and most powerful cities in Europe.

Merchants and professionals became rich in London. These people became part of the new high society. They were well educated¹ and lived in beautiful houses with servants. They were always very elegant and often went to the theatre, parties and dinners.



A Picnic (1857) by Henry Nelson O'Neil

1. well educated : taught to a high level.



During the Industrial Revolution thousands of people came to London from all over the country. They found work in the factories. Young children worked in the factories, too. Adults and children worked very long hours in terrible conditions. Children often did the most dangerous work because they were small: chimney sweeps,¹ for example! There were many accidents at work and some were fatal.²

1. **chimney sweeps** : people or children who clean



2. **fatal** : caused people to die.



The Railway Station (1862) by William Powell Frith.

Workers made very little money and lived in small, dark houses. The streets were dirty and narrow. Living conditions were very unhealthy. Some people had no work and no home. These men, women and children often became beggars ¹ or criminals. Others lived in a workhouse. The Poor Law of 1598-1601 (changed in 1834) obligated the local priest to take care of the poor in his area. This was

1. **beggars** : these people are very poor and ask for money or food.



Big families lived together in a room.

Some rich Victorians wanted to help the poor. In London Dr Thomas Barnardo established a home for orphan boys in 1870.

William and Catherine Booth created the Salvation Army in 1878 to help poor, hungry people. Today the Salvation Army is an international organisation.

There were several social reforms during Queen Victoria's reign, but poverty remained a big problem during the nineteenth century.

the beginning of the workhouses. They were often sad, squalid places.

Every workhouse had a Master who was responsible for it. The people in the workhouse did unpleasant jobs in return for a little food and some shelter. ¹ They were usually hungry, cold and often ill. Some Masters sold the children to the factories!



An orphan boy sleeping in the street.

1. **shelter** : a place to live, eat and sleep.

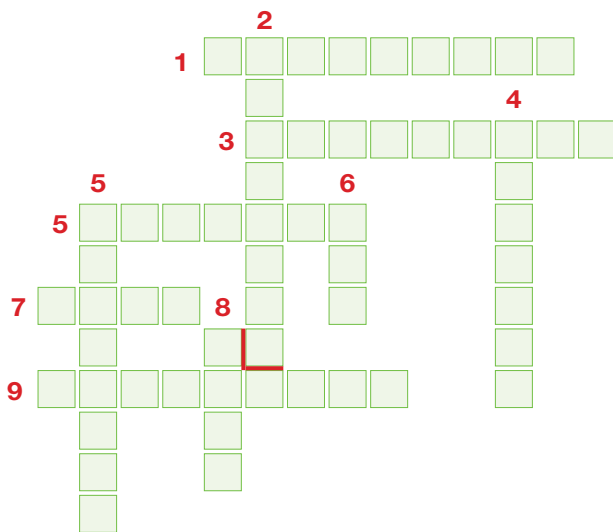
1 Complete this crossword puzzle.

Across

- 1 They became rich in London.
- 3 Not healthy.
- 5 They ask for money and food.
- 7 The Salvation helps poor, hungry people.
- 9 Adults and children worked in these in terrible conditions.

Down

- 2 A person who goes to a good school for a long time is
- 4 The new high society often went to the
- 5 He established a home for orphan boys.
- 6 A workhouse is a place.
- 8 Opposite of rich.



2 Class discussion

- 1 What was happening in your country in the 1830s?
- 2 When was the Industrial Revolution?
- 3 How did the working class live?

Reading a Painting



Applicants for admission to a Casual Ward (1874) by Sir Luke Fildes.

Look at the painting above.

- 1 What is the weather like?
- 2 Who are the people?
- 3 Where are they standing?
- 4 Where are they looking?
- 5 How old are they?
- 6 Are they happy?
- 7 What are they waiting for?

Look at the lady in the black dress.

- 1 What is she carrying?
- 2 Why do you think she is in the centre of the painting?

Look at the policeman on the left.

- 1 What is he doing?