

Year 7: "Oliver Twist" knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	Contextual information	Characters
<p>Morality: a code of right and wrong.</p> <p>Vulnerable: in a situation in which you could be easily harmed. People living on the streets are vulnerable.</p> <p>Brutal: very violent or cruel.</p> <p>Corrupt: a word used to describe a person who uses their power in a dishonest or illegal way in order to make life better for themselves.</p> <p>Villain: a 'baddie' who harms other people or breaks the law to get what they want.</p> <p>Malicious: meant to hurt or upset someone.</p> <p>Naïve: If someone is naïve they don't have experience of how complicated life can be and, therefore, trust people too much.</p> <p>Society: the people who live in a certain area. This could be a country, town or small group.</p>	<p>Victorian London</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victorian London was a very unhygienic place because of the waste going into the Thames. Your quality of life in Victorian times depended on whether you were rich or poor. The Poor Law of 1834 meant that people who couldn't work went to workhouses because it was against the law to give them any other help. Life in workhouses was very hard. There were lots of orphans as there was lots of sickness and disease. <p>Charles Dickens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Born in 1812 in Portsmouth. When Charles was 12, his father was sent to prison for owing money. Charles Dickens worked in a factory and his wages were used to pay off his father's debt. Dickens had to work twelve-hour days putting labels and lids on pots. Many of Dickens' stories are about children who have had tough lives and struggled to survive. 	<p>Oliver - He is a 'pale, thin' orphan who is treated badly by almost everyone he meets. He tries his best to be a good person and experiences 'horror and alarm' whenever he sees crimes being committed.</p> <p>Mr. Bumble - The man who runs the workhouse and gives Oliver his name. He is 'a fat man' who enjoys power and doesn't care about the people beneath him.</p> <p>Noah Claypole - A 'malicious and ill-conditioned' boy who bullies Oliver at the undertakers. He eventually runs away to London and joins the same gang as Oliver.</p> <p>Fagin - An old man who runs the gang of pickpockets. He seems kind but his 'villainous-looking and repulsive face' reflects his selfish nature as he gets young boys to do his dirty work for him.</p> <p>Jack Dawkins (The Artful Dodger) - A young boy who introduces Oliver to Fagin's gang who has 'all the airs and manners of a man'. He is confident and cunning.</p> <p>Bill Sikes - A 'rough man' who has been a criminal for many years. He beats his dog viciously and brutally kills his girlfriend, Nancy.</p> <p>Nancy - Bill's girlfriend who risks her life to help Oliver escape from the gang. She loves Bill even though he treats her abusively and she feels guilty about the life of crime she has led.</p> <p>Mr. Brownlow - A wealthy older gentleman who takes Oliver in and looks after him. He believes in Oliver's goodness even when it looks like Oliver has stolen from him and eventually finds out the truth about Oliver's parents.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Plot</p> <p>Following his mother's death, Oliver spends the first nine years of his life in a workhouse. After being bullied into asking for more gruel at the end of a meal, Oliver is sold to be an apprentice to a local undertaker. Eventually Oliver ends up on the streets, where he meets the Artful Dodger, who introduces him to Fagin, Bill Sykes and a life of crime...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Subject-specific language</p> <p>Allegory – a story, poem or picture which can be interpreted to reveal a hidden moral or political meaning.</p> <p>Juxtaposition – two contrasting things being placed close together to highlight their differences.</p> <p>Climax – the most intense, exciting or important point of a story.</p> <p>Foreshadowing – a warning or hint of a future event.</p>