

David Copperfield

Charles Dickens



About the author

Charles Dickens, the most popular writer of the Victorian age, was born near Portsmouth, England, in 1812 and he died in Kent in 1870. When his father was thrown into debtors' prison, young Charles was taken out of school and forced to work in a shoe-polish factory, which may help explain the presence of so many abandoned and victimised children in his novels. As a young man he worked as a reporter before starting his career as a fictional writer in 1833. In his novels, short stories and essays, Dickens combined hilarious comedy with a scathing criticism of the inhuman features of Victorian industrial society. Many of his novels – *Great Expectations*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Oliver Twist*, etc., have been made into first-rate TV and film versions.

For more details see the Introduction.

Summary

David Copperfield is the story of the narrator's life from early childhood to adulthood. In it, David describes all the obstacles he had to overcome in order to acquire peace of mind and economic stability.

Chapters 1–2: David enjoys a happy childhood with his mother and her faithful servant, Peggotty, until his mother marries again and proves powerless to protect him from the cruelty of his stepfather, Mr Murdstone.

Chapters 3–4: Mr Murdstone sends David to a boarding school in London where he makes friends with Steerforth and Traddles. When David's mother and his baby brother die, David is sent to work at Mr Quinion's business.

Chapters 5–6: While he works at the wine-bottling business David stays at Mr Micawber's house but

when the latter leaves London, owing to his debts, David decides to go in search of his only relative, Miss Trotwood, whom he finds in Dover. David is sent to school again and becomes a great friend of Agnes Wickfield's, at whose house he stays when he's not at school.

Chapters 7–8: After finishing school David goes to Yarmouth to visit Peggotty, who has married Mr Barkis. There, he meets Steerforth who seems upset that Emily, Mr Peggotty's niece, is marrying her friend Ham. At Mr Spewlow's, with whom David is going to study law, he falls in love with Dora, his daughter.

Chapters 9–10: David arrives at Yarmouth after Mr Barkis's death. There he hears that Emily has run off with Steerforth. Mr Peggotty is devastated and starts searching for her.

Back in London David proposes to Dora and is accepted.

Chapters 11–12: When Miss Trotwood informs David that she has lost all her money, all his plans collapse. He starts learning shorthand to find a good job in order to be able to marry Dora. In the meantime, Uriah Heep, a disgusting man who lives with the Wickfields, wants to marry Agnes. Mr Peggotty keeps looking for Emily.

Chapters 13–14: David and Dora marry thanks to the money he has earned by writing stories. Dora proves to be a very incompetent housewife, but David loves her all the same. Mr Peggotty hears that Emily has left Steerforth and asks an old friend of hers, Martha Endells, to look for her in London. Martha locates Emily and Mr Peggotty decides to emigrate to Australia with her and the Micawbers, now that Mr Micawber has got rid of Uriah Heep and exposed him as a thief.

Chapters 15–16: Dora falls ill and dies and, in Yarmouth, a terrible storm kills Ham and Steerforth. Moreover, all the rest of David's friends, except for Miss Peggotty and Traddles, leave for Australia. David travels abroad to try to forget Dora but he falls ill and returns to England. David eventually marries Agnes, who had always loved him, has five children and becomes a famous writer.

Background and themes

David Copperfield was published in instalments from 1849 to 1850 and in book form in 1850. Largely autobiographical, it includes many personal experiences Dickens was planning to put into an autobiography which

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he never got to complete. In the novel there are obvious references to the time Dickens worked in a factory, to his schooling and his reading habits, to the first time he fell in love, and to how he became a novelist.

The text can be said to be highly didactic, as it makes clear points concerning values, such as:

- Hardships in life can be overcome by hard work and an honest behaviour.
- Goodness has nothing to do with social position.
- Greed and ambition corrupt people's judgement and behaviour.
- Suffering helps us mature.

Discussion activities

Introduction

Before reading

- 1 Research:** Popular novelists
Have students find out the name of the most popular nineteenth century writer in their own country. Then tell them that Dickens is considered the most popular writer in England in the same century.

While reading

- 2 Read and discuss:** Childhood
Have students discuss what we're told about the novel on page v.
This story starts when David is a child. Does this make the story more interesting? Why/Why not?

After reading

- 3 Check:** Dickens's stories
Have students count the number of stories that appear in Dickens's biography on pages vi and vii and then say which they have heard of.

Chapters 1–2

While reading

- 4 Discuss:** Boy or girl?
Have students discuss the following:
Miss Trotwood wanted Mrs Copperfield to have a girl. Do you know people like her in your family? Are the young people in your family mostly boys or girls?
- 5 Discuss:** Children's intuition
Have students discuss the following:
David feels that Mr Murdstone is not a good person. Did you ever feel something like that when you were small?
- 6 Predict:** Mr Murdstone
Neither Peggotty nor David likes Mr Murdstone. What will he do to David?
- 7 Discuss:** Physical punishment
Have students discuss the following:
Do children learn more when they are hit or when they are afraid? Are children hit in schools today? Were your parents hit at school?

After reading

- 8 Read carefully and research:** No parents
Have students count how many children in this section don't have either one or the two parents and then discuss with them or have them do research on why people died much younger in the UK at the time of the story.
- 9 Discuss:** Psychological violence
Have students discuss the following:
Mr Murdstone calls David a bad and stupid boy and his mother a silly woman. Why are those words so bad for them? How does he make them feel?
- 10 Write:** Peggotty's letter
Have students write the letter Peggotty sends Mr Peggotty and Emily telling them that David isn't a bad boy (page 8).

Chapters 3–4

Before reading

- 11 Guess:** Titles
Have students read the titles of Chapters 3 and 4 and then guess what David's new school, Salem House, will be like. Then they can guess what will happen in Chapter 4 to make David grow up.

While reading

- 12 Write:** Mr Barkis's questions
Have students write five questions Mr Barkis may have asked David about Peggotty. Then make them exchange the questions and answer them.
- 13 Discuss:** Is Steerforth a gentleman?
Have students discuss the following:
Is Mr Mell rude to Steerforth? Is Steerforth rude to Mr Mell? Why doesn't Mr Creakle ask Steerforth to leave? Who's a true gentleman, Steerforth or Mr Mell?
- 14 Guess:** Clara and her baby
At the top of page 18 it says 'I did not see either (my mother or the baby) again.' What will happen to Clara and the baby?
- 15 Discuss:** Families
Have students compare how David feels at Mr Murdstone's house and at Mr Peggotty's.

After reading

- 16 Discuss:** Boarding schools
Have students discuss the pros and cons of boarding schools.
Would you like to sleep at school like David does? Is his school more fun than your school / the school you went to? Would you miss your parents/your home?
- 17 Check and write:** David's life now
Have students check whether what they predicted about Chapter 4 in Activity 11 was right or wrong. Then have them write down all the bad things that happen to David in this chapter.

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Chapters 5–6

While reading

18 Research: Dickens's life

Have students find out where Charles worked when he was a child and what his father was like with money. Then they can relate the information to what David did in Mr Quinion's business and to Mr Micawber's personality.

19 Write: David's letter

Have students write the letter David sends Peggotty asking her for money and for Miss Trotwood's address.

After reading

20 Role play: The Murdstones and Miss Trotwood

Have students role play the dialogue between the Murdstones and Miss Trotwood on page 26.

Chapters 7–8

While reading

21 Discuss: Steerforth's personality

Have students discuss what else we learn about Steerforth in these chapters.

22 Guess: David's loved one

Have students discuss this:

In Chapter 8 we find out that David is in love with Dora Spenlow. Do you think that he will marry her? Why/Why not?

After reading

23 Artwork: A love card

Have students make Uriah Heep's card for Agnes. *Uriah Heep seems to be in love with Agnes. Design the card that he's planning to send her.*

24 Role play: Steerforth's problems

In pairs, have students write down and then role play the dialogue that Steerforth has with his doctor about his unhappiness (page 35).

Chapters 9–10

While reading

25 Discuss: Debt

Just like Dickens's father, Mr Micawber liked to spend more than what he earned. Have students discuss the problems that people like them bring to their families.

26 Guess: Steerforth in Yarmouth

Have students guess why Rosa Dartle says that Steerforth is acting very strangely (page 45).

After reading

27 Write: An epitaph is an inscription on a tombstone in memory of the one who has been buried there. In groups have students write the epitaph on Mr Barkis's tombstone.

28 Write: Dora's letters

Have students write some of the letters Dora sends David (page 53).

Chapters 11–12

While reading

29 Discuss: The importance of money

Have students discuss all that David can't do now that his aunt is poor.

Is Dickens right or wrong in giving such importance to money in the story?

30 Discuss: Drink

Dickens is a very didactic writer. Have students discuss what he wants to teach us by making Mr Wickfield a man who drinks so much.

After reading

31 Guess: David's future with Dora

Have students guess what their future together will be like.

Chapters 13–14

While reading

32 Discuss: Dora's failure as a housewife

Have students discuss what was wrong with Dora.

33 Discuss: Emily's case

Have students discuss society in Dickens's time regarding 'fallen' women.

Why doesn't Emily want to see her family again? Why is Mr Peggotty planning to go to Australia with her?

After reading

34 Write: Heep's letter of apology

In pairs, have students write Heep's letters to Mr Wickfield, to Agnes and to Miss Trotwood.

Chapters 15–16

While reading

35 Discuss: Jip's death

Jip dies at the same time as its owner. Have students discuss the strong love that exists between dogs and their owners.

36 Write: Emily's letter

Emily has written a letter to Ham (page 83). Have students write it down in pairs.

After reading

37 Research: Australia

Mr Peggotty and Mr Micawber decide to leave for Australia. Have students research on **a)** which other countries, apart from Australia, belonged to the British Empire and **b)** why the two families chose to go there.

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While reading

Chapters 1–2

1 Match A and B. Who says what?

A	B
	'He's not like Mr Copperfield.'
David	'This boy is stupid and lazy.'
Clara Copperfield	'Please don't hit me.'
Mr Murdstone	'You're going to go to a school.'
Miss Murdstone	'You've hurt Mr Murdstone and you've hurt me.'
Peggotty	'You have a new father.'
	'Don't be soft with the child.'
	'I'll leave the house <i>now</i> .'

2 Let's think that Peggotty can have a longer talk with David before he leaves for school. In pairs write down the talk between them.

Chapters 3–4

3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

poor children near school holiday
pipe laughing fun board unhappy
bites neck

Mr Mell and his mother lived (a) London Bridge. They were very (b) After dinner Mr Mell played his (c) Then he took David to his new (d) but there were no (e) there. They were still on (f) Mr Mell told David that he had to wear a (g) round his (h) On it was written, 'Stay away. He (i) ' When the children returned, they started (j) at David. He felt very (k) The only one who didn't make (l) of him was Steerforth.

4 Write Mr Barkis and Miss Peggotty's wedding invitation.

5 In pairs, write down David Copperfield's thoughts and feelings a) on the day he returned home after his mother's death and b) on the day he met Mr Quinion. Then read your texts in class.

Chapters 5–6

6 Write the answers.

- a Mrs Micawber: 'Will you take the books to a shop for me?'
David:
- b Miss Trotwood: 'What do you want?'
David:
- c Miss Trotwood: 'Where can David stay today?'
Mr Wickfield:
- d David: 'What are you reading?'
Uriah Heep:
- e David: 'Do you want to be a lawyer?'
Uriah Heep:

7 You are Uriah Heep. Describe what David Copperfield looks like and what he is like.

Chapters 7–8

8 Who says this?

- a 'Humble people can't learn Latin.'
- b 'We're waiting for some money that some people owe us.'
- c 'I threw something at her.'
- d 'Ham and Emily are going to get married.'
- e 'Ham's a good man. He'll be a good husband to Emily.'
- f 'Uriah owns half my father's business now.'

9 Work with another student. You are David and your friend is Traddles. In pairs write down the conversation between you after so many years and then act it out.

Chapters 9–10

10 You are Steerforth. Write a letter to David to explain to him why and how you have escaped with Emily.

11 In Chapters 9–10 a lot of people from other chapters reappear. Find the three who don't.

Traddles Rosa Steerforth Emily
Mr Murdstone Mrs Gummidge Dora
Miss Murdstone

Chapters 11–12

12 Who's in love with who? Choose the right name.

- a David with Agnes/Dora
- b Agnes with Uriah Heep/David
- c Traddles with Agnes/Sophy
- d Emily with Steerforth/Ham
- e Uriah Heep with Dora/Agnes

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13 You are Emily. Write down the letter that Mr Peggotty has been waiting for since you left Yarmouth.

Chapters 13–14

14 Who? Answer the following questions.

- a Who isn't able to manage her home?
- b Who refuses to teach Dora about money?
- c Who finds Emily in London?
- d Who earned a lot of money by selling his first book?
- e Who calls Uriah Heep an animal?
- f Who wants to hurt Emily?
- g Who wants Mr Peggotty to take her to Australia with him?

15 Although David loves Dora, he knows that she isn't a good wife. Which of these are right (✓) and which are wrong (X)?

- a Dora doesn't know how to manage the house.
- b She's very untidy.
- c She isn't interested in the books that David reads to her.
- d She hates David's novels.
- e She goes out with her friends every day.
- f She wakes up at midday and then plays with her dog.
- g She chooses the wrong servants.
- h She's so careless that her servants steal things from her.
- i She likes other men.
- j She can't save any money.

Chapters 15–16

16 Match a–f and 1–6 to make correct sentences.

- a Jip the dog dies ...
- b Miss Trotwood pays Uriah Heep ...
- c Ham tries to save Steerforth ...
- d Rosa Dartle tells Mrs Steerforth ...
- e David leaves England ...
- f Mr Micawber goes to Australia ...
 - 1 because he's very sad.
 - 2 to save Mr Micawber from prison.
 - 3 at the same moment as Dora.
 - 4 that she made her son selfish.
 - 5 but dies swimming to the ship.
 - 6 and becomes rich and successful.

17 Mr Micawber has become a successful man in Australia. Write down the letter that he sends to David telling him about how well he is doing.

18 Write the card that Emily sends Miss Peggotty from Australia.

After reading

19 Why is David happier in his second marriage than in his first? Choose the right answers.

- a Because Agnes has more common sense than Dora.
- b Because David is more patient with Agnes.
- c Because David can teach Agnes how to manage his house.
- d Because Agnes is more intelligent than Dora.
- e Because with Dora David felt like a father, not like a husband.

Compare your answers with those of another student. Do you agree?

20 Some people in the book think that rich people are better people. Who thinks this?

Mr Peggotty Miss Trotwood Uriah Heep
Dora Steerforth Agnes Traddles Sophy
Mr Micawber Mrs Gummidge

21 Choose the lesson that you like best from the story.

- a Our friends and our family are more important than money.
- b Money doesn't make you happy.
- c It's important to help others.
- d Love is very important in a child's life.
- e We can all learn how to be better people.
- f Adults can also change.

Why do you like this lesson?

22 Where would you place them? Why?

	Good	Very good	Bad	Very bad
Mr Murdstone				
Agnes				
Rosa Dartle				
Uriah Heep				
Mr Micawber				
Steerforth				

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Chapters 1–2

1 Ten things are wrong. Find them and make them right.

David was born on a beautiful day six months after his father's death. Just after he was born his mother received a visitor: Miss Trotwood. She wanted the baby to be called Mary, like her. When she saw that the baby was a boy she left the house and never saw David again. David was happy with his mother and Peggotty but things changed when Miss Murdstone appeared. He never came to visit David's mother. When David returned from London Peggotty told David that he had a new uncle. Miss Murdstone managed Clara's kitchen and once she kept David locked in his room for ten days.

Chapters 3–4

2 Who says this?

- 'I'm a hard man and I don't like bad boys.'
- 'I'm sorry that Mr Mell has gone.'
- 'If I come to Yarmouth, can I bring Steerforth?'
- 'He's my husband, Peggotty, and you're making me angry.'
- 'Don't let that boy hold the baby.'
- 'You'll go to London with Mr Quinion tomorrow.'

Chapters 5–6

3 What happened first? Put these in the right order, 1–8.

- As the Micawbers left for Plymouth, David decided to look for his aunt.
- When the police took the Micawbers to prison, David found a room by the prison.
- In London, David stayed at the Micawbers' house.
- She lived in Dover, a long way away from London.
- First she told the Murdstones that David would live with her.
- There he would live with Mr Wickfield and his daughter Agnes.
- Then she looked for a school for David in Canterbury.
- When he reached her house she was very nice to him.

Chapters 7–8

4 Answer why.

- Why does Mr Micawber leave Canterbury?
- Why does Emily cry?

- Why does Miss Trotwood pay Spewlow and Jorkins one thousand pounds?
- Why does Agnes send David home?
- Why is Miss Murdstone at Dora's house?

Chapters 9–10

5 Choose the right name.

- Steerforth/Traddles is studying law.
- Rosa/Emily doesn't want Steerforth to touch her.
- Mrs Steerforth/Mrs Gummidge wants to give Mr Peggotty some money for his trouble.
- Dora is Mr Spewlow's/Mr Peggotty's daughter.
- Dora's friend is Miss Murdstone/Julia Mills.

Chapters 11–12

6 Fill in the sentences with the right places.

- Agnes goes to to talk to David.
- Mr Spewlow wants to send Dora to for David to forget her.
- David needs a holiday so he goes to
- Mr Peggotty travelled to to look for Emily.
- As he didn't find her he returned to
- David knew Martha Endells from

Chapters 13–14

7 Who did this?

- took David to church.
- All the servants that employed were bad.
- left Steerforth.
- wrote a strange letter to David.
- stole money from Wickfield and Miss Trotwood.
- wanted to hurt Heep.

Chapters 15–16

8 Right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- Dora wanted Miss Trotwood to buy her another dog.
- Traddles found five thousand pounds of Mr Wickfield's money.
- Mr Peggotty would keep Mr Micawber's money for him in Australia.
- Ham knew that one of the men on the ship was Steerforth.
- It was David who told Rosa and Mrs Steerforth that Steerforth was dead.
- The mountains in Switzerland helped David to forget Dora.
- When David went back to England, Traddles and Sophie were already married.

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Book key

- 1 Possible answers:
- a *Oliver Twist, Nicholas Nickleby, The Pickwick Papers, A Christmas Carol, Great Expectations, Hard Times, Little Dorrit, Our Mutual Friend, Bleak House, A Tale of Two Cities* (and other stories)
 - b The problems of poorer people in the 1800s.
 - c Happy, because he was successful; sad, because he had a difficult time as a child and an unsuccessful marriage.
 - d Thirty-seven.
- 2 a clerk, gentleman, lawyer, servant
b carriage, cart, coach
- 3 (✓): Peggotty, the sea, Mr Peggotty's home, Little Emily
- 4 a Peggotty b Little Emily c Miss Trotwood
d Mrs Copperfield e Mr Peggotty
f Mr Murdstone g Mrs Gummidge
- 5–6 Open answers
- 7 a Mr Mell b Mr Creakle c Steerforth
d Mr Peggotty and Ham e David's mother
f David's mother and brother g Mr Barkis
h Mr Quinion
- 8 a He is unhappy because he has to wear a board on his back and Mr Creakle is cruel.
b He likes him because he is kind, friendly and a good teacher.
c He thinks Mr Creakle is cruel. He probably likes Mrs Creakle more because she gives him his bad news kindly.
d He likes both of them. Traddles is friendly, and Steerforth enjoys listening to his stories.
e He is happy because he has a new baby brother.
f He is sad because his mother and baby brother are dead.
g He is happy because everybody is friendly.
h He is happy for them, but he is now alone.
- 9–10 Open answers
- 11 a dislikes b lives c walks d on a donkey
e kind f dislikes g lawyer h likes
- 12 His clothes are bright, not dark. He has no hair. His house has little furniture. Mrs Micawber thinks that he is an unlucky man. The Micawbers owe money – they didn't steal it.
- 13–14 Open answers
- 15 a 4 b 5 c 2 d 9 e 6 f 8 g 3 h 7 i 1
- 16 a Yes. Mr Micawber likes Uriah Heep because he is clever.
b Yes. They are like brother and sister.
c Yes and No. Ham is happy with Emily, but Emily is unhappy with Ham for some reason.
d No. Agnes hates Uriah Heep because he has bought half of her husband's business.
e No. Miss Murdstone is always watching Dora and never leaves her alone.
- 17–18 Open answers
- 19 a X b X c X d ✓ e ✓ f ✓ g X h ✓
i ✓ j X
- 20 a Traddles and Sophy do not have enough money. David and Dora have not told Dora's father yet.
b Mr Micawber writes to David that he has lost Traddles's money. Peggotty writes to David about her dying husband, Barkis. Emily writes to Ham about why she has run away with Steerforth. Dora writes love letters to David.
c Open answers
- 21 Open answers
- 22 c and e
- 23 a David is talking to Agnes about Dora.
b Agnes is talking to and about David.
c Mr Wickfield is talking to Uriah Heep about Agnes.
d Mr Peggotty is talking to David about Ham.
e Traddles is talking to David about Sophy.
f David is talking to and about Dora.
- 24 a Agnes is angry with Uriah Heep for turning her father into his servant.
b Dora is angry with David for a short time because he has lost his money.
c Mr Spenlow is angry with David. He thinks David tried to deceive him about his love for Dora.
d Mr Wickfield is angry with Uriah Heep for wanting to marry his daughter.
e Mr Peggotty is still angry with Steerforth for running away with Emily.
f Miss Trotwood is angry with Uriah Heep for wanting to marry Agnes.
- 25–26 Open answers
- 27 a spends (not saves)
b London (not Yarmouth)
c jumps (not falls)
d writer (not lawyer)
e angry (not friendly)
f loves (not hates)

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- g Mrs Gummidge (not Ham)
 h Mr Wickfield (not Mr Micawber)
 28–29 Open answers
 30 a D b A c D d D e A, M f M g M
 h A i A
 31–41 Open answers

Discussion activities key

- 1 Open answers
 2 It may make the story more interesting if its readers are young people. Besides, readers get a full description of David's life this way.
 3 Ten stories are mentioned.
 4–7 Open answers
 8 David, Ham, Little Emily
 9 Those words make them feel bad, silly, stupid and very unhappy. He makes them suffer a lot. It's like hitting a person with words.
 10–12 Open answers
 13 Mr Mell isn't rude to Steerforth. It's Steerforth who is rude to him. Mr Creakle doesn't ask Steerforth to leave because he's very rich. Mr Mell is the true gentleman.
 14 Open answers
 15 At Mr Murdstone's house David feels very unhappy, afraid and very uncomfortable. He talks very little. At Mr Peggotty's house David feels calm, happy and comfortable.
 16 Open answers
 17 Miss Murdstone treats David badly. She doesn't let him hold his little brother.
 – His mother and little brother die.
 – He isn't sent back to school because Mr Murdstone doesn't want to spend any money on him.
 18 Both Dickens's father and Mr Micawber owed money to a lot of people. When John Dickens was sent to a debtors' prison, Charles left school and started working at a shoe-polish factory. There, he had to put labels onto bottles. David Copperfield had to wash dirty bottles and fill them with wine. Charles's family also ended up in prison like Mr Micawber's.
 19–20 Open answers
 21 – Steerforth is very proud. He thinks that the people in Yarmouth are rough and rude.
 – He hit Rosa Dartle on the mouth when he was a little boy and now she has a scar.
 – He feels that he isn't a good man.
 – He seems to be in love with Emily.
 22–28 Open answers

- 29 He can't go on studying law and he can't marry Dora. Open answers.
 30 Through Mr Wickfield's case Dickens wants to teach us that drink destroys people.
 31 Open answers
 32 Open answers. Perhaps she wasn't clever enough, perhaps she was still a child, perhaps she was shallow.
 33 In the nineteenth century it was wrong for a woman to live with a man without being married. This is why Emily doesn't want to be found by her family or go back to Yarmouth. It is also what makes Mr Peggotty decide to settle down in Australia.
 34–36 Open answers
 37 Canada, New Zealand, India, South Africa, etc. Many chose Australia because it wasn't highly populated and it had fertile lands.

Activity worksheets key

- 1 'He's not like Mr Copperfield.' (Peggotty)
 'This boy is stupid and lazy.' (Mr Murdstone)
 'Please don't hit me.' (David)
 'You're going to go to a school.' (Peggotty)
 'You've hurt Mr Murdstone and you've hurt me.' (Clara Copperfield)
 'You have a new father.' (Peggotty)
 'Don't be soft with the child.' (Mr Murdstone)
 'I'll leave the house *now*.' (Miss Murdstone)
 2 Open answers
 3 a near b poor c pipe d school
 e children/students f holiday g board
 h neck i bites j laughing k unhappy
 l fun
 4–5 Open answers
 6 Suggested answers:
 a 'Of course'.
 b 'Please, aunt. I'm David Copperfield.'
 c 'He can stay here.'
 d 'I'm studying law.'
 e 'Yes, lawyers earn a lot of money, don't they?'
 7 Open answers
 8 a Uriah Heep b Miss Micawber c Steerforth
 d Mr Peggotty e David f Agnes
 9–10 Open answers
 11 Emily, Mr Murdstone, Miss Murdstone
 12 a David with Dora
 b Agnes with David
 c Traddles with Sophy
 d Emily with Steerforth
 e Uriah Heep with Agnes

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13 Open answers

14 a Dora b Miss Trotwood c Martha Endells
d David e Mr Micawber f Rose
g Mrs Gummidge

15 a ✓ b ✗ c ✓ d ✗ e ✗ f ✗ g ✓ h ✓
i ✗ j ✓

16 a 3 b 2 c 5 d 4 e 1 f 6

17–18 Open answers

19 Right answers: a, d, e

20 Steerforth and Uriah Heep.

21–22 Open answers

Progress test key

1 David was born on a **terrible stormy night** six months after his father's death. Just **before** he was born his mother received a visitor: Miss Trotwood. She wanted the baby to be called **Betsey**, like her. When she saw that the baby was a boy she left the house and never saw **David's mother** again. David was happy with his mother and Peggotty but things changed when **Mr** Murdstone appeared. He **often** came to visit David's mother. When David returned from **Yarmouth** Peggotty told David that he had a new **father**. Miss Murdstone managed Clara's **house** and once she kept David locked in his room for **five** days.

2 a Mr Creakle b Traddles c David
d David's mother e Miss Murdstone
f Mr Murdstone

3 a 3 b 2 c 1 d 4 e 6 f 8 g 7 h 5

4 a Because he owes money to a lot of people.

b Because she thinks that she's a bad woman/because she's in love with Steerforth and not with Ham.

c Because Mr Spenlow is going to teach David law.

d Because he's drunk.

e Because she's company for Dora and looks after her.

5 a Traddles b Rosa c Mrs Steerforth

d Mr Spenlow's e Julia Mills

6 a London b France c Canterbury d France

e England f Yarmouth

7 a Traddles b Dora c Emily d Mr Micawber

e Uriah Heep f Miss Trotwood

8 a ✗

b ✗ Traddles found five thousand pounds of Miss Trotwood's money.

c ✓

d ✗

e ✓

f ✓

g ✓