

**1** What do you know about Charles Dickens? Choose the correct answers (a, b, c or d).

**1** Where was Charles Dickens born?

**a** London
  **b** Manchester  
 **c** Newcastle
  **d** Portsmouth

**2** Which of these jobs did Charles Dickens not do?

**a** journalist
  **b** teacher  
 **c** work in a factory
  **d** work in an office

**3** Charles Dickens's father went to prison because he ...

**a** killed someone.
  **b** robbed a bank.  
 **c** was drunk.
  **d** was in debt.

**4** Which of these things is true about Charles Dickens?

**a** He believed in ghosts.
  **b** He died young.  
 **c** He never married.
  **d** He started a children's home.

**2a** There are lots of different characters in *Great Expectations* – there are main characters, secondary characters and minor characters. Put the characters in the box into the correct column.

Estella      Bidley      Mr Wopsle      Wemmick      Compeyson      Mr Jaggers  
 Drummle      Herbert      Joe Gargery      Orlick      Pip      Molly  
 Uncle Pumblechook      Miss Havisham      Magwitch      Mrs Joe

Main characters (with very important parts)	Secondary characters (with less important parts)	Minor characters (with small parts)

**2b Read the descriptions. Choose the correct names from exercise 2a.**

- 1 ..... , the lawyer, was a large man, with dark skin and a bald head. He washed his hands and face after every client and all of the criminals were frightened of him.
- 2 ..... was a gentleman dressed in fine clothes, who tricked people and forged money. He disappeared just before he was supposed to marry Miss Havisham.
- 3 ..... , who worked for Joe in the forge, was a big, ugly man, who was always unhappy and hated Pip.
- 4 ..... , Pip's sister, was married to the blacksmith and was usually angry with him or Pip.
- 5 ..... , was a thin, old woman, who lived alone in a huge, dark house, never went out and always wore her wedding dress.
- 6 ..... was a short lawyer's clerk of forty or fifty with a square, wooden face and a stiff, wide mouth. He had two sides to him: a wooden office one and a friendly home one.

**2c Write about the following pairs of people in the story. What is their relationship? What happens between them in the story?**

Molly and Mr Jaggers: ..... .....
Magwitch and Estella: ..... .....
Magwitch and Compeyson: ..... .....
Biddy and Joe Gargery: ..... .....
Pip and Magwitch: ..... .....
Pip and Estella: ..... .....

**3** Look at the pictures. What does each picture show? Tell the story of *Great Expectations* in your own words.



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**4** Look at the letters from the book. Who are they from and to? Complete the table.

Letter	From	To	Why is the letter important?
<i>I hOpe You aRe weL. I wiLL be Very haPy whEn I am wOoRKiNg with You in thE ForGe. We wil HAv a lot of FUN</i>			

Letter	From	To	Why is the letter important?
<i>Don't go home.</i>			
<i>Burn this when you have read it. Wednesday is a good day to do what you have to do.</i>			
<i>If you come to the old house near the church on the marshes at nine this evening, I can give you some information about your uncle Magwitch. You must come alone.</i>			
<i>I think it's time for me to go. I don't want to be in your way, and you'll do very well without me. Don't worry about your debts. They're all paid.</i>			

**5** Put the words in the box into the correct column. Some words can go into more than one column. Can you add any more words?

client      hang      adopt      lawyer      apprentice      have children  
 blacksmith      strangle      bridegroom      doctor      business      clerk  
 release      court      wedding      defend      servant      engaged  
 steal      teacher      die      shackle      criminal      housekeeper      marry

Work	Crime	Life

**6** How would the story be different in the following situations? Use the words in the box to help you write your answers.

business      adopt      beat      marry      benefactor      cruel

**1** If Pip's parents hadn't died...

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**2** If Molly hadn't been accused of murder...

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**3** If Pip hadn't helped Magwitch...

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**4** If Miss Havisham had married...

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**5** If Pip hadn't secretly given his money to Herbert...

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**6** If Pip had realized Biddy loved him...

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**7** Charles Dickens wrote *Great Expectations* in small parts, which came out each week in a magazine. Imagine you are the editor of that magazine. Describe what's in the story this week by introducing one of the important events in the story. Do it in an exciting way so that readers want to buy the magazine and read the story.

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