

Before-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 *Reader's own answer.*
- 4 *Reader's own answer.*
- 5 **a** false
b false
c true
d true

During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 She is nervous about giving birth. She is sad because she misses David's father very much. She also feels sad for the baby inside her because he or she does not have a father.
- 2 Miss Betsey is a wealthy aunt of David's father and a great-aunt of David's. She wants the baby to be a girl called Betsey Trotwood Copperfield, and she wants to be her favourite aunt. Miss Betsey has not had a happy life because she had a husband who beat her.
- 3 Because the baby is not a girl.

CHAPTER TWO

- 1 They both drowned in the sea.
- 2 **Model answer:** To say that something "breaks your heart" means that it makes you feel very sad. David does not want to leave Mr Peggotty and his family because they are all in his heart now – he loves them. Without them, his heart is broken.
- 3 A strange servant opens the door instead of his mother. His mother has married Mr Murdstone and he is now David's new father. David's mother quickly turns away when David kisses her.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 Miss Murdstone has come to help Clara with

things around the house. She wants to control everything. Clara is unhappy about this.

- 2 He beats David many times with a cane and then locks him in his bedroom.
- 3 He bites down hard on Mr Murdstone's hand.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 **Model answer:** Peggotty means that she could not help David and look after him. Peggotty knows that she cannot stop the Murdstones from hurting David. She does not want to make the Murdstones angry with her because they could send her away. Then she could not help Clara or David.
- 2 Yes, because he has hurt someone that she loves. Mr Murdstone has told her that David bit his hand. He has made her believe that David has an awful nature.
- 3 **Model answer:** A sign that reads, "Watch him – he bites". David must wear it because he bit Mr Murdstone's hand. Mr Murdstone probably asked the teachers at the boarding school to make David wear it because he wants to embarrass David at his new school.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 Because Steerforth asks David about the sign on his back, and he says that he feels sorry for David. He seems to like David. David admires him because he is older than him and intelligent, wealthy and handsome.
- 2 Because Traddles is beaten more than the other boys at Salem House. He is beaten every day in David's first few months there.
- 3 David is told that his mother has died. He cries all day.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 He died a day after David's mother. He was put into her grave with her.
- 2 Because Mrs Micawber has no money left,

and she has nothing left to sell. She cannot buy food for herself and her children and cannot afford to stay in their home. In the prison, she will get food and she will be with her husband.

- 3 He decides to run away to Dover to find his great-aunt, Miss Betsey. He will tell her about his life.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 Behind the wall at the back of his old school, Salem House. **Model answer:** David feels sad because he is not an ordinary boy at school with his friends any more. He is completely alone, with no roof over his head.
- 2 He thinks about his mother. He imagines her when she was a young girl, before he was born.
- 3 **Model answer:** Because Mr Dick has thought of a very easy thing that Miss Betsey can do for David. When Miss Betsey asks Mr Dick, "What should I do with young David Copperfield?", she is asking a bigger question. She wants to know if she should send David away or keep him. But Mr Dick helps Miss Betsey to see that she does not have to decide that yet – she just needs to wash David.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 Mr Dick has many thoughts about King Charles the First in his head and they sometimes make him feel confused. Mr Dick writes his thoughts down on bits of paper and attaches them to his kite. When he flies his kite, he feels that his confusing thoughts fly away with it. This makes him feel better because the thoughts are not in his head any more.
- 2 **Model answer:** Miss Betsey knows that David's mother, Clara, was like a child and had a very sweet and gentle nature. She

understands that Mr Murdstone wanted to marry her and control her. This was not wise, because Mr Murdstone's firm and controlling nature made Clara very unhappy, and hurt David, which is why he has come to Miss Betsey.

- 3 **Model answer:** Miss Betsey does not have any children, so she cannot pass her family name, Trotwood, on to them. She wants David to have her family name because she sees him as her child now – she and Mr Dick have adopted him.

CHAPTER NINE

- 1 Mr Wickfield is a lawyer but he is also Miss Betsey's business manager, which means that he manages her money. Miss Betsey asks Mr Wickfield where she can send David to school.
- 2 David thinks of Agnes as a sister. He feels peace, goodness and truth when he is around her.
- 3 **Model answer:** By this, Uriah means that he is happy with everything that he has. He is from a poor family. He knows that he is lucky to have his job and to study to be a lawyer. Uriah tells David that he is humble because he wants him to think that he does not want anything more than that in life.

CHAPTER TEN

- 1 Because he drinks too much wine and becomes confused by it. David and Agnes have noticed that when Mr Wickfield is like this, Uriah often asks him to talk about business matters.
- 2 Ham has just told them all that he has asked Emily to marry him. Ham and Emily are engaged.
- 3 Steerforth says something horrible about Ham. He says that Ham seemed a little stupid. David thinks that Steerforth does not

really mean it because Steerforth laughed after he said it.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 1 He chooses to become a lawyer. He goes to work at the offices of Spenlow and Jorkins.
- 2 Because David often drinks too much wine with Steerforth. And because of other things that David has told her about Steerforth. She feels that he is a dangerous friend.
- 3 Agnes tells David that Uriah Heep will soon be her father's business partner. Heep has made Mr Wickfield afraid of him, and he now controls the business.

CHAPTER TWELVE

- 1 David tells Agnes that he has fallen in love with Dora. He also tells her about some terrible news from Yarmouth: Emily has run away with David's friend, James Steerforth, and Mr Peggotty has gone to find her.
- 2 He is worried that Mr Spenlow will not allow him to marry Dora because he is not wealthy now. He is also worried that Dora will not want to marry him for the same reason.
- 3 He falls out of his carriage and dies suddenly.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

- 1 The letter is from Mr Micawber. He asks David to come to Canterbury and speak with him about a serious matter.
- 2 **Model answer:** Someone "holds their breath" when they are waiting for something important to happen. They might be excited or nervous. Mr Micawber is going to read a letter that describes all of Uriah's crimes. Everyone is "holding their breath" because they are waiting to hear what Mr Micawber will say – Uriah most of all.
- 3 Because she now knows that Uriah Heep took her money and made her bankrupt.

She tells him very firmly that she wants her money back.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

- 1 Dora tells David that she was not the right person to be his wife. She feels that she was too young and silly to marry him.
- 2 Mr Peggotty and Emily are going to sail to Australia and start new lives. David wants them to leave feeling happy. David knows that if he tells them that Ham has died, they will feel terribly sad.
- 3 David decides to tell Agnes that he feels differently about her now. He has always seen her as a sister and a friend, but now he wants her to be more than that. David has realized that he is in love with Agnes.

After-reading questions

- 1 **Model answer:** His mother's funeral. He describes it as "a high rock in the ocean" because he remembers it better than most events in his life. He remembers everything about it – the air, the light and the smells. He remembers it very well because it was one of the saddest and most important moments in his life.
- 2 **Model answer:** Mr Copperfield was always very kind to Clara. He was kinder to her than her new husband, Mr Murdstone. Mr Murdstone tried to control her and treated her and David badly. Mr Copperfield made Clara feel happy and loved, but Mr Murdstone made her feel sad and worried.
- 3 Clara Copperfield is David's mother, but Peggotty and Aunt Betsey are also like mothers to him. They are all kind and loving characters who care deeply for David and help him in his life.
- 4 **Model answer:** Dora feels too young and silly to be a good wife to David. She does not

know how to manage a home or talk with David about serious matters. She wants him to think of her as his “child wife” because she does not want him to become angry with her. Dora’s sweet and gentle nature is very similar to Clara’s nature. Both women are like children. David loves his mother and losing her at a young age hurts him deeply. Perhaps David falls quickly in love with Dora because she is like his mother.

- 5 Model answer:** David always loved Agnes, but the kind of love that he feels changes as he gets older. He sees Agnes as a sister and best friend at first. When he falls in love with Agnes, it is a deeper, wiser love than the love that he felt for Dora.

Exercises

CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- 1** 1 false
2 true
3 true
4 false
5 true
6 false

CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

2

Positive meaning	Both positive and negative meaning	Negative meaning
gentle	firm	embarrassed
cheerful	tight	nervous
		awful
		silly

CHAPTER SEVEN

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

CHAPTERS EIGHT AND NINE

- 4** 1 He **showed** me that the kite was covered in bits of paper.
2 I **was shocked** to hear that he **was coming** to speak to my aunt the next day.
3 I **chased** after my aunt and **told** her who it was.
4 The gentleman with grey hair **was looking** over some papers.
5 The things that I **had learned** at Salem House **had all disappeared**.

CHAPTER TEN

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

CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 6** 1 adopted
2 signed
3 admiration
4 embarrassed
5 angel
6 engaged

CHAPTERS TWELVE AND THIRTEEN

- 7** 1 “I do still have the house, but Janet **will** rent it out for me so that I will have a little money to live on.”
2 If Dora knew, perhaps she **would** not want to marry me.
3 “I know my partner, Mr Copperfield. He is very difficult. He **will** say no,” Mr Spenlow said.
4 I replied to Mr Micawber’s letter, thanking him for this information and letting him know that I **would** come.
5 “We **will** start our lives again, Master Davy, over the sea,” said Mr Peggotty.
6 But Dora **would** not allow my aunt to stay.

CHAPTERS THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN

8 Who spoke?	Who to?
1 Mr Peggotty	David and Aunt Betsey
2 Mr Micawber	Uriah
3 Aunt Betsey	Uriah
4 Dora	David
5 Ham	David
6 Agnes	David

Project work

Reader's own answers.