

Before-reading questions

Reader's own answer.

During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 Most people are afraid of him. They know that he has just come out of prison and they think that he is dangerous.
- 2 He steals some silver forks and spoons.
- 3 He is sorry that he took Petit-Gervais's silver coin and wants to give it back.

CHAPTER TWO

- 1 Fantine needs someone to look after her daughter while she is at work.
- 2 He started a jewellery factory that did very well.
- 3 She has lost her job at the factory and she needs to send money to the Thénardiens for Cosette.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 Javert first met Mayor Madeleine in Toulon when his name was Jean Valjean and he was a prisoner.
- 2 He has to go to the trial of a man who people believe is Jean Valjean and prove that he is the real Valjean.
- 3 He is going to Montfermeil to get Cosette from the Thénardiens.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 Madame Thénardier is very unkind to Cosette and makes her work very hard. Monsieur Thénardier steals and tells lies.
- 2 She is carrying a heavy bucket of water.
- 3 He is afraid of meeting Javert.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 Marius's mother died and his grandfather took him away from his father. His grandfather hates Marius's father and disagrees with him about Napoleon.
- 2 They talk about revolution and not having a king as the ruler of France.
- 3 Marius's "angel" is Cosette.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 He finds an envelope with four letters inside.
- 2 He can look through a hole near the top of the wall.
- 3 They are the old man and the beautiful girl from the Luxembourg Gardens – Jean Valjean and Cosette.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 He wants him to wait at home, without the Jondrettes knowing he is there. When the old man and his daughter arrive, Marius must fire the gun once as a sign to Javert to come.
- 2 *Example answer:* She sings a love song because she is in love with Marius.
- 3 He has just learned that Jondrette's real name is Thénardier. He does not want the police to take away the man who saved his father's life.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 He knows that Marius is in love with Cosette and he does not want Marius to take Cosette away from him.
- 2 She gives him Cosette's address.
- 3 They argue because Marius's grandfather does not want him to marry a poor woman.

CHAPTER NINE

- 1 Éponine gives him the message, dressed as a man.
- 2 She puts her hand over a soldier's gun, stopping a bullet from hitting Marius.
- 3 He sends him away from the barricade by asking him to deliver a letter.

CHAPTER TEN

- 1 **Example answer:** Valjean thinks that the letter is from Marius and he does not want Cosette and Marius to meet again.
- 2 **Example answer:** He must feel very surprised because he has wanted to find Valjean for a long time. But now he cannot do anything because he is tied up and might be killed very soon.
- 3 **Example answer:** Valjean wants to be honest. If he has done wrong, Javert can come and find him.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 1 He goes into the sewers under Paris.
- 2 He takes a piece of his coat and all his money.

CHAPTER TWELVE

- 1 He gives her 600,000 francs.
- 2 Valjean was once a convict and lied about his name. Marius does not believe that a man can change and become honest. So he thinks that Valjean has stolen the 600,000 francs that he gave Cosette.

After-reading questions

- 1 At first, Valjean steals the bishop's silver forks and spoons, but the bishop continues to be good to him and gives him the silver candlesticks, too. Then, Valjean steals a little boy's coin, but later he is sorry and wants to give it back. After this, Valjean tries to do the right thing and to be honest and kind to the people who he meets. He remembers the bishop's words and tries to act like him for the rest of his life. He helps Fauchelevent, the man in Arras, Fantine, Cosette, Marius and Javert.
- 2 She fell in love with a rich young man who did not love her and left her with a child. She could not work with a child, so she had to pay the Thénardiens a lot of money to look after her daughter. She cannot read and she does not understand how bad other people can be. She has no family or friends to help her. She loses her job because people learn that she is an unmarried mother. She becomes very poor, her life is hard, and she gets very sick.
- 3 **Example answer:** He is a simple, honest man who only understands right and wrong. He does not believe that people who have done bad things can ever change. He does not understand that Valjean can sometimes do bad things but not be a bad person. When Valjean chooses to do something good to him, and saves his life, Javert finds this too confusing. He feels that he has taken something from a bad person and cannot live honestly after this.
- 4 *Reader's own answer.*

- 5 Cosette lives with Monsieur and Madame Thénardier because Fantine cannot look after her. The Thénardiens agree to look after Cosette because Fantine pays them a lot of money.
- Next, Cosette lives with Valjean because he is sorry about what happened to Fantine and he promised to help her daughter. He also wants someone to love.
- Marius lives with his grandfather because his mother is dead and his grandfather would not allow him to stay with his father. Marius's grandfather hated Marius's father. Little Gavroche lives on the streets with the revolutionaries because his parents (Monsieur and Madame Thénardier) do not love him and are very poor.
- 6 *Reader's own answer.*

Exercises

CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- 1 *Example answer:*
- 1 f Valjean was a **convict** who has just come out of **prison**.
 - 2 a The **bishop** moves from the **palace** to a small house.
 - 3 g The **kitchen boy** is a **servant** who works at the inn.
 - 4 h The bishop has two **silver candlesticks**.
 - 5 c The **landlord** of the **inn** tells Valjean to leave.
 - 6 d The **coins** that people use in the story are called **francs**.
 - 7 e Mayor Madeleine is the **mayor** of a **town** called Montreuil-sur-Mer.
 - 8 b Fantine asks the **barber** to cut ff her **hair**.

CHAPTER THREE

- 2 1 Mayor Madeleine orders **Javert** to release **Fantine**.
- 2 **Fantine** is very ill.
- 3 **Mayor Madeleine** (or **Valjean**) sends 600 francs to **Thénardier**.
- 4 **Javert** believes that the real **Valjean** is in Arras.
- 5 **Mayor Madeleine** (or **Valjean**) cannot save **Cosette** if he is in prison.
- 6 At the trial, **Mayor Madeleine** proves that he is the real **Valjean**.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 3 1 Thénardier **was pulling** the ring from a dead soldier's finger when the man suddenly **spoke**.
- 2 "I'll/**will carry** that bucket for you," the man told Cosette.
- 3 "That's where I'm/**am staying** tonight," said the man.
- 4 "You've/**have been** a long time!" shouted Madame Thénardier.
- 5 "If I **take** her, I **won't/will not tell** you my name," said the stranger.
- 6 Valjean changed direction to check that they **were not followed**.
- 7 A policeman **was hiding** in the darkness at the end of the street.
- 8 It was Fauchelevent, the old man who **fell** under the cart years ago.

CHAPTER FIVE

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

CHAPTERS SIX AND SEVEN

- 5 1 Marius lives in a **miserable** building.
- 2 Jondrette tells his daughters to **deliver** letters for him.
- 3 Before the old man arrives, Jondrette throws some **water** on the fire.
- 4 Jondrette's daughter cut her hand on **the window**.
- 5 Javert gives Marius **two small guns**.
- 6 Marius is **hiding under the bed** when Jondrette's daughter comes into his room.
- 7 The old man writes **the wrong address** on the front of the letter.
- 8 When the police arrive, the old man **has already left by the window**.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 6 1 Thénardier was another person **that/who** Valjean needed to hide from.
- 2 He hated this young stranger **who/that** might take his dear child away.
- 3 There was a secret path between two high walls **that/which** Valjean always used.
- 4 The only place that he liked to be was an empty field **where** he could be alone.
- 5 He was here one morning in spring **when** a young woman came towards him.
- 6 The next evening, without knowing **why**, she put on her best dress.
- 7 "I don't want to leave you, but **what** else can I do?"
- 8 "Does the girl **that/who** you want to marry have money?"

CHAPTER NINE

- 7 1 "The new **revolution** is beginning!"
- 2 Marius **fired** one of Javert's guns.
- 3 "I'll use this gunpowder to **blow up** the barricade!"
- 4 "We've already taken a **spy**."
- 5 A man was **tied** up with ropes near the wall.

CHAPTER TEN

- 8 1 Where was Valjean sitting?
He was sitting outside his house.
- 2 Where did the letter come from?
It came from the Chanvrière Street barricade.
- 3 What did Courfeyrac and his men do during the night?
They made the barricade bigger.
- 4 What was Gavroche doing when he was shot?
He was singing a song.
- 5 Why did Courfeyrac want Javert to be taken outside?
Because he wanted Javert to be shot. /
Because he did not want Javert's dead body with theirs.
- 6 Who did Marius think about after he was hit by a bullet?
He thought about Cosette.

CHAPTERS ELEVEN AND TWELVE

- 9 1 put/lay down
- 2 alive
- 3 noisy
- 4 unlock
- 5 good
- 6 right
- 7 impossible
- 8 saddest/most miserable
- 9 better
- 10 death

- 10 1 stole
- 2 proved
- 3 breathed
- 4 argued
- 5 lied
- 6 hid
- 7 released
- 8 shot

Project work

Reader's own answers.