

GRAYS TUITION CENTRE – Online Tutoring

WEEK: 11

Week Beginning: 01/06/20

Subject: ENGLISH Year: 5 11+

Lesson Objective:

To understand Victorian language and themes in reading comprehension

Keywords/ Concepts

- Victorian writing

Class Worksheets

- For class work:
 - Oliver Twist Comprehension

Homework Worksheets

- Oliver Twist Comprehension
- Vocab list crossword puzzle

Additional Notes

Oliver Twist Chapter 2

The room in which the boys were fed, was a large stone hall, with a copper at one end: out of which the master, dressed in an apron for the purpose, and assisted by one or two women, ladled the gruel at mealtimes. Of this festive composition each boy had one **porringer**, and no more--except on occasions of great public rejoicing, when he had two ounces and a quarter of bread besides.

The bowls never wanted washing. The boys polished them with their spoons till they shone again; and when they had performed this operation (which never took very long, the spoons being nearly as large as the bowls), they would sit staring at the copper, with such eager eyes, as if they could have devoured the very bricks of which it was composed; employing themselves, meanwhile, in sucking their fingers most **assiduously**, with the view of catching up any stray splashes of gruel that might have been cast thereon. Boys have generally excellent appetites. Oliver Twist and his companions suffered the tortures of slow starvation for three months: at last they got so **voracious** and wild with hunger, that one boy, who was tall for his age, and hadn't been used to that sort of thing (for his father had kept a small cook-shop), hinted darkly to his companions, that unless he had another basin of gruel **per diem**, he was afraid he might some night happen to eat the boy who slept next him, who happened to be a weakly youth of tender age. He had a wild, hungry eye; and they **implicitly** believed him. A council was held; lots were cast who should walk up to the master after supper that evening, and ask for more; and it fell to Oliver Twist.

The evening arrived; the boys took their places. The master, in his cook's uniform, stationed himself at the copper; his **pauper** assistants ranged themselves behind him; the gruel was served out; and a long grace was said over the short commons. The gruel disappeared; the boys whispered each other, and winked at Oliver; while his next neighbours nudged him. Child as he was, he was desperate with hunger, and reckless with misery. He rose from the table; and advancing to the master, **basin** and spoon in hand, said: somewhat alarmed at his own **temerity**:

'Please, sir, I want some more.'

The master was a fat, healthy man; but he turned very pale. He gazed in stupefied astonishment on the small rebel for some seconds, and then clung for support to the copper. The assistants were paralysed with wonder; the boys with fear.

'What!' said the master at length, in a faint voice. 'Please, sir,' replied Oliver, 'I want some more.'

The master aimed a blow at Oliver's head with the ladle; pinioned him in his arm; and shrieked aloud for the beadle.

The board were sitting in solemn conclave, when Mr. Bumble rushed into the room in great excitement, and addressing the gentleman in the high chair, said,

'Mr. Limbkins, I beg your pardon, sir! Oliver Twist has asked for more!'

There was a general start. Horror was depicted on every countenance.

'For MORE!' said Mr. Limbkins. 'Compose yourself, Bumble, and answer me distinctly. Do I understand that he asked for more, after he had eaten the supper allotted by the dietary?'

'He did, sir,' replied Bumble.

'That boy will be hung,' said the gentleman in the white waistcoat. 'I know that boy will be hung.'

Nobody **controverted** the prophetic gentleman's opinion. An animated discussion took place. Oliver was ordered into instant **confinement**; and a bill was next morning pasted on the outside of the gate, offering a reward of five pounds to anybody who would take Oliver Twist off the hands of the parish.

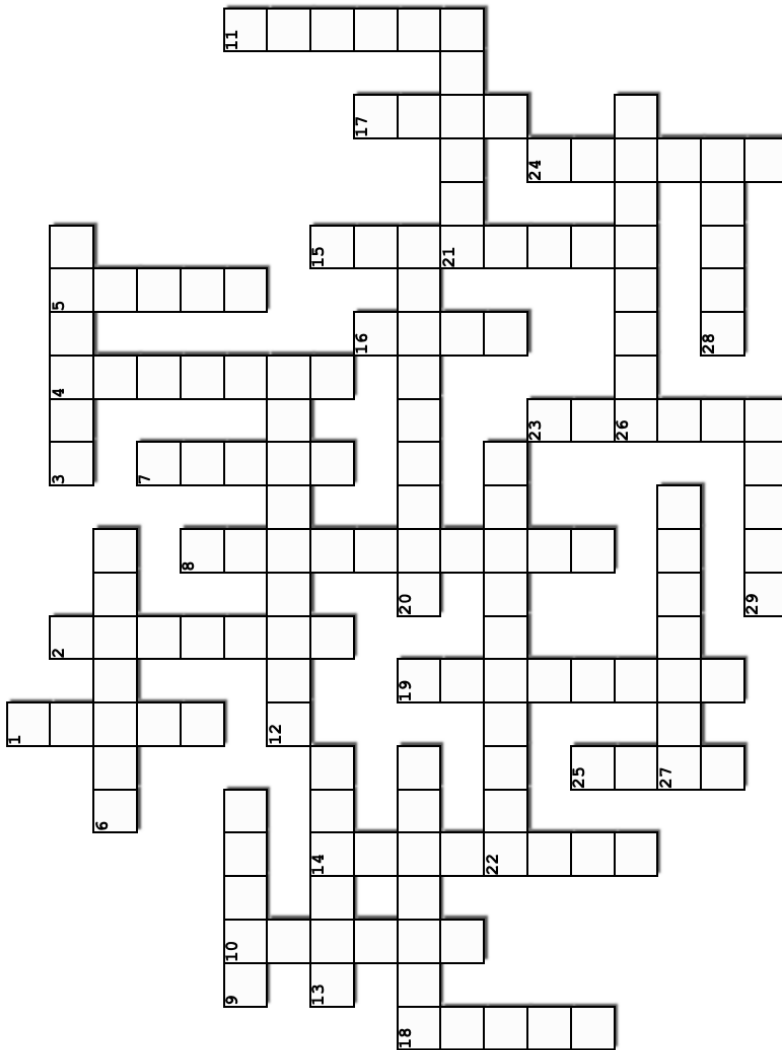
'I never was more convinced of anything in my life,' said the gentleman in the white waistcoat, as he knocked at the gate and read the bill next morning: 'I never was more convinced of anything in my life, than I am that that boy will come to be hung.'

1. Find an example of personification (explain why it is personification) (2 marks)
2. Use the text to work out the meaning of these words:
 - Temerity
 - Controverted
 - Per diem
 - Basin
 - Porringer
 - Pauper
3. Dickens writes "I never was more convinced of anything in my life, than I am that that boy will come to be hung." What does he mean by this? (2 marks)
4. Why do the boys nudge each other and wink at Oliver Twist, before he asks for more gruel? (2 marks)

5. Use your inference skills to guess whether gruel tastes nice (Explain your answer) (3 marks)
6. Why does the master refuse to give the boys more gruel? (2 marks)
7. Where are the boys? Why are there only boys there? (3 marks)
8. What might “occasions of great public rejoicing” mean? (2 marks)

Your answers MUST be written in full sentences with quotations.

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

- 3. To hate
- 6. Burnt
- 9. To fix
- 12. Silly or careless
- 13. Someone who is badly behaved
- 18. To confuse or shock
- 20. To be desperately poor
- 21. A cruel leader
- 22. Desperately sad
- 26. A large amount
- 27. To want something
- 28. A place to live
- 29. To be angry

Down

- 1. To feel tired
- 2. Something old/ ancient
- 4. A storm
- 5. Short and fat
- 7. A small stream
- 8. To be rich or successful
- 10. A small amount
- 11. Empty
- 14. Disaster
- 15. Awful
- 16. To soothe (can also mean a period of quiet)
- 17. Dull or unexciting
- 18. Danger
- 19. Boring (means one tone)
- 23. Calm
- 24. To stop or delay
- 25. Lazy