

E.S.O.  
Second Cycle

www.transeduca.com  
info@transeduca.com  
Tel. 902 370 200  
Fax 902 370 070

# DICKENS' STORIES

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**It never fails!  
It's your theatre**

## BEFORE GOING TO THE THEATRE

### THE STORY

#### 1.- Read the following summary of the play:

Charles Dickens is a child whose father is in prison because of his debts. As a consequence, Charles has to go to an orphanage. There, together with other children, he must work under very hard conditions. However, there he also meets Oliver Twist, an orphan, who becomes his best friend. Time passes and Charles's father is set free and comes to take Charles back. Charles is very happy, but he has to say goodbye to his friend. At that moment he decides to write a book called "Oliver Twist".

Some years later, Charles is studying at university. There he meets another good friend, David Copperfield (protagonist of his next novel) and also a girl called Ellen. They get married and have ten children. They are very happy, but one year, at Christmas time, Charles needs to find a job and he goes for an interview at a newspaper with the editor, Ebenezer Scrooge. Mr. Scrooge is very rude to Charles and does not give him the job. However, when Charles leaves the office, Mr. Scrooge receives the visit of three ghosts who show him his past, his present and his future. When the ghosts leave he realizes he has been a very bad and mean person and decides to go to Charles's home to give him the job. Charles invites Mr. Scrooge to have dinner with them and decides to write a story about his new boss.



### READING COMPREHENSION

#### 2.- Answer the following questions related to the text:

a) Why must Charles go to an orphanage?

b) Is he happy there? Why?

c) What is Charles's profession?

d) Does Mr. Scrooge give Charles the job at the interview?

e) Why does Mr. Scrooge finally decide to give Charles the job?

**3.- Do you know what a “Saxon genitive” is? Can you explain the rules? How many examples can you find in the text?**

**4.- Make the following sentences, taken from the text, negative.**

a) Charles has to go to an orphanage.

b) He must work under very hard conditions.

c) Charles is studying at university.

d) He goes for an interview at a newspaper.

e) He has been a very bad and mean person.

 **WRITING**

**5.- One of the topics treated in the play is childish exploitation. There are a lot of exploited children in the world. Imagine you have a friend in a third world country. Tell him/her about your life as a student and ask him/her about his/her life. (About 200 words).**

## RESEARCH JOB

**6.- Do you know about Charles Dickens? Have you read any of his books? Have you seen any of the films based on his novels and stories? If not, look up the information on the Internet and mention at least three novels written by this author and three films based on his works.**

## AFTER GOING TO THE THEATRE

### GRAMMAR

**7.- Arrange the following words to form coherent sentences. You have to add the necessary articles and prepositions:**

a) father/Charles/prison/'s/is

b) must/ Charles/money/earn/work

c) orphanage/orphan/another/meets/Charles

d) university/meets/friend/whose/another/name/he/is/David

e) marries/children/Charles/ten/has/and

f) Christmas/job/he/no/has/goes/interview/and

g) not/job/given/he/is

h) Mr. Scrooge/ghosts/three/visit/receives

i) ghosts/him/future/present/past/show/his

j) spends/Christmas/Mr. Scrooge/family/Eve/Charles/'s

## ● LISTENING

### 8.- Listen to track 15 and answer the following questions:

- a) What does Charles want to tell Ellen?
- b) What happens when he is about to speak?
- c) What does the letter say?
- d) Is Charles sad?
- e) Finally, what does Charles ask Ellen to do? Does she accept?

### 9.- Listen to track 19 and answer the following questions:

- a) How many visitors does Mr. Scrooge receive in his office? Who are they?
- b) What does the first visitor show him? And the second and the third?
- c) How does Mr. Scrooge feel about the things he is shown?
- d) What does he decide to do?
- e) What does he say to Margaret?

 **SPEAKING**

**10.- Work in groups. Try to organize a debate about the following topic: Do you think that nowadays children are exploited and abused? Where? Why? If so, do you think it is fair?**

 **WRITING**

**11.- Did you enjoy the story? Write a brief review and send it to us. We would like to know your opinion. Tell us ([reviews@transeduca.com](mailto:reviews@transeduca.com)) which part you liked the most, which one the least, whether there is anything you would change or add ...**



## VOCABULARY

**12.- Look at the list of vocabulary below. If there are any words you do not know, look them up in your dictionary. All these words appear in the play.**

- achieve
- factory
- regret
- bait
- feed
- rent
- behave
- fulfil
- security measures
- belt
- gift
- share
- bill
- guess
- shy
- blessing
- hug
- single
- both
- humble
- sink
- brave
- in charge of
- smart
- by the way
- indeed
- speech
- chance
- introduce
- success
- clap
- jail
- take care of
- colleague
- ladder
- tools
- damage
- leftovers
- turkey
- dare
- mess
- unfair
- delay
- orphan
- worms
- drown
- orphanage
- earn
- pants



## TEACHER'S NOTES AND ANSWERS

### READING COMPREHENSION

#### 2.- Answer the following questions related to the text:

- a) Because his father is in prison.
- b) Yes, he is. Because there he meets his best friend, Oliver Twist.
- c) He is a writer and a journalist.
- d) No, he doesn't.
- e) Because, thanks to the ghosts' visits, he has realized he has been a very bad person.

#### 3.- Do you know what a "Saxon genitive" is? Can you explain the rules? How many examples can you find in the text?

The students must explain the rules governing the Saxon genitive.  
Examples in the text: Charles's father, Charles's home.

#### 4.- Make the following sentences, taken from the text, negative.

- a) Charles doesn't have to go to an orphanage.
- b) He mustn't work under very hard conditions / He does not have to work under very hard conditions.
- c) Charles isn't studying at university.
- d) He doesn't go for an interview at a newspaper.
- e) He hasn't been a very bad and mean person.

## GRAMMAR

**7.- Arrange the following words to form coherent sentences. You have to add the necessary articles and prepositions:**

- a) Charles's father is in prison.
- b) Charles must work to earn money.
- c) Charles meets another orphan at the orphanage.
- d) At university he meets another friend whose name is David.
- e) Charles marries and has ten children.
- f) At Christmas he has no job and goes for an interview.
- g) He is not given the job.
- h) Mr. Scrooge receives the visit of three ghosts.
- i) The ghosts show him his past, present and future.
- j) Mr. Scrooge spends Christmas Eve with Charles's family.

## LISTENING

**8.- Listen to track 15 and answer the following questions:**

- a) He wants to tell her that he loves her.
- b) A letter arrives.
- c) It says that Charles's father has died.
- d) Yes, he is.
- e) He asks to her to marry him./ Yes, she does.

**9.- Listen to track 19 and answer the following questions:**

- a) Three. They are the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future.
- b) She shows him a happy Christmas from his past. They show him his present and future Christmases.
- c) He gets very frightened.
- d) He decides to become a better person.
- e) He sends Margaret home to be with her family and gives her some money as a Christmas present.



## Information and reservations

**Telephone**  
902 370 200

**Fax**  
902 370 070

**On line**  
[www.transeduca.com](http://www.transeduca.com)  
section *Reservas*

Transeduca, S.L.  
C/ Doctor Valentí Carulla, 9  
08940 Cornellà de Llobregat  
Barcelona

[info@transeduca.com](mailto:info@transeduca.com)

### DICKENS' STORIES

Teaching pack: Noelia Díaz López.

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#### OTHER PLAYS

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✓ El Cantar de Mio Cid   ✓ La casa de Bernarda Alba   ✓ Pasarse de la raya   ✓ Mirall Trencat   ✓ Impossible is nothing   ✓ Prêt-à-porter