



# David Copperfield

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## While reading

### Chapters 1–2

#### 1 Match A and B. Who says what?

|                   |                                                |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| A                 | B                                              |
|                   | ‘He’s not like Mr Copperfield.’                |
| David             | ‘This boy is stupid and lazy.’                 |
| Clara Copperfield | ‘Please don’t hit me.’                         |
| Mr Murdstone      | ‘You’re going to go to a school.’              |
| Miss Murdstone    | ‘You’ve hurt Mr Murdstone and you’ve hurt me.’ |
| Peggotty          | ‘You have a new father.’                       |
|                   | ‘Don’t be soft with the child.’                |
|                   | ‘I’ll leave the house <i>now</i> .’            |

#### 2 Let’s think that Peggotty can have a longer talk with David before he leaves for school. In pairs write down the talk between them.

### Chapters 3–4

#### 3 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

poor children near school holiday  
pipe laughing fun board unhappy  
bites neck

Mr Mell and his mother lived (a) ..... London Bridge. They were very (b) ..... After dinner Mr Mell played his (c) ..... Then he took David to his new (d) ..... but there were no (e) ..... there. They were still on (f) ..... Mr Mell told David that he had to wear a (g) ..... round his (h) ..... On it was written, ‘Stay away. He (i) .....’ When the children returned, they started (j) ..... at David. He felt very (k) ..... The only one who didn’t make (l) ..... of him was Steerforth.

#### 4 Write Mr Barkis and Miss Peggotty’s wedding invitation.

#### 5 In pairs, write down David Copperfield’s thoughts and feelings a) on the day he returned home after his mother’s death and b) on the day he met Mr Quinion. Then read your texts in class.

### Chapters 5–6

#### 6 Write the answers.

- a Mrs Micawber: ‘Will you take the books to a shop for me?’  
David: .....
- b Miss Trotwood: ‘What do you want?’  
David: .....
- c Miss Trotwood: ‘Where can David stay today?’  
Mr Wickfield: .....
- d David: ‘What are you reading?’  
Uriah Heep: .....
- e David: ‘Do you want to be a lawyer?’  
Uriah Heep: .....

#### 7 You are Uriah Heep. Describe what David Copperfield looks like and what he is like.

### Chapters 7–8

#### 8 Who says this?

- a ‘Humble people can’t learn Latin.’
- b ‘We’re waiting for some money that some people owe us.’
- c ‘I threw something at her.’
- d ‘Ham and Emily are going to get married.’
- e ‘Ham’s a good man. He’ll be a good husband to Emily.’
- f ‘Uriah owns half my father’s business now.’

#### 9 Work with another student. You are David and your friend is Traddles. In pairs write down the conversation between you after so many years and then act it out.

### Chapters 9–10

#### 10 You are Steerforth. Write a letter to David to explain to him why and how you have escaped with Emily.

#### 11 In Chapters 9–10 a lot of people from other chapters reappear. Find the three who don’t.

Traddles Rosa Steerforth Emily  
Mr Murdstone Mrs Gummidge Dora  
Miss Murdstone

### Chapters 11–12

#### 12 Who’s in love with who? Choose the right name.

- a David with Agnes/Dora
- b Agnes with Uriah Heep/David
- c Traddles with Agnes/Sophy
- d Emily with Steerforth/Ham
- e Uriah Heep with Dora/Agnes



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13 You are Emily. Write down the letter that Mr Peggotty has been waiting for since you left Yarmouth.

### Chapters 13–14

- 14 Who? Answer the following questions.
- a Who isn't able to manage her home?
  - b Who refuses to teach Dora about money?
  - c Who finds Emily in London?
  - d Who earned a lot of money by selling his first book?
  - e Who calls Uriah Heep an animal?
  - f Who wants to hurt Emily?
  - g Who wants Mr Peggotty to take her to Australia with him?

15 Although David loves Dora, he knows that she isn't a good wife. Which of these are right (✓) and which are wrong (X)?

- a Dora doesn't know how to manage the house.
- b She's very untidy.
- c She isn't interested in the books that David reads to her.
- d She hates David's novels.
- e She goes out with her friends every day.
- f She wakes up at midday and then plays with her dog.
- g She chooses the wrong servants.
- h She's so careless that her servants steal things from her.
- i She likes other men.
- j She can't save any money.

### Chapters 15–16

16 Match a–f and 1–6 to make correct sentences.

- a Jip the dog dies ...
- b Miss Trotwood pays Uriah Heep ...
- c Ham tries to save Steerforth ...
- d Rosa Dartle tells Mrs Steerforth ...
- e David leaves England ...
- f Mr Micawber goes to Australia ...
  - 1 because he's very sad.
  - 2 to save Mr Micawber from prison.
  - 3 at the same moment as Dora.
  - 4 that she made her son selfish.
  - 5 but dies swimming to the ship.
  - 6 and becomes rich and successful.

17 Mr Micawber has become a successful man in Australia. Write down the letter that he sends to David telling him about how well he is doing.

18 Write the card that Emily sends Miss Peggotty from Australia.

### After reading

19 Why is David happier in his second marriage than in his first? Choose the right answers.

- a Because Agnes has more common sense than Dora.
- b Because David is more patient with Agnes.
- c Because David can teach Agnes how to manage his house.
- d Because Agnes is more intelligent than Dora.
- e Because with Dora David felt like a father, not like a husband.

Compare your answers with those of another student. Do you agree?

20 Some people in the book think that rich people are better people. Who thinks this?

Mr Peggotty Miss Trotwood Uriah Heep  
Dora Steerforth Agnes Traddles Sophy  
Mr Micawber Mrs Gummidge

21 Choose the lesson that you like best from the story.

- a Our friends and our family are more important than money.
- b Money doesn't make you happy.
- c It's important to help others.
- d Love is very important in a child's life.
- e We can all learn how to be better people.
- f Adults can also change.

Why do you like this lesson?

22 Where would you place them? Why?

|              | Good | Very good | Bad | Very bad |
|--------------|------|-----------|-----|----------|
| Mr Murdstone |      |           |     |          |
| Agnes        |      |           |     |          |
| Rosa Dartle  |      |           |     |          |
| Uriah Heep   |      |           |     |          |
| Mr Micawber  |      |           |     |          |
| Steerforth   |      |           |     |          |



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## Chapters 1–2

### 1 Ten things are wrong. Find them and make them right.

David was born on a beautiful day six months after his father's death. Just after he was born his mother received a visitor: Miss Trotwood. She wanted the baby to be called Mary, like her. When she saw that the baby was a boy she left the house and never saw David again. David was happy with his mother and Peggotty but things changed when Miss Murdstone appeared. He never came to visit David's mother. When David returned from London Peggotty told David that he had a new uncle. Miss Murdstone managed Clara's kitchen and once she kept David locked in his room for ten days.

## Chapters 3–4

### 2 Who says this?

- a 'I'm a hard man and I don't like bad boys.'
- b 'I'm sorry that Mr Mell has gone.'
- c 'If I come to Yarmouth, can I bring Steerforth?'
- d 'He's my husband, Peggotty, and you're making me angry.'
- e 'Don't let that boy hold the baby.'
- f 'You'll go to London with Mr Quinion tomorrow.'

## Chapters 5–6

### 3 What happened first? Put these in the right order, 1–8.

- a As the Micawbers left for Plymouth, David decided to look for his aunt.
- b When the police took the Micawbers to prison, David found a room by the prison.
- c In London, David stayed at the Micawbers' house.
- d She lived in Dover, a long way away from London.
- e First she told the Murdstones that David would live with her.
- f There he would live with Mr Wickfield and his daughter Agnes.
- g Then she looked for a school for David in Canterbury.
- h When he reached her house she was very nice to him.

## Chapters 7–8

### 4 Answer why.

- a Why does Mr Micawber leave Canterbury?
- b Why does Emily cry?

- c Why does Miss Trotwood pay Spewlow and Jorkins one thousand pounds?
- d Why does Agnes send David home?
- e Why is Miss Murdstone at Dora's house?

## Chapters 9–10

### 5 Choose the right name.

- a Steerforth/Traddles is studying law.
- b Rosa/Emily doesn't want Steerforth to touch her.
- c Mrs Steerforth/Mrs Gummidge wants to give Mr Peggotty some money for his trouble.
- d Dora is Mr Spewlow's/Mr Peggotty's daughter.
- e Dora's friend is Miss Murdstone/Julia Mills.

## Chapters 11–12

### 6 Fill in the sentences with the right places.

- a Agnes goes to ..... to talk to David.
- b Mr Spewlow wants to send Dora to ..... for David to forget her.
- c David needs a holiday so he goes to .....
- d Mr Peggotty travelled to ..... to look for Emily.
- e As he didn't find her he returned to .....
- f David knew Martha Endells from .....

## Chapters 13–14

### 7 Who did this?

- a ..... took David to church.
- b All the servants that ..... employed were bad.
- c ..... left Steerforth.
- d ..... wrote a strange letter to David.
- e ..... stole money from Wickfield and Miss Trotwood.
- f ..... wanted to hurt Heep.

## Chapters 15–16

### 8 Right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Dora wanted Miss Trotwood to buy her another dog.
- b Traddles found five thousand pounds of Mr Wickfield's money.
- c Mr Peggotty would keep Mr Micawber's money for him in Australia.
- d Ham knew that one of the men on the ship was Steerforth.
- e It was David who told Rosa and Mrs Steerforth that Steerforth was dead.
- f The mountains in Switzerland helped David to forget Dora.
- g When David went back to England, Traddles and Sophie were already married.