

1. Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens was born on February 7th, 1812. He became one of the most prolific writers of the Victorian age and his works remain popular. This week's worksheet provides a biography in a text that contains an extra word on each line. There is one page to print. Click here to get your copy.

<http://www.insideout.net/warehouse/worksheets/2003/Feb/IO082S-dickens.pdf>

Level

Intermediate and upwards

How to use the lesson

1. Ask your students what they know about Charles Dickens. Do they know any titles of his books? Have they read any of his work, either in English or their own language?
2. Give one copy of the worksheet to each student in the class and ask students to work in pairs. Ask them to read the text quickly and find the answers to question 1. Students should compare their answers with their partner.
3. Check answers in open class.
4. Ask students to read the text again. This time they should find the extra word, where necessary. Once again, ask students to compare answers with their partner. Check answers in open class.

Answers

Possible answers for question 1:

He was born on 7th February.

By the age of 25, he had published *The Pickwick Papers*.

He died in 1870.

He started sending in written contributions to a journal at the age of 21.

He started working in a boot polish factory when he was 12.

At the age of 38, he started writing *David Copperfield*.

His marriage ended in 1858.

Question 2:

- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| 1. ✓ | 10. such |
| 2. had | 11. the |
| 3. a | 12. to |
| 4. ✓ | 13. ✓ |
| 5. out | 14. did |
| 6. old | 15. has |
| 7. been | 16. ✓ |
| 8. ✓ | 17. however |
| 9. was | 18. ✓ |

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.fidnet.com/~dap1955/dickens/>

Biography, illustrations, a map of Dickens' London and much more

<http://www.dickensmuseum.com/>

Visit the Dickens museum

http://www.dickenschristmascarol.com/movie_clips.html

Some movie clips from *A Christmas Carol*