



Worksheet

Name :

Subject:

Reading Comprehension

Class:

10th grade

Date:

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions below.

Part 1

In England during the 1800s, many people came to the cities to work. There were places called *workhouses* where the poorest people could live, work, and eat to make ends meet. But life in the workhouses was not easy, where people somehow managed a subsistence, living day-to-day, huddled together to keep warm.

One night, a woman arrived at a workhouse. She gave birth to a baby but then sadly died. A nurse called the baby **Oliver Twist**, and he was sent to a house for orphans until he was nine. Then he was sent to a workhouse to work. Oliver was sad to leave the other orphans. Although the boys lived hand-to-mouth, they had a sense of belonging at the house and looked after each other.

At the workhouse, all the other boys were as malnourished as Oliver. One day, they encouraged Oliver to beg for more food, but this made the managers of the workhouse angry. Oliver decided to escape to London but had no food and went hungry for days, before he met another boy called **Jack Dawkins**. He showed Oliver the way to the city.

Jack introduced Oliver to an old man called **Fagin**, who gave Oliver some food and a bed to sleep on. The next day, Oliver saw many other boys come to Fagin's house. The boys gathered together to give the old man watches and jewellery. Fagin then told Oliver to go into the streets with the other boys and learn from them. Oliver was shocked when he saw the boys take things from people's pockets. He understood that they were thieves!

Comprehension Questions

1. Poor people came to the workhouses to have three things. Mention them.

2. The underlined relative pronoun "**where**" refers to _____.

3. According to the text, the readers were deceived by Fagin because he did two things to Oliver. Mention them.

4. Write down the sentence which shows the reason why Oliver was certain that the boys were thieves.

5. Find a word in the text which means “*didn’t have enough food.*”

6. The writer states three characters. Mention them.

7. Poverty influences someone’s life. Suggest three negative effects of poverty.

Part 2

Suddenly, a man saw the boys take a handkerchief from his pocket. He shouted at the boys, and as they ran away, a police officer tried to arrest Oliver. But a man, **Mr Brownlow**, told the police officer that Oliver had not taken anything. Mr Brownlow was worried about the skinny boy and took him back to his house, where the housekeeper looked after Oliver.

When Oliver was better, he was walking along the streets when a woman grabbed him. She took him back to **Fagin’s**. Fagin then asked Oliver to help **Mr Sikes** with a job in the country. They told Oliver to climb through a small window of a house. When he did so, he was shot. Luckily, he survived.

When he was better, he was taken to Mr Brownlow, and was made to feel at home. Mr Brownlow explained that Oliver’s mother was a rich woman. But his brother, a man called **Monks**, knew that Oliver would only get the money if Oliver was an honest person. So he watched Oliver and made sure that he met Jack Dawkins, and then Fagin. In this way, Oliver would never be honest and Monks could keep all the money.

At the end of the story, Monks gives Oliver the money that is owed to him and leaves the country. Oliver is adopted by Mr Brownlow, which shows what a kind man he is.

1. The underlined pronoun “**He**” refers to _____.

2. Quote the sentence which shows that the boys stole a napkin from a man.

3. Mr Brownlow was a kind man because he helped Oliver. Mention two things which show his kindness.

4. Find a word in the text which means “*very thin.*”

5. Children’s labor leads to several negative consequences. Suggest three negative consequences.

Answer Key

Part 1

1. **Poor people came to the workhouses to have three things.**
 - To live, to work, and to eat.

2. **The underlined relative pronoun “where” refers to:**
 - *The workhouses.*

3. **According to the text, the readers were deceived by Fagin because he did two things to Oliver.**
 - He gave Oliver food and a bed to sleep on.
 - He pretended to be kind while actually teaching boys to steal.

4. **Write down the sentence which shows the reason why Oliver was certain that the boys were thieves.**
 - “He understood that they were thieves!”

5. **Find a word in the text which means ‘didn’t have enough food’.**
 - *Malnourished.*

6. **The writer states three characters. Mention them.**
 - Oliver Twist, Jack Dawkins, and Fagin.

7. **Poverty influences someone’s life. Suggest three negative effects of poverty.**
 - It causes hunger and poor health.
 - It limits education and job opportunities.
 - It may lead people to crime or exploitation.

Part 2

1. **The underlined pronoun “He” refers to:**
 - *Mr Brownlow.*

2. **Quote the sentence which shows that the boys stole a napkin from a man.**
 - “Suddenly, a man saw the boys take a handkerchief from his pocket.”

3. **Mr Brownlow was a kind man because he helped Oliver. Mention two things which show his kindness.**
- He told the police officer that Oliver had not taken anything.
 - He took Oliver home, cared for him, and later adopted him.
4. **Find a word in the text which means ‘very thin’.**
- *Skinny.*
5. **Children’s labor leads to several negative consequences. Suggest three negative consequences.**
- It harms their physical and mental health.
 - It prevents them from getting an education.
 - It exposes them to danger, abuse, or exploitation.