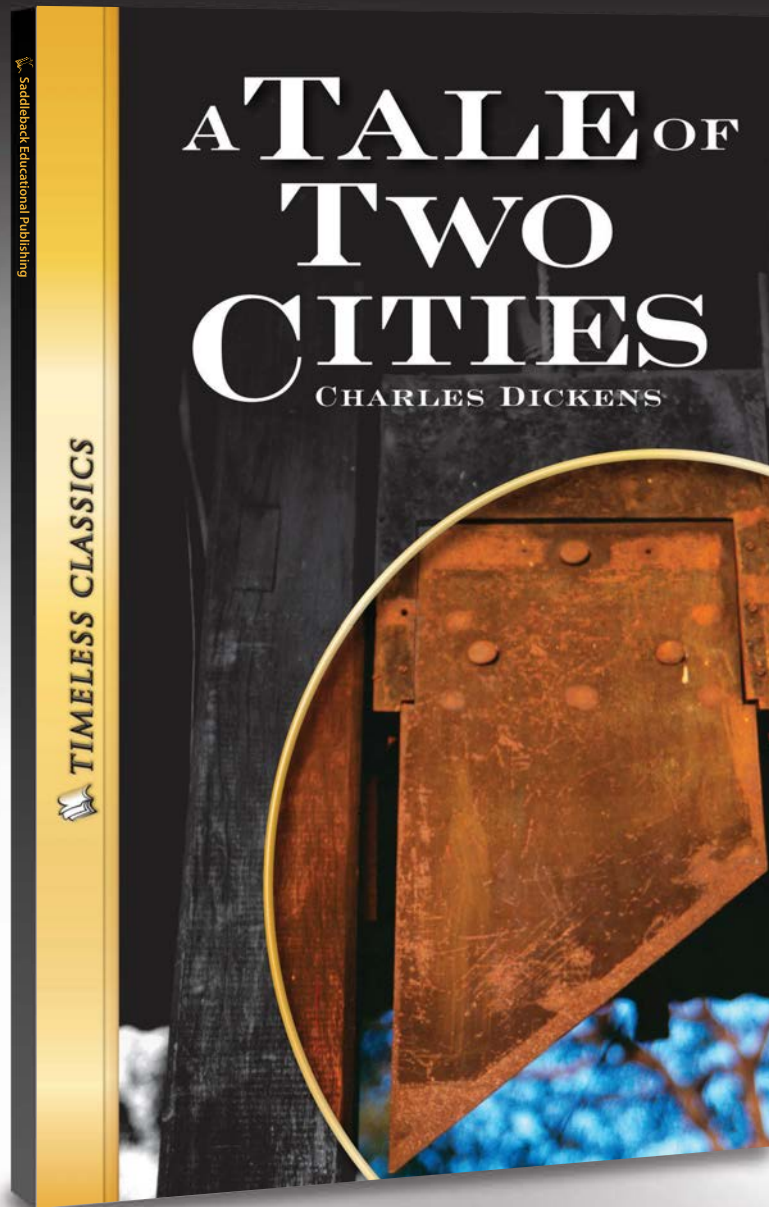


 *TIMELESS CLASSICS*

STUDY GUIDE



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Literature Set 1 (1719-1844)

A Christmas Carol	Oliver Twist
The Count of Monte Cristo	Pride and Prejudice
Frankenstein	Robinson Crusoe
Gulliver's Travels	The Swiss Family Robinson
The Hunchback of Notre Dame	The Three Musketeers
The Last of the Mohicans	

Literature Set 2 (1845-1884)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Moby Dick
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer	The Prince and the Pauper
Around the World in 80 Days	The Scarlet Letter
Great Expectations	A Tale of Two Cities
Jane Eyre	20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
The Man in the Iron Mask	

Literature Set 3 (1886-1908)

The Call of the Wild	Kidnapped
Captains Courageous	The Red Badge of Courage
Dracula	The Time Machine
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde	Treasure Island
The Hound of the Baskervilles	The War of the Worlds
The Jungle Book	White Fang



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TIMELESS CLASSICS

NOTES TO THE TEACHER

THE NOVELS

Timeless Classics were expressly designed to help struggling readers gain access to some of the world’s greatest literature. While retaining the essence and stylistic “flavor” of the original, each novel has been expertly adapted to a reading level that never exceeds grade 4.0.

An ideal introduction to later investigations of the original works, *Timeless Classics* utilize a number of strategies to ensure the involvement of struggling readers: airy, uncomplicated page design; shortened sentences; easy-reading type style; elimination of archaic words and spellings; shortened total book length; and handsome illustrations.

To further engage struggling readers, some of our *Timeless Classics* titles are available in a new and exciting graphic format, which can bridge literacies and build complex reading skills—a perfect opportunity for differentiation.

THE STUDY GUIDES

The *Timeless Classics Study Guides* provide a wealth of reproducible support materials to help students extend the learning experience. Features include critical background notes on both the author and the times, character descriptions, chapter summaries, and eight “universal” exercises that may be used for any *Timeless Classic* or *Saddleback Illustrated Classic*.

In addition to the universal exercises, 26 title-specific activities are included to review, test, or enrich the student’s grasp of important vocabulary and concepts. These reproducible worksheets are designed to be used chapter-by-chapter as the student’s reading of the novel proceeds. At least two exercises are provided for each book chapter. One of the two always focuses on key vocabulary. The other may be a simple comprehension check or present an important literary concept.

Research shows that the most effective way to improve comprehension is to teach students strategies. The foundation of any comprehension strategy requires knowledge of the skills found in these activities including: main idea, noting details, drawing conclusions, finding the sequence, cause and effect, making inferences, and more. A two-page final exam is also included in every *Timeless Classics Study Guide*.

USING THE STUDY GUIDES

Before assigning any of the reproducible exercises, be sure your students each have a personal copy of the *Glossary* and the *Facts About the Author* and *About the Times*. By organizing the reading process in this way, you will be able to set a purpose for reading and activate prior knowledge. The *Facts About the Author* and *About the Times* lend themselves to any number of writing or research projects you may wish to assign. To further preview the novel, you may wish to review the *Facts About the Characters*. Students will also need to be familiar with many of the literary terms in order to complete the worksheets.

The title-specific exercises may be used as a springboard for class discussions and role-playing. Alternatively, you may wish to assign some exercises as homework and others during the closing minutes of a class period.

All exercises in this Guide are designed to accommodate independent study as well as group work. The occasional assignment of study partners or competitive teams often enhances interest and promotes creativity. Oral language activities, such as paraphrasing or summarizing a part of the story, provide an intervention opportunity to strengthen oral language skills and, in turn, strengthen reading skills.

CHARLES DICKENS

(1812–1870)

EARLY LIFE

Born in Portsmouth, England, Charles Dickens endured a difficult, unhappy childhood—much like the children in his novels. When his father, a clerk, was thrown into debtor’s prison, young Charles was sent to work in a shoe polish factory. In later years he was to say that his parents’ failure to educate him was his greatest disappointment. After the age of 14, he never returned to school.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

A lifelong hard worker, Dickens held jobs as an office boy and then as a newspaper reporter of debates in Parliament. Under the pen name *Boz*, he wrote humorous satires on daily life for a magazine. This series immediately became popular, encouraging Dickens to write his first novel, *The Pickwick Papers*—which was published when he was 24 years old. With the great success of this novel, Dickens’ literary career was launched.

In *Oliver Twist*, his next novel, Dickens began his lifelong crusade against social conditions that grossly abuse the poor, especially children. While on a reading tour in the United States, he also spoke out for the abolition of slavery.

The publication of *A Christmas Carol* in 1843 met with sensational success. As the father of 10 children, Dickens freely admitted that he wrote the book in order to

generate income. But he received an even greater reward: he said that he laughed and cried over *A Christmas Carol* as he did no other story.

OTHER WORKS

Among the best known of his 20 novels are *David Copperfield*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Hard Times*, and *Great Expectations*.

Charles Dickens is considered by many to be the greatest English novelist. Although his work is sometimes criticized as sentimental, his stature as a great humorist and creator of characters is unparalleled. His imaginative use of detail, odd gestures, expressions, speech patterns, and physical characteristics has brought his characters to life for millions of readers. As a social critic, he attacked hypocrisy, injustice, and cruelty as few other novelists have had the skill to do.

The Victorian Era, when Dickens wrote, is sometimes called “the age of Dickens” because his characters and ideas so well exemplify life at this time.

LATER LIFE

At the age of 58, Dickens died in England while working on his novel, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. He was buried in Westminster Abbey.

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

FACTS ABOUT THE TIMES

In 1812, when Charles Dickens was born . . .

Napoleon marched on Moscow, James Madison was elected President of the United States, the first billiards parlor opened in England, the United States declared war on Britain, and Beethoven wrote his Seventh and Eighth Symphonies.

In 1859, when *A Tale of Two Cities* was published . . .

Oregon became a state, Abraham Lincoln was running for President, Washington Irving died, Arthur Conan Doyle was born,

a Frenchman crossed Niagara Falls on a tightrope, and the storage battery and the steamroller were invented.

In 1870, when Charles Dickens died . . .

John D. Rockefeller founded the Standard Oil Company, Jules Verne published *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, Robert E. Lee died, Lenin was born, and P.T. Barnum was preparing to open “The Greatest Show on Earth” in Brooklyn.

FACTS ABOUT THE CHARACTERS

MR. LORRY

A representative of Tellson’s Bank and a friend of the Manettes

LUCIE MANETTE

Daughter of Dr. Manette who later marries Charles Darnay; a pretty young woman, blond and blue eyed

MONSIEUR DEFARGE

Keeper of a wine shop in Paris; husband of Madame Defarge; a leader of the Citizens

MADAME DEFARGE

Keeper of a wine shop in Paris; wife of Defarge; a bitter woman bent on revenge

DR. MANETTE

Former prisoner at the Bastille; a physician; Lucie’s father

CHARLES ST. EVREMONDE/DARNAY

Young French nobleman who renounced his ancestral rights and moved to England; later married to Lucie Manette

MISS PROSS

Former nursemaid and present servant of Lucie Manette

SYDNEY CARTON

An English lawyer who looks much like Charles Darnay; a man who is ruining his life with drink

LITTLE LUCIE

Young daughter of Lucie and Charles

THE MARQUIS ST. EVREMONDE

A cruel, cold-hearted French nobleman; uncle of Charles Darnay

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

CHAPTER SUMMARIES

CHAPTER 1

The time and place of the action are: England and France in 1775, a time of government upheaval. Mr. Lorry, an employee of Tellson's Bank, arrives in Dover, England, to meet with a young woman named Lucie Manette. He tells Lucie that her father has not died as she had been told, but instead has wrongfully been imprisoned in the Bastille for the past 18 years. Shocked, Lucie agrees to accompany Lorry to Paris so they can bring her father home to England. In Paris, they find the old man locked in an attic room over the Defarges' wine shop. They discover that he has lost his health and his memory.

CHAPTER 2

Five years later Dr. Manette has regained his health and is living comfortably with Lucie in London. They are called to testify against a young Frenchman they had met on the boat from France to England. In court they speak kindly of the man, Charles Darnay, and as the trial progresses, yet another witness against him is discredited. Darnay is finally found innocent when a third witness cannot be certain that the man he saw "getting secrets from soldiers near a military post" is Darnay rather than a lawyer, Sydney Carton, who looks remarkably like Darnay. At dinner that evening, Carton becomes jealous of Darnay's bright future. In a drunken stupor, he criticizes himself for allowing drink to ruin his life.

CHAPTER 3

Speeding down a narrow street in a carriage, the Marquis St. Evremonde is unmoved when his horses run over a child in

the street. He throws the dead boy's father a coin to get rid of him, but the coin is angrily tossed back by Defarge, who has seen what happened. Charles, the nephew of the Marquis, is waiting when his uncle returns home to his grand mansion. He fruitlessly begs the cruel old man to change his ways, but the Marquis does not listen. That night the Marquis is stabbed to death in his bed. Back in England, Charles works as a teacher and falls in love with Lucie Manette. When he asks Dr. Manette's permission to marry her, he also tries to tell the doctor a secret—but the old man does not want to hear it until their wedding day.

CHAPTER 4

Sydney Carton declares his love for Lucie Manette, offering to give his life for her if he has to. Lucie pities him but is distracted by plans for her wedding to Charles. Just before the ceremony Charles tells Dr. Manette his true name. The doctor is shocked to hear the name *St. Evremonde* because it is this family that was responsible for his long imprisonment. He makes Charles promise to tell no one else. When the Defarges hear that a member of the St. Evremonde family has married Lucie, Madame Defarge adds their names to her knitted list of people who must die.

CHAPTER 5

Living in London, Lucie and Charles have a baby girl called Little Lucie. One night Mr. Lorry visits and advises them of further trouble brewing in Paris. As they speak, the Defarges are handing out weapons to an angry crowd of workers who are preparing

CHAPTER SUMMARIES

to storm the Bastille, a hated prison where many poor people have been mistreated for years. Soon the mob overwhelms the guards and floods into the prison courtyard. Defarge leads some men to Cell 105, Dr. Manette's former cell. There they hunt for and find the doctor's hidden diary of those years. Madame Defarge chops off the warden's head with her axe, and many other acts of terror and violence quickly follow.

CHAPTER 6

Charles receives a letter from his old servant Gabelle. The letter says that Gabelle has been arrested for managing Charles's property. He begs Charles to come to his assistance in Paris. Without telling Lucie, Charles hurries to France where he is questioned by armed workers who now call themselves *Citizens*. He is arrested by Defarge, a leader of the Citizens, and detained in jail. When they hear what happened, Lucie, Dr. Manette, Little Lucie, and Miss Pross rush to Paris. Mr. Lorry brings Dr. Manette up to date about the escalating violence and urges the doctor to act quickly if he wants to save Charles from the guillotine.

CHAPTER 7

Visiting Charles in prison brings back many sickening memories to old Dr. Manette. When the Defarges deliver a note Charles has written, Lucie feels some comfort, but she and Little Lucie are both terrified by the evil look in Madame Defarge's eyes. Upon returning from his stay with Charles, Dr. Manette reports that Charles is safe "for

now." Lucie wonders if she will ever see her husband again, but then learns that he will be put on trial the next day. In the meantime, Sydney Carton visits Mr. Lorry to ask for news and offer any help he can.

CHAPTER 8

Darnay tells the judge that he gave up his title years ago and has been earning his living as a teacher in England. He goes on to explain that he came back to France only because his old friend needed help. Gabelle confirms that this is true. When Dr. Manette, who is an honored man among the people because of his 18 years in the Bastille, testifies that Charles is a good and decent man, Darnay is set free. The Citizens carry him home on their shoulders and a family celebration follows. But the happy reunion is quickly interrupted as two armed Citizens burst in and arrest Charles on unnamed charges. Without further explanation, they drag Charles off into the night.

CHAPTER 9

Sydney Carton tells Mr. Lorry that Charles has again been arrested. Shocked at the news, Mr. Lorry is nonetheless impressed by how well Carton looks—as if he has somehow pulled himself together. After leaving Mr. Lorry, Carton buys two packets of drugs at a chemist's shop and takes a long, thoughtful walk through the city. He remembers his father's funeral and repeats a quotation from the Bible about resurrection. Standing on a small bridge as dawn breaks, Carton seems

strangely at peace with himself. At the trial, a lawyer declares that Darnay is accused not only by the Defarges, but by Dr. Manette. Against Dr. Manette's outraged objections, Defarge offers the court the doctor's prison diary as proof.

CHAPTER 10

Defarge reads from Dr. Manette's diary. The story begins in 1757, when Dr. Manette is stopped on the street and taken to the home of the Marquis St. Evremonde. There he treats a fatally ill young woman and a young man who is dying of stab wounds. Before dying, the young man reveals that the Marquis stabbed him, and for many years had abused the boy's whole family. With his dying breath, the boy curses the Marquis and his whole family. In spite of the Marquis's warning not to tell, Dr. Manette reports the crime in a letter to the police. Shortly thereafter he discovers that his letter has been intercepted. He is soon arrested by a stranger dressed in black and thrown into the Bastille without a trial. In his own hand, Dr. Manette has written the following words in his diary: "I curse the Marquis and every member of his family!" On that evidence, Charles is condemned to death. A sad and thoughtful Sydney Carton watches from the rear of the courtroom.

CHAPTER 11

In the Defarges' wine shop, Sydney Carton overhears Madame Defarge vowing to kill Charles's entire family. She tells her husband that the family that was so cruelly treated by the Marquis was hers. Charles rushes to Mr. Lorry, telling him to have a carriage waiting outside the prison gates at 2 o'clock the next day. He says Lucie, her daughter, and Dr. Manette should be in the carriage waiting for him, ready to leave at once for London. Carton gives Lorry his pass. The next day he drugs Charles in his cell, exchanges clothes with him, and sends Charles, disguised as Carton, off to the carriage and freedom. Carton himself goes to the guillotine in Charles's place, saying that his sacrifice is a "far better thing" than he has ever done before.

CHARACTER STUDY

NAME _____

DATE _____

A. Think about the characters you met in Chapter 1. Choose two words or phrases from the box that describe each character. Write the words on the lines. Hint: You will *not* use all the words.

English	young	gruff	needleworker	blond	innkeeper
banker	angry	ill	former servant	shoemaker	shopkeeper

- 1. **Mr. Lorry** _____
- 2. **Lucie Manette** _____
- 3. **Defarge** _____
- 4. **Dr. Manette** _____
- 5. **Madame Defarge** _____

B. Write a letter to show words spoken by each character.

- 1. ____ Lucie Manette a. “Your father is not in good health, but he is alive.”
- 2. ____ Dr. Manette b. “It is fear that we wear like a rough shirt.”
- 3. ____ Mr. Lorry c. “105, North Tower.”
- 4. ____ Defarge d. “My father died when I was very small.”

C. Write a character’s name to complete each sentence.

- 1. Twenty years ago, _____ did some work for a famous French doctor.
- 2. As the well-dressed strangers stepped forward, a cold, unfriendly look came into _____ eyes.
- 3. With a sigh, _____ frowned and returned to work.
- 4. _____ said that terrible things were done to the people every day.