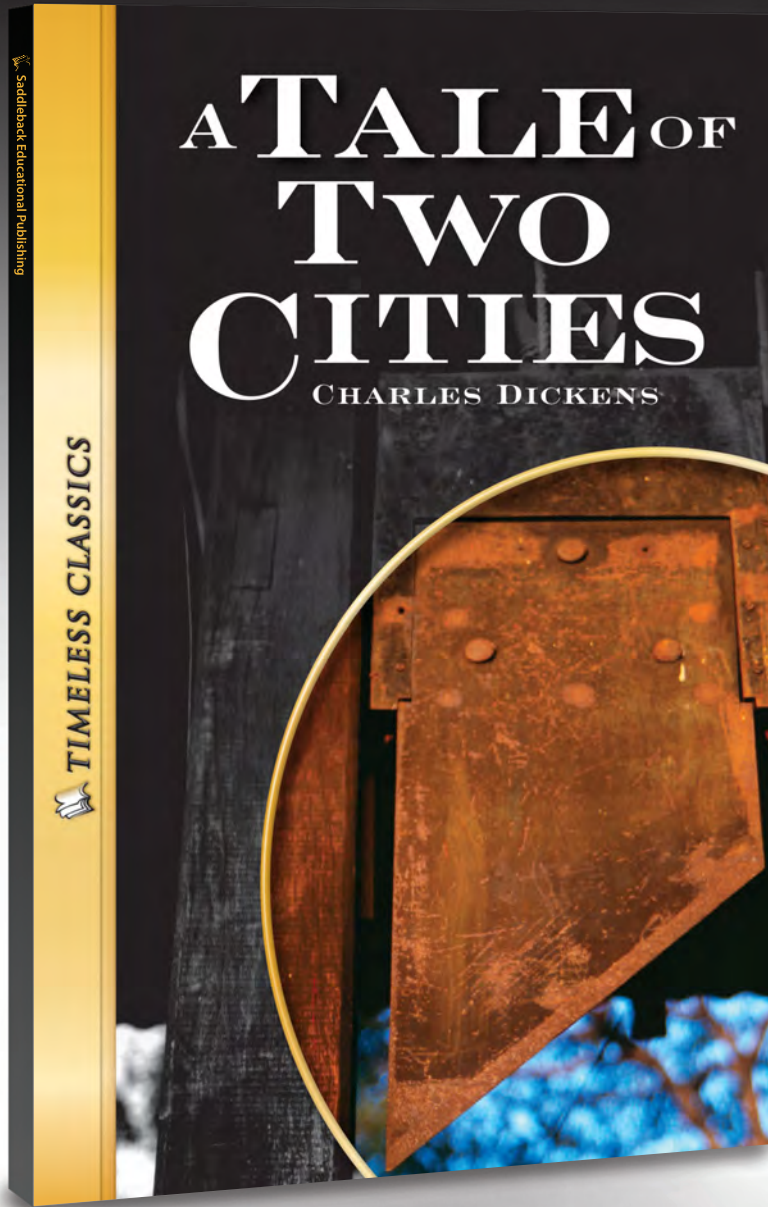




*TIMELESS CLASSICS*

# STUDY GUIDE



# | Contents |

Notes to the Teacher.....	4
Facts About the Author .....	5
Facts About the Times.....	6
Facts About the Characters .....	6
Chapter Summaries.....	7
Answer Key.....	10
Literary Glossary .....	12

## **CHAPTER EXERCISES**

<b>1</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 1 .....	14
<b>2</b> Character Study, Ch. 1.....	15
<b>3</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 2 .....	16
<b>4</b> Comprehension Check, Ch. 2... ..	17
<b>5</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 3 .....	18
<b>6</b> Cause and Effect, Ch. 3 .....	19
<b>7</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 4 .....	20
<b>8</b> Inference, Ch. 4 .....	21
<b>9</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 5 .....	22
<b>10</b> Sequence of Events, Ch. 5.....	23
<b>11</b> Synonyms and Antonyms, Ch. 5....	24
<b>12</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 6 .....	25
<b>13</b> Idioms, Ch. 6 .....	26
<b>14</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 7 .....	27
<b>15</b> Cause and Effect, Ch. 7.....	28

<b>16</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 8 .....	29
<b>17</b> Comprehension Check, Ch. 8... ..	30
<b>18</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 9 .....	31
<b>19</b> Synonyms and Antonyms, Ch. 9... ..	32
<b>20</b> Personalizing the Story, Ch. 9 ..	33
<b>21</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 10 ... ..	34
<b>22</b> Inference, Ch. 10.....	35
<b>23</b> Words and Meanings, Ch. 11 ... ..	36
<b>24</b> Comprehension Check, Ch. 11 ... ..	37

## **END-OF-BOOK EXERCISES**

<b>25</b> Book Sequence .....	38
<b>26</b> Final Exam, Part 1 .....	39
<b>26</b> Final Exam, Part 2 .....	40

## **UNIVERSAL EXERCISES**

<b>27</b> Beyond the Text.....	41
<b>28</b> Plot Study .....	42
<b>29</b> Theme Analysis .....	43
<b>30</b> Character Study .....	44
<b>31</b> Vocabulary Study.....	45
<b>32</b> Glossary Study .....	46
<b>33</b> Book Review, Part 1 .....	47
<b>33</b> Book Review, Part 2 .....	48

## 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.

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### 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

## TIMELESS CLASSICS

### LITERARY GLOSSARY

**action** what happens in a story; the acts or events that take place

The war story was full of battle action.

**author** the writer of a book, story, article, etc.

Ernest Hemingway was an American author.

**author's purpose** the author's specific goal or reason for writing a certain book

In that novel, the author's purpose was to make readers laugh.

**character** a fictional person who plays a part in a story or novel

Long John Silver is an important character in *Treasure Island*.

**classic** excellent artwork, novel, painting, symphony, etc. that remains popular over many years

Norman Mailer's *The Naked and the Dead* has become an American classic

**climax** the outcome of the novel's main conflict

The capture of the criminal was the climax of the detective story.

**conclusion** the resolution of all plot conflicts, bringing the story to a close

That play's conclusion was very satisfying. Every conflict was resolved.

**conflict** The struggle between characters or forces at the center of the story

The conflict was resolved when the suspect confessed.

**description** the parts of a story or novel that tell about the appearance of the setting or characters

His description of the Alps was breathtaking.

**dialogue** words spoken by the characters in a novel, story, or play

The dialogue in that comedy is very witty and amusing.

**effect** in literature, an impression created by the writer

Murder mysteries often create a suspenseful, chilling effect.

**event** a specific occurrence; something that happens

A plane crash is the first event in that adventure novel.

**fiction** a literary work in which the plot and characters are the products of the author's imagination

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is a popular work of fiction.

**figurative language** colorful wording not meant to be taken literally, but to form a colorful, sharp picture in the mind

A "screaming" headline may be set in large type, but it makes no sound at all.

**imagery** figures of speech that help the reader to visualize the characters or setting; pictures in words

In Stephen Crane's imagery, the color of blood suggests courage.

**introduction** a short reading that presents and explains a novel; sometimes the first part of a novel that sets the scene

The introduction to *Frankenstein* is in the form of a letter.

**mood** the overall feeling or atmosphere the author creates in a story or novel

The author's skillful use of language created a dismal, hopeless mood.

**moral** the instructive point of a story or novel; the lesson to be drawn by the reader

The moral of the story is to choose your friends carefully.





**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.

<b>English</b>	<b>young</b>	<b>gruff</b>	<b>needleworker</b>	<b>blond</b>	<b>innkeeper</b>
<b>banker</b>	<b>angry</b>	<b>ill</b>	<b>former servant</b>	<b>shoemaker</b>	<b>shopkeeper</b>

- 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.

**WORDS AND MEANINGS**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**A.** Circle the hidden words. They may go across, backward, up, down, or diagonally. Check off each word as you find it.

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| ___ <b>COURTROOM</b> | ___ <b>ARRESTED</b>  |
| ___ <b>LAWYER</b>    | ___ <b>WITNESSES</b> |
| ___ <b>TESTIFY</b>   | ___ <b>TAVERN</b>    |
| ___ <b>MEDICAL</b>   | ___ <b>PRIDE</b>     |
| ___ <b>GUILTY</b>    | ___ <b>WIG</b>       |
| ___ <b>ENVY</b>      | ___ <b>MILITARY</b>  |

O	T	E	S	T	I	F	Y	M	N	E	T
W	O	T	H	E	R	C	O	E	L	S	O
R	E	D	I	R	P	O	N	D	A	E	M
E	V	R	E	Y	R	V	B	I	D	S	I
Y	O	N	D	T	Y	L	Y	C	N	S	L
W	I	G	R	O	S	T	V	A	O	E	I
A	B	U	B	E	L	E	T	L	F	N	T
L	O	H	A	I	V	T	R	S	T	T	A
C	W	G	U	Y	M	A	N	R	O	I	R
I	N	G	L	U	V	W	T	I	A	W	Y

**B.** Write a word from the puzzle after the definition it matches.

1. room where a law trial is held

\_\_\_\_\_

2. having to do with soldiers

\_\_\_\_\_

3. a bar that serves food

\_\_\_\_\_

4. having done wrong; not innocent

\_\_\_\_\_

5. argues the law in court

\_\_\_\_\_

6. jailed on criminal charges

\_\_\_\_\_

7. feeling of jealousy

\_\_\_\_\_

8. those who give evidence in court

\_\_\_\_\_

9. self-respect, dignity

\_\_\_\_\_

10. false covering of head hair

\_\_\_\_\_

11. to offer proof in court

\_\_\_\_\_

12. describes doctor's work

\_\_\_\_\_