



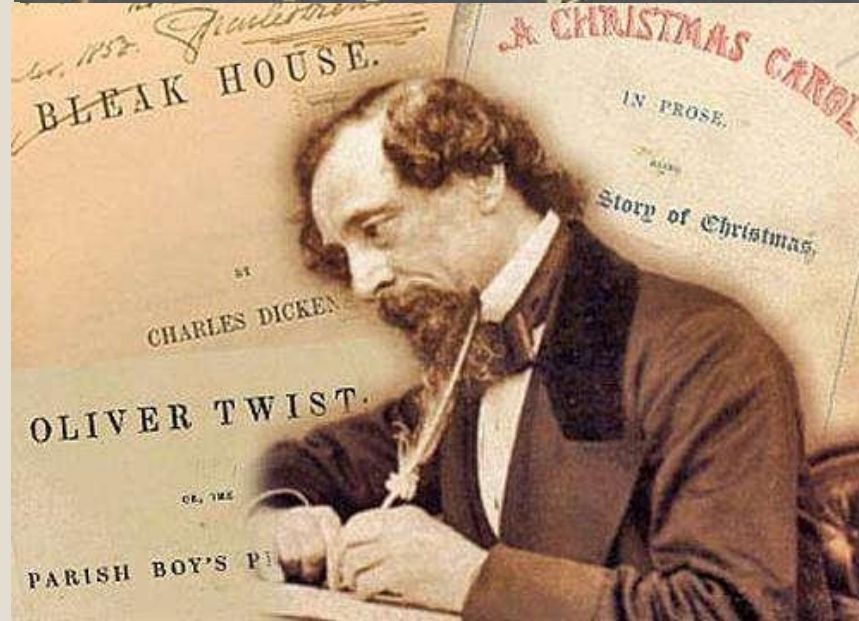
DAVID COPPERFIELD



查尔斯·狄更斯 200 周年诞辰



David
Copperfield



Chapter 1

A Bad Child

II. Chapter 1: A Bad Child

My life has been full of ups and downs, and during my childhood the downs seemed to rain on me like a never-ending storm. When I look back on those years, I can't believe that any grown-up would behave in **that way** to a child. But **they** did.

1. What's the function of this paragraph in Chapter 1?

to lead the following content; to set the narrative tone

2. How do you understand “ups and downs”?

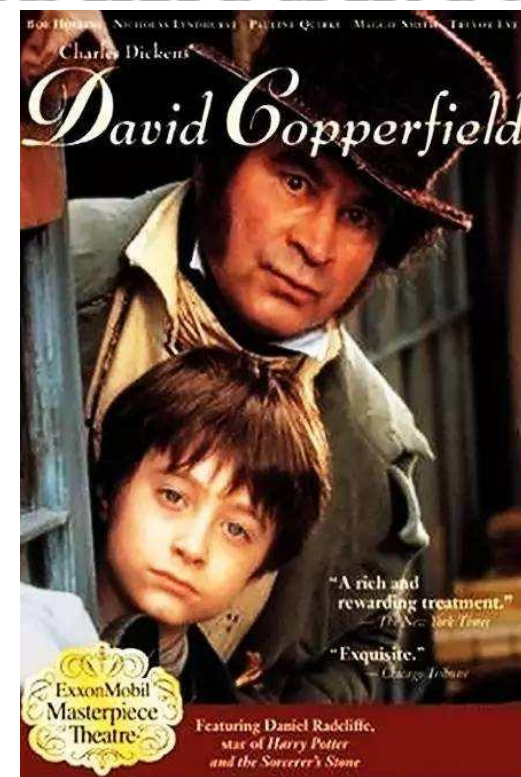
happy and miserable time

3. Try to translate the first sentence.

**Miserable and
tragic childhood**

4. Read Chapter 1 and figure out who they are.

Name	Who they are
Betsey Trotwood	great-aunt
Peggotty	housekeeper
Clara	mother
Mr. Murdstone	stepfather
Dan Peggotty	Peggotty's brother
Emily	Dan Peggotty's orphaned niece
Ham	Dan Peggotty's orphaned nephew
Miss. Murdstone	Mr. Murdstone's sister



Peggotty



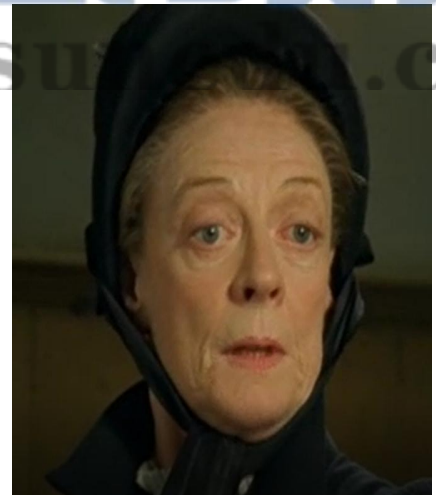
Emily



David Copperfield



Betsey Trotwood



Clara



Dan Peggotty



Miss Murdstone



Mr Murdstone

5. What does David think of his early childhood?

happy and full of joy

6. Why was David's early childhood happy?

name	appearance	What they did	character
Peggotty	plain (not pretty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· reading picture books with me· bring me to Dan's	kind and loving
Emily	pretty with a wildness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· playing with me	bold and friendly
Ham	a tall lad with a smile	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· playing with me· looking after me	friendly

7. What did David's childhood become unhappy later?

Mr. Murdstone—his stepfather—entered our happy life with his sister **Miss Murdstone**.

8. How does the writer describe them?

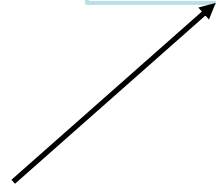
Name	appearance	character
Mr. Murdstone	having black hair and a hard, cold, handsome face	· unpleasant · stern
Miss. Murdstone	having a face full of gloom and cruelty	· harsh

9. What was David's feeling toward them? How does he describe it?

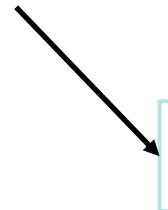
He was very **afraid** of them.

David was **afraid** of them.

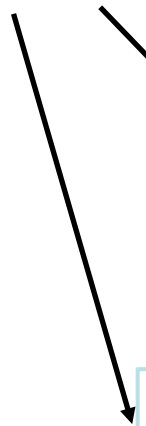
actions



words



appearance



I shivered with fear, knowing that if... (para. 14)

My body was shaking with fear. (para. 24)

I walked up the stairs with my knees trembling. (para. 26)

I shook with terror. (para. 27)

“I don’t know,” I whispered nervously. (para. 12)

“I...I...can’t do my work,” I spluttered. (para. 28)

He had black hair and a hard, cold, handsome face.
(para. 4)

10. Why was I so afraid of Mr. Murdstone? What did he do to me?

① Mr. Murdstone said I was a bad child and that he was determined to **crush** me. (para. 10)

② "...What do you think I do if I have a dog or horse that doesn't do what I tell them? I beat it." he replied, with an

③ I wasn't allowed to play with other children

④ Mr. Murdstone insisted I did lessons with my mother, but he and Miss Murdstone would stand over me, **frowning** and telling my mother to be firmer, and even **beat** me on one occasion. (para. 19)

verbal
abuse

harsh, stern,
cruel, unpleasant,

physical
abuse

11. Did I subject myself to his cruelty? What did I do?

No. I fought back on one occasion.

No sooner had these words left my mouth than he grabbed hold of my head and began slapping me. I *had* to fight back – I had to. All those weeks of bullying and loneliness exploded in me.

I sank my teeth deep into his right hand – the one holding my neck – and tasted the salty and sour texture of his skin. He yelped in pain and sprang backwards, letting go of my head in shock. He stared down in horror at the deep bite marks on his hand.

The next instant, he rushed at me, hitting me with both hands on my head, on my back, on my chest. I held my arms over my face, dizzy with pain and shock. I was only ten years old, and I couldn't defend myself against a fully-grown man.

I heard my mother and Peggotty screaming on the stairs outside my room, begging Mr Murdstone to stop. But he took no notice. How long the attack lasted, I don't know, but by the time he finished, I collapsed in a heap on my

12. Try to find the phrases indicating time.

No sooner...than...→the next instant→by the time...

13. How does the writer describe such a fierce fight?

Actions. By mainly using verbs.

left→grabbed hold of→slapping→sank teeth into→tasted→yelped→sprang backward→stared down→rushed→hitting→held arms→screaming→begging→took no notice→collapsed in a heap (15 verbs)

14. What's the advantage of using many verbs in a scene?

15. Appreciate the two underlined words and sentences

16. Try to find the sentence describing the following feelings: “happy”, “unhappy”, “angry”, “desperate”, and “frightened”

happy

My mother seemed to **light up** in his company.

unhappy

I had **a very heavy heart** when Peggotty and I had to return home.

angry

She got up **in a rage** and stormed out, with the **slamming** of the door.

desperate

I felt as if the air had been **strangled** out of me. Mr. Murdstone was the kind of man that **smothers** all hope and happiness.

I **shivered with fear**, knowing that if I gave him the slightest excuse, he would beat me.

frightened

My body was **shaking with fear**.

I walked up the stairs with **my knees trembling**

I **shook with terror**.

SHOW and
not TELL

He stared down **in horror** at the deep bite marks on his had.

17. Try to find the words indicating “say sth”.

whisper

“I don’t know,” I **whispered** nervously.

reply

“I beat it,” he **replied**, with an evil glint in his eyes.

shout

Mr. Murdstone jumped up, **shouting**, “We can’t expect...”

order

“Stop it at once, Clara!” **ordered** Mr. Murdstone.

demand

“Why are you doing so badly in your lessons?” he **demanded**.

splutter

“I...I...can’t do my work,” I **spluttered**.

beg

I heard my mother **begging**...

ask

—“When am I going?” I **asked**...

answer

—“Tomorrow,” she **answered**, “first thing in the morning.”

**Expressing
different feelings**

Chapter 2

Banished to Boarding School

III. Chapter 2: Banished to Boarding School

“They’re sending you to a boarding school in London,” she whispered through my door.

“When am I going?” I asked.

“Tomorrow,” she answered, “first thing in the morning.”

1. How did Mr. Murdstone do with me after the fighting?

I was **banished** to a boarding school.

2. Why does the writer use “banish” instead of “send”?

send someone away from a country or place as an official punishment

e.g. The children were banished from the dining room

2. How does the writer describe the boarding school?

① Salem House was a **shabby**, square, brick building. (para. 2)

(of buildings, clothes, objects, etc.)
in poor condition because they
have been used a lot
e.g. She wore shabby old jeans
and a T-shirt.

/'fɪlθi/ ① very **dirty** and unpleasant
e.g. It's absolutely filthy in here!
② very rude and offensive and usually
connected with sex
e.g. That's enough of your filthy
language!

② The classrooms had long rows of desks, and their floors were **filthy** and littered with old scraps of paper. The dormitory where I was to sleep was bare and unwelcoming . (para. 2)

3. How did I feel about the boarding school?

Everything I saw **dragged my spirits down** further.

4. Who did I meet in the boarding school?

Name	What	appearance	character
Mr. Mell	teacher	/	/
Tungay	assistant	wooden-legged, a horrible man with booming voice	evil, harsh, stern, cruel, unpleasant
Mr. Creakle	headmaster	scary, with thick veins in his forehead, mean, small eyes and a large chin	
Tommy Traddles	student	/	cheerful, friendly, pleasant
Steerforth	student	a handsome boy, about six years older than me	

5. What did Mr. Mell, Tungay and Mr. Creakle do to me?

① Mr. Mell ordered me to wear a horrible sign that wrote “*Take care of him. He bites*”. (para. 7)

② Mr. Creakle grabbed my ear, pinching it tightly, and warned me that if I didn't behave well I will get into serious trouble . (para. 11~12)

6. What can you infer about the way the boarding school treat students?

The boarding school didn't treat students **in a humane way**. What it did **crushed** students both **physically and mentally**.



'What trouble has he got up to?' rasped Creakle, in a terrifying whisper.

Tungay looked disappointed. 'Nothing yet,' he bellowed.

Creakle beckoned me towards him. 'Mr Murdstone has told me all about you.' **At that second** Mr Creakle's hand

suddenly shot out and grabbed my ear, pinching it tightly. Terror gripped me. Was this going to be another beating?

'You will behave in my school,' he hissed, 'because if you don't, you will be in *very serious trouble*.'

'*Very serious trouble*,' shouted Tungay, making my ear throb even more.

Although I was scared, I was even more scared of meeting the other boys. 'Can I take off this sign?' I whispered.

As soon as I'd said this, the dreadful man leaped out of his chair with a roar. I sprang out of the way and ran up to my dorm where I hid for two hours. But Mr Creakle didn't follow me.



7. Try to find the phrases indicating time.

at that second → **as soon as...**

8. How does the writer show Mr. Creakle's cruelty?

By actions

beckon → shoot out → grab → pinch → leap out → roar

By language

...**rasped** Creakle, in a terrifying whisper;
...he **hissed**;

9. How did I feel about Mr. Creakle?

I was **terrified/scared/frightened**.

10. How did Tommy Traddles and Steerforth help me?

① Tommy helped me avoid much trouble by claiming the horrible sign was just a game I was playing. (para. 18~20)

② Tommy introduced me to Steerforth. (para. 21)

③ Steerforth helped me buy many treats with the seven shillings. (para. 34)

④ Steerforth protected me from other boys' bullying and teachers' punishment. (para. 40)

11. How did I felt about Steerforth?

I was **grateful** to his help and protection and sometimes told him stories.

12. What happened to my mom during my stay in the boarding school?

① My mother **gave birth to** a new boy baby. (para. 46)

My mother started crying and reached out toward me. My mother fell silent as Mr. Murdstone turned his steely gaze on me.

I heard my mother and Peggotty screaming on the stairs outside my room, begging Mr. Murdstone to stop.

Change



“You will NEVER touch it again,” yelled Miss Murdstone. “Do you understand me?”

Instead of standing up for me, my mother took the baby back. “You are right, my dear Jane,” she nodded **Dead** at Miss Murdstone. “David won’t hold the baby again.”

② My mother was made **pale** and **weak**, and **fearful**. She was **crushed** both **physically and mentally**. (para. 54)

13. How did my feelings change in Chapter 2?

When I arrived
at the school...

When I meet
Mr. Creakle...

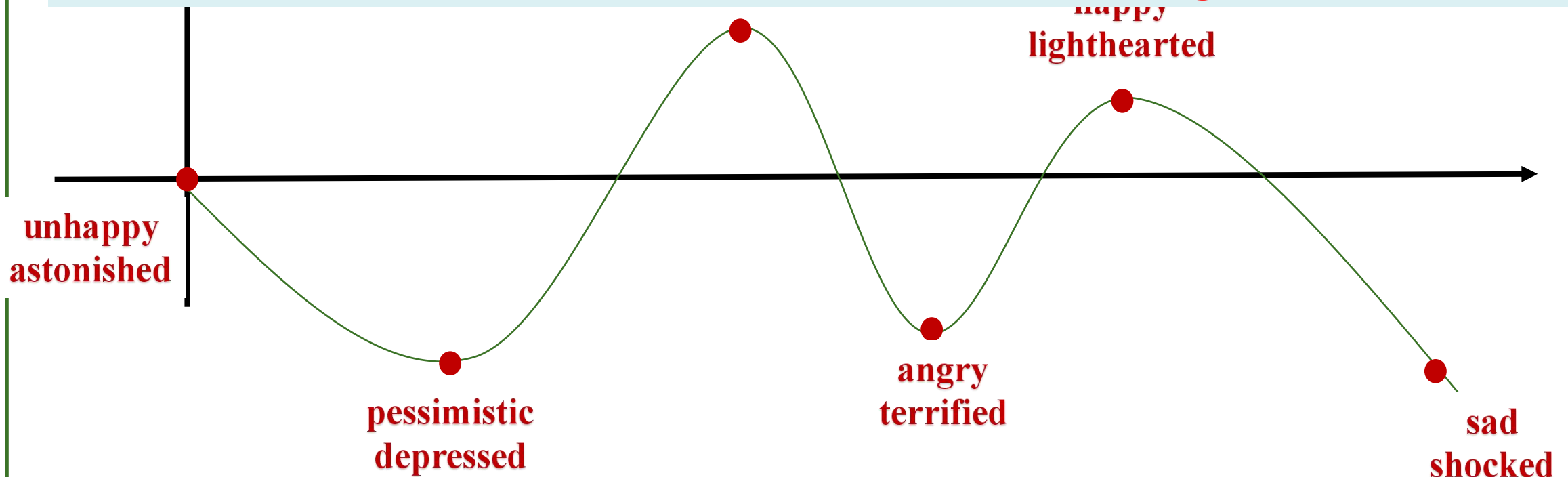
When I meet
Steerforth...

When I returned
home...

When I returned
to the school...

When I heard my
mom's death...

My life has been full of **ups and downs**, and during my childhood the **downs** seemed to rain on me like **a never-ending storm**.



14. Try to find the sentence describing the following feelings.

unhappy

Everything I saw **dragged my spirits down** further. (para. 2)

surprised

I **couldn't believe it**. (para. 7)

frightened

Terror **gripped me**. (para. 11)

happy

Traddles frowned, but then his face slowly **broke into a smile**. (para. 18)

worried

Sometimes I **laughed till my sides ached**. (para. 68)

My **stomach tightened with anxiety**. (para. 20)

Living with Mr. Creakle lurking round every corner was a **nerve-racking** experience. (para. 20)

17. Try to find the words indicating “say sth”.

rasp

“What trouble...?” **rasped** Mr. Creakle, in a terrifying voice.

bellow

“Nothing yet,” he **bellowed**.

hiss

“You will behave in my school,” he **hissed**...

greet

“I’m J Steerforth,” the boy **greeted** me.

insist

“You must come down Yarmouth...,” **insisted** Dan Peggotty.

scream

“He’s got it.” She **screamed**.

shriek

“Give it back.” she **shrieked**.

snap

“How long do we have to put up with you,” **snapped** Miss Mur.

falter

“A month,” I **faltered**.

15. Appreciate the following sentences.

keep talking in a very boring way
e.g. Chambers droned on,
maddening as an insect around his
head.

School began the next day. The teachers **droned** on and on...Living with Mr. Creakle **lurking** round every corner was a nerve-racking experience.

to wait somewhere secretly,
especially to do sth. bad or illegal
e.g. A crocodile was lurking just
below the surface

figurative amaze or overwhelm
with an impressive quality
e.g. He was dazzled by the
warmth of her smile.

And they did like him. They were both **dazzled** by his gentleman's appearance and by the way he spoke.