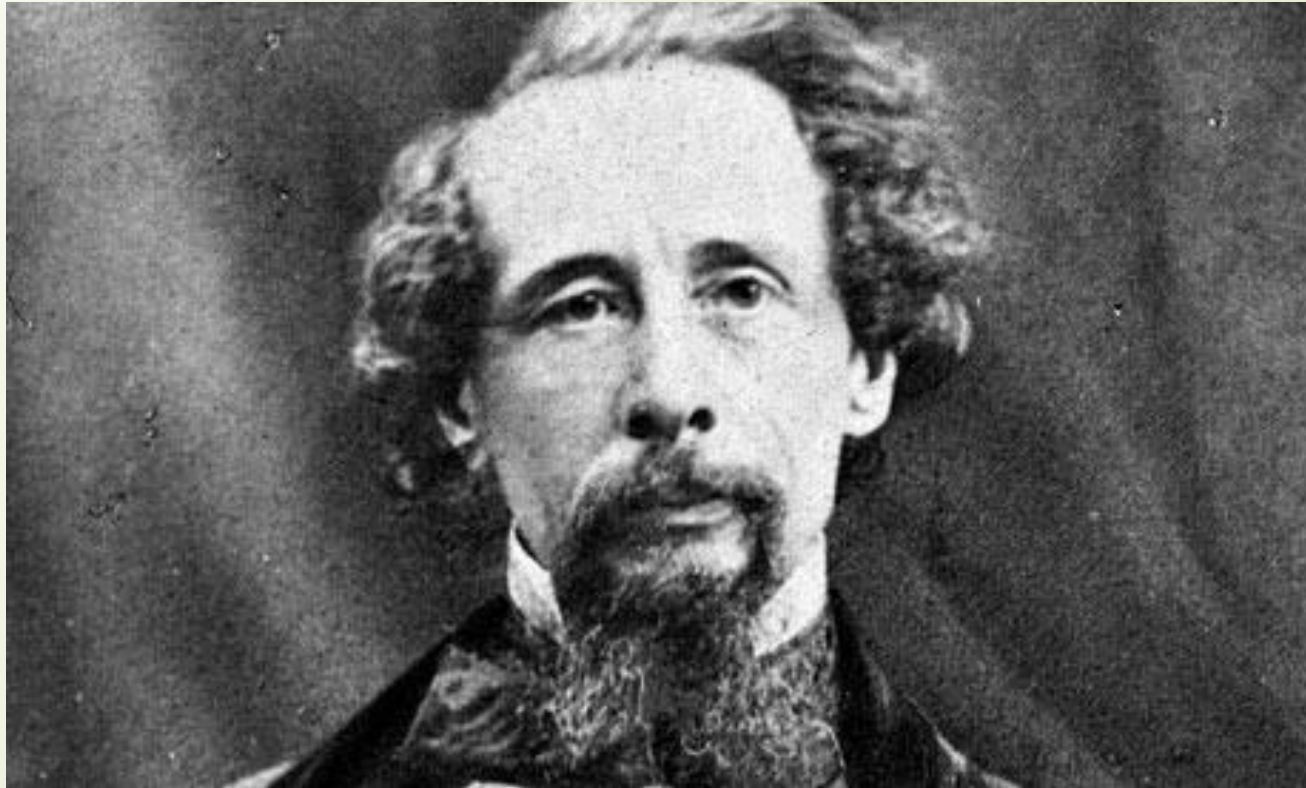


Charles Dickens

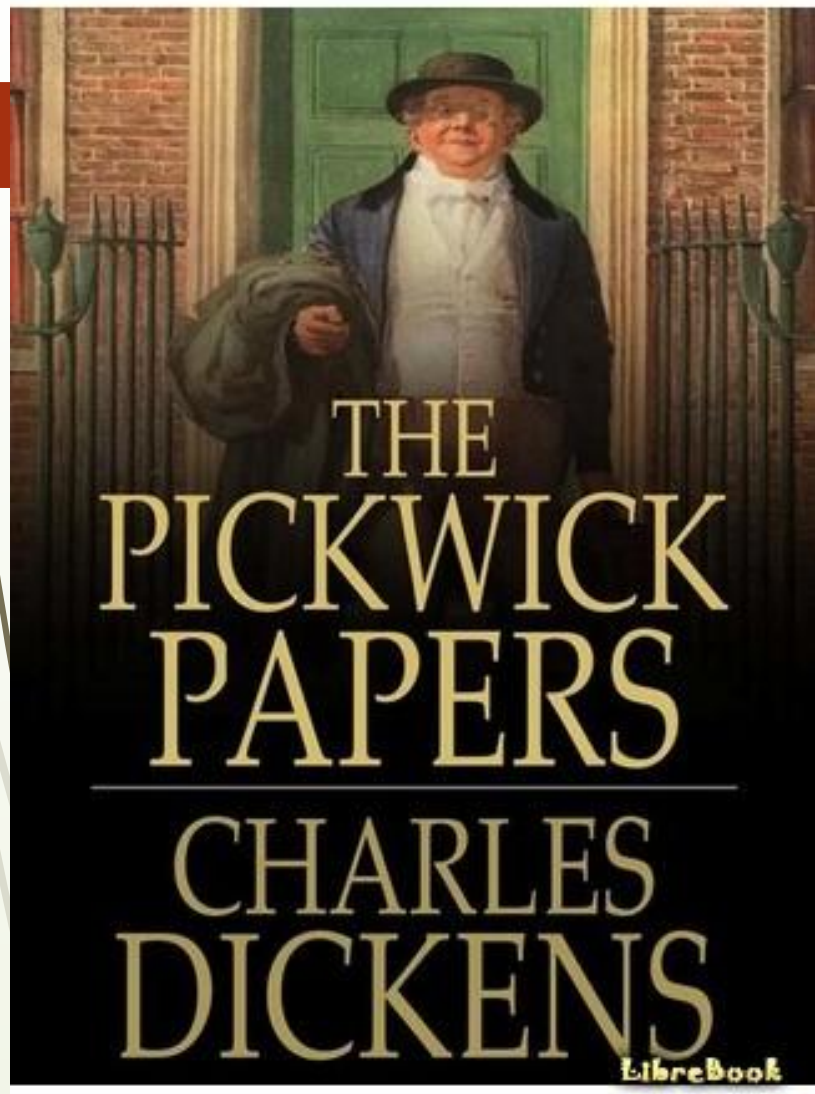




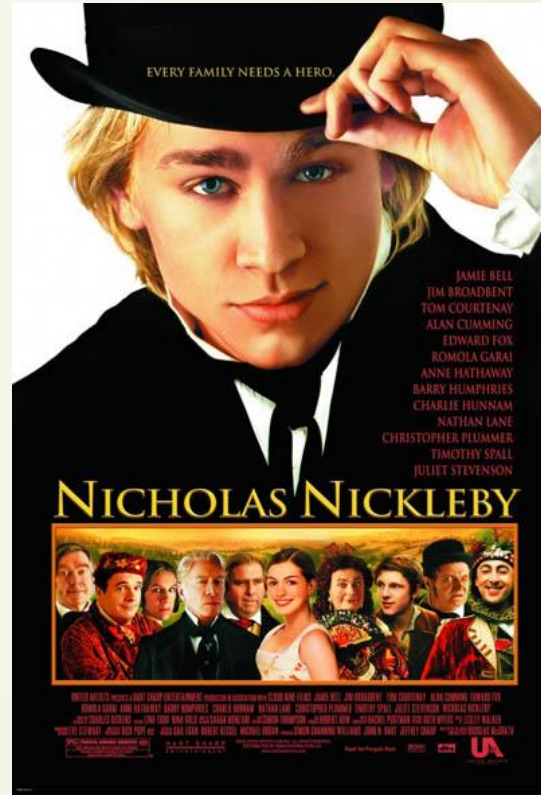
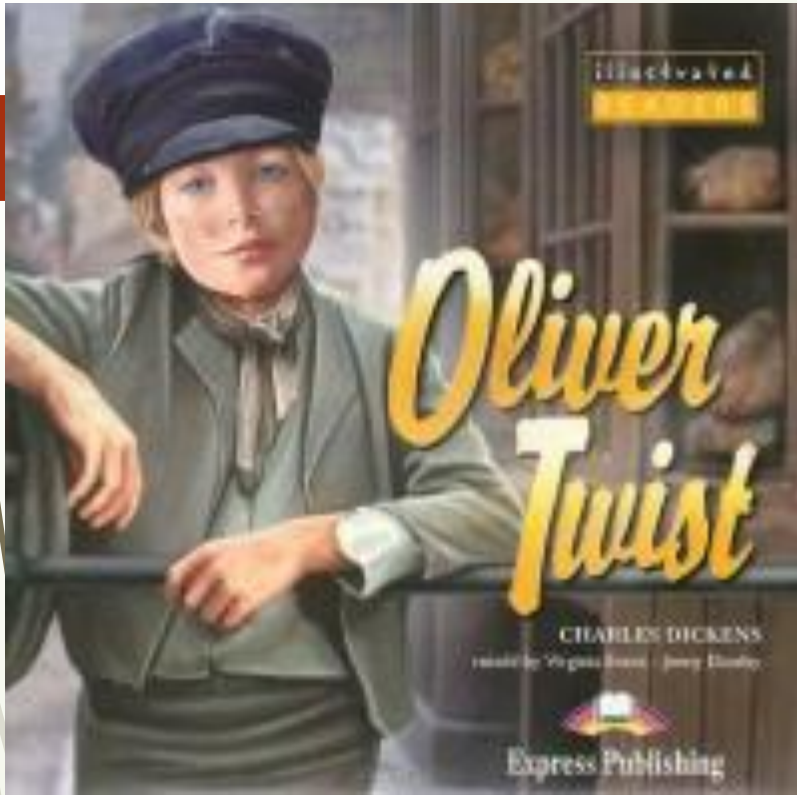
"A smattering of everything, and a knowledge of nothing." (Dickens' comment on women's education in his day)

"Sketches by Boz" is a collection of short pieces published by Charles Dickens in 1836. Dickens' career as a writer of fiction truly began with this collection in 1833, when he started writing humorous sketches for "The Morning Chronicle", using the pen-name "Boz".

The sketch "Mr. Minns and his Cousin" (originally titled "A Dinner at Poplar Walk") was the first piece of fiction that Dickens ever had published.



Samuel Pickwick wants answers - so he travels to the darker side of English society to find out why people are the way they are. Before he can share what he has learned with fellow members of the famous Pickwick Club Samuel Pickwick's adventures will carry him into the arms of colorful characters beautiful woman and danger. We can see a lot of different characters and some special features of old England.



- ❑ • Oliver Twist exposes the plight of poor children in the workhouses created by the 1834 Poor Law
- ❑ • Nicholas Nickleby attacks the school system
- ❑ • Bleak House criticizes the law and the self- interest of lawyers

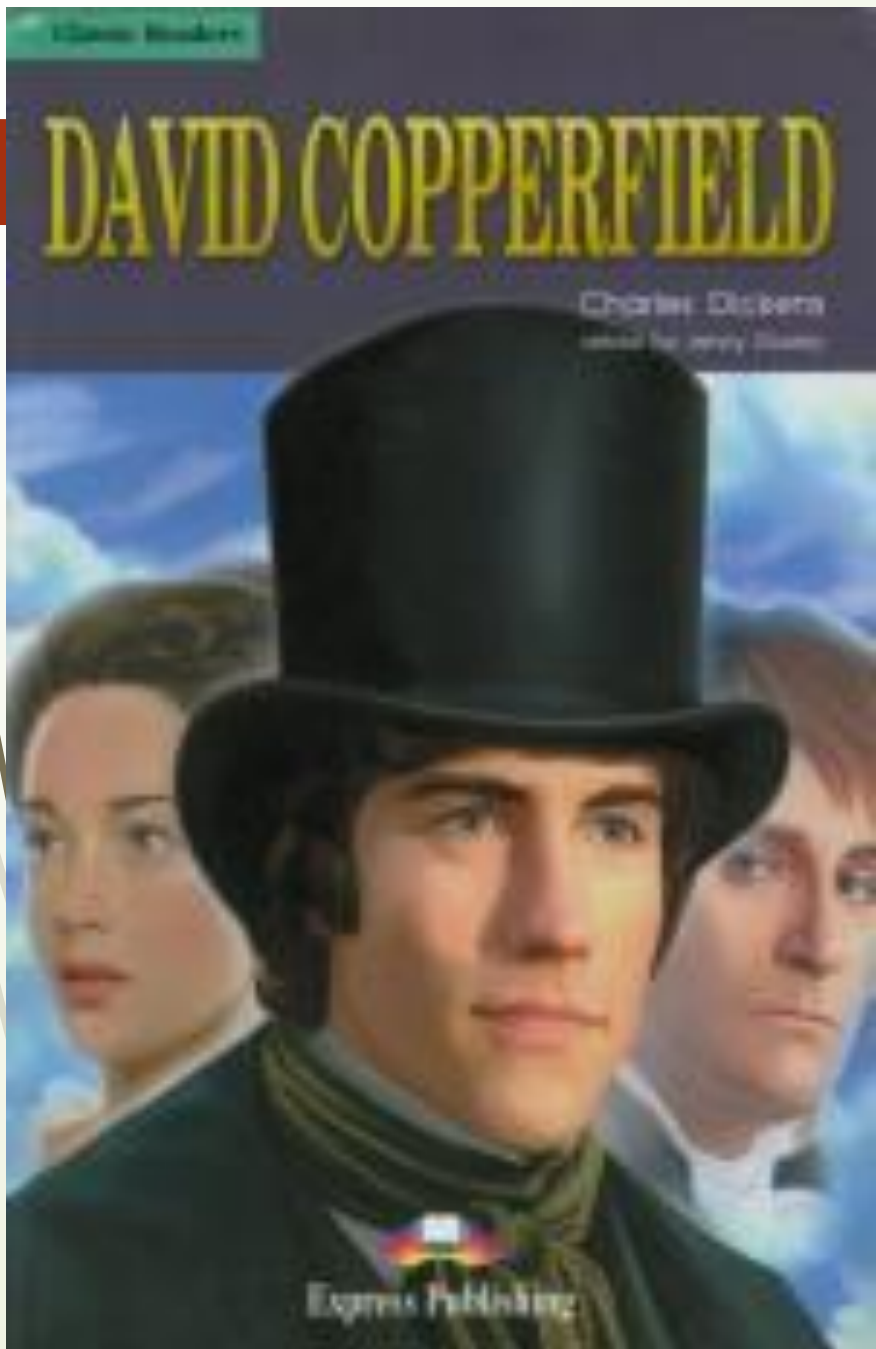


- «Hard Times» shows the effects of the Industrial Revolution and of utilitarianism on the Midlands town of “Coketown”
- In «Our mutual friend» he attacks corruption
- In «Little Dorrit» he criticizes the prison system and the absurdities of bureaucracy
- D. published 14 novels and left one unfinished, «The Mystery of Edwin Drood»
- He also wrote Christmas stories, tales, articles and plays.

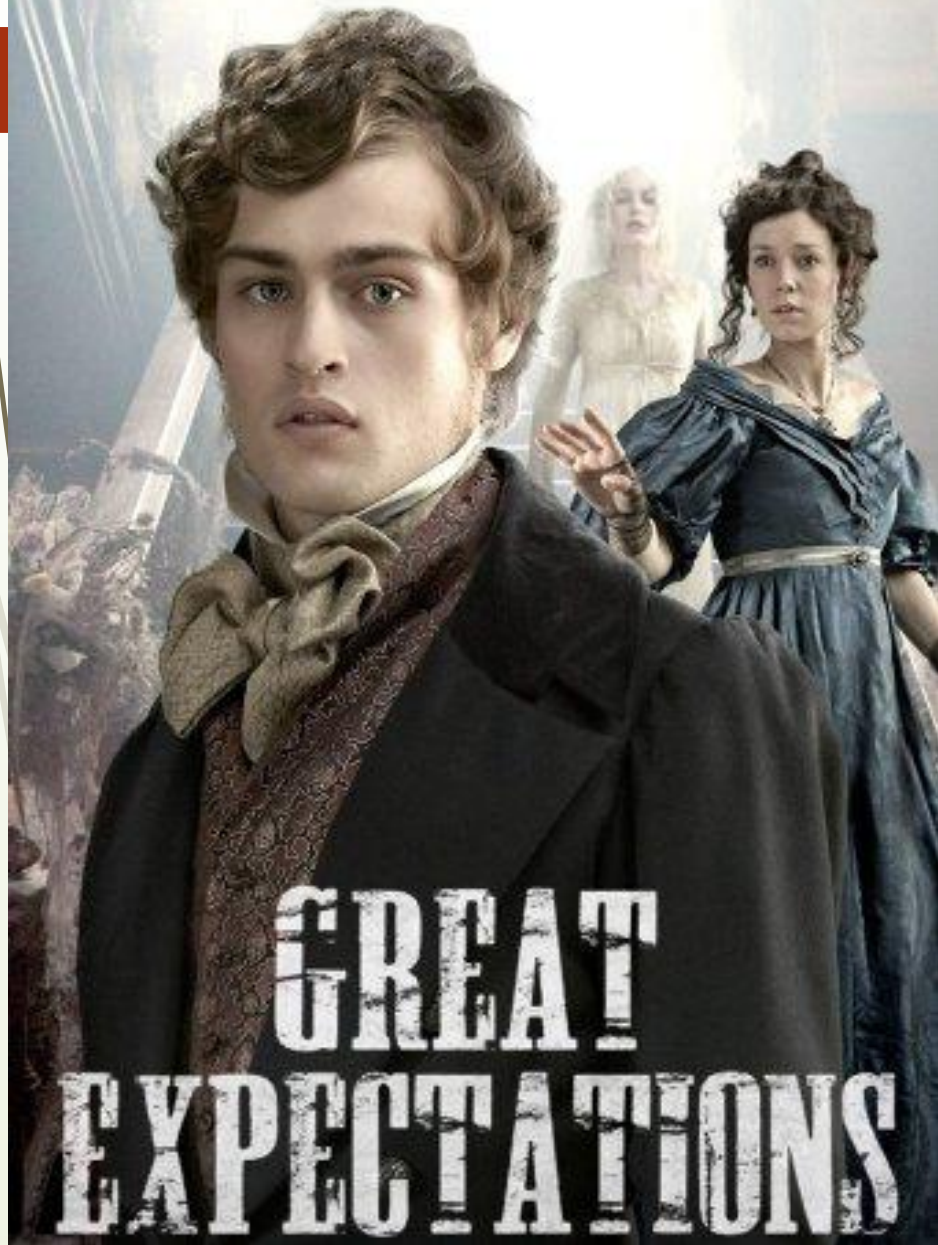




- *I have endeavoured in this Ghostly little book, to raise the Ghost of an Idea, which shall not put my readers out of humour with themselves, with each other, with the season, or with me. May it haunt their houses pleasantly, and no one wish to lay it.*
- *Their faithful Friend and Servant,
C. D.
December, 1843.*



- David was born half an orphan, after his father's death. At first love and care filled his life, which he had to forget with the advent of his cruel step-father. Later, the school master, an ignorant ruthless Mr.Creakle went on teaching David his miserable conception of order. It was harsh in appearance Betsey Trotwood, who stopped these barbarian methods of upbringing. She became embodiment of good and justice for the boy. To a great extent, this is an autobiographical work that pursues important subjects. The novel is penetrated by the spirit of praising of old moral and family principles.



- From the opening passage itself of *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, the reader is drawn into the world of the hero, Pip, who is at that time, seven years old. The author creates an unforgettable atmosphere: the gloom of the graveyard, the melancholy of the orphan boy, the mists rising over the marshes and the terrifying appearance of an escaped convict in chains.
- Told in first person (one of the only two books that Dickens used this form for, the other being *David Copperfield*) *Great Expectations* is a classic coming of age novel, in which we trace the growth and evolution of Pip or Philip Pirrip to give his full name. Pip has lost his parents very early in life and is being brought up by his much older sister and brother-in-law Joe Gargery. His sister is a dominating and shrewish woman, while Joe is an affectionate man. Joe's uncle Mr Pumblechook (another of Dickens' delightfully evocative names) asks Joe to send Pip to the stately mansion Satis House ostensibly to play with the owner Miss Havisham's adopted daughter Estella. This marks the beginning of a life-changing experience for Pip.



□ The characters

- D. was interested in describing the characters, habits and language of the middle and lower classes in modern London**
- He was always on the side of the poor, the outcast and also the working classes**
- He shifted the social frontiers of the novel: from the 18-century realistic upper middle-classes to the lower orders.**
- Many of his characters have been compared to caricatures since they are either extremely good or utterly evil .**

- D. employed the most effective language and accomplished the most graphic and powerful descriptions of life and character ever attempted by any novelist, by means of a careful choice of adjectives, repetition of words and structures, juxtapositions of images and ideas, hyperbolic and ironic remarks.



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