



Dickens
ONE FIFTY

The question is...

...all about the man

One of the world's greatest authors, Charles Dickens spent many years living in the Medway area.

But how much do you know about the man behind *Great Expectations* and *Oliver Twist*?

Test your knowledge with our fun quiz.

1. How many complete full length novels did Dickens write? a) 14, b) 20 or c) 10?
2. True or false? Charles Dickens was born in Kent.
3. What was the name of the house Dickens bought near Rochester in 1856?
4. Name the factory Dickens was sent to work at when he was 12 years old.
5. Which two Dickens novels were based in and around Rochester and its local towns? Clue: the publication dates are 1861 and 1870.
6. What pseudonym was Dickens known as when he first started publishing his work?
7. Which historic building in Rochester did Dickens use as Miss Havisham's house in *Great Expectations*?
8. Eastgate house in Rochester features in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* as 'the nuns' house'. What was the nuns' house used for in the book? a) a school for young ladies b) a convent for nuns or c) a house lived in by wealthy friends of Edwin Drood?
9. Dickens received a present of a Swiss chalet when he lived in Kent. What did he use it for?
10. True or false? The top floor of Dickens' Swiss chalet was lined with mirrors.
11. How many children did Dickens have? a) 15, b) 10, c) 3 or d) 6?
12. Dickens used St James' church in Cooling in the opening chapter of a novel, where a small boy encounters an escaped convict. What was the title of the novel?
13. What was Dickens' first published novel?
14. Dickens was one of the first authors to do what two things: a) publish his works in monthly instalments, b) write gothic literature, c) write romantic poetry, d) write children's books or e) give public readings of his novels.
15. Dickens wanted to be buried in Rochester. Where was he actually buried?
16. True or false? Dickens once walked 30 miles from his home in London to his house near Rochester after an argument with his wife.



17. Which European city did Dickens call 'The most extraordinary place in the world'?
18. True or false? Dickens always gave departing servants a signed photo of himself.
19. What was the name of Dickens' mistress who was born in Rochester?
20. Dickens loved the theatre. Complete the name of the play he wrote with his friend Wilkie Collins. *The Frozen....*
21. Which Medway town did Dickens live in when he was a child?
22. Which town did Dickens refer to as Cloisterham in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*?
23. In which year did Dickens die?
24. Which of these themes did Dickens **not** write about in his novels? a) poverty, b) child labour, c) space travel, d) industrialisation or e) crime?
25. Dickens set up a refuge for 'fallen' women with his friend Angela Burdett-Coutts. What country were these women sent to for marriage? Clue: It is also known for sending convicts to.
26. Complete this famous opening phrase from *A Tale of Two Cities*: 'It was the best of times, it was...
27. Which Dickens novel is often described now as a hidden autobiography of the author's life?
28. Dickens stayed in the village of Chalk in Kent in 1836. What was the occasion?
29. What was the name of the place in Kent where Dickens' father worked as a clerk?
30. Name one of Dickens' middle names.





The question is...
...all about the man

ANSWERS

1. a) 14
2. False - he was born just outside of Portsmouth.
3. Gad's Hill Place.
4. Warren's Blacking Factory.
5. *Great Expectations* and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.
6. Boz.
7. Restoration House.
8. a) a school for young ladies.
9. Writing and practising his public readings.
10. True.
11. c) 10.
12. *Great Expectations*.
13. *The Pickwick Papers*.
14. a) publish his works in monthly instalments and e) give public readings.
15. Westminster Abbey.
16. True.
17. Paris.
18. True.
19. Ellen (or Nelly) Ternan.
20. *The Frozen Deep*.
21. Chatham.
22. Rochester.
23. 1870.
24. c) Space travel.
25. Australia.
26. ...the worst of times.
27. *David Copperfield*.
28. He and his wife Catherine were on honeymoon.
29. Chatham Dockyard.
30. Huffam or John.