



The world of Charles Dickens – Worksheet

A Before you read: Discuss

1) Think about how the world has changed since your birth. Think about new inventions and discoveries in technology, science, transport and communications. Think about explorations and discoveries on the Earth and in space. Think about changes in medicine and health services. Think about changes in political power around the world.

Make a list of the changes you know. Discuss how these changes affected your life.

B Read the article: summarize

1) Read the text about the world of Charles Dickens. Work in groups. Each choose a topic: transport, communication, science, medicine or politics. Make a short summary of the information in the article about your chosen topic. Share your summary with your group.

C Vocabulary

Look carefully at the words in italics. Choose the correct alternative to complete the sentence.

- 1) A *forest* is a place ...
 - a) with many trees.
 - b) with many shops.
 - c) with many flowers.
- 2) A *wheel* is ...
 - a) square.
 - b) round.
 - c) long and thin.
- 3) The world changed *enormously*, means the world changed ...
 - a) very quickly.
 - b) in small ways.
 - c) in many big ways.
- 4) *Settlers* are people who ...
 - a) build houses.
 - b) go to live in new places.
 - c) solve arguments.
- 5) If you *create* a new country, you ...
 - a) start a revolution.
 - b) make a country where there was no country before.
 - c) discover an undiscovered part of the world.



- 6) If you *invade* a country, you ...
 - a) receive an invitation to visit the country.
 - b) start a revolution in the country.
 - c) enter the country with your army.
- 7) If you *protest*, you ...
 - a) are happy your situation.
 - b) are unhappy with your situation.
 - c) don't mind about your situation.
- 8) If you *extend* voting rights, you ...
 - a) give more people the right to vote.
 - b) give fewer people the right to vote.
 - c) give people the right to vote about more decisions.
- 9) In an *uprising*, people ...
 - a) join the army.
 - b) fight against their government.
 - c) get taller.
- 10) If an activity is *made illegal*, ...
 - a) people start to do it.
 - b) only lawyers can do it.
 - c) a law stops the activity.
- 11) If you *discover* something, you ...
 - a) make something new.
 - b) find something new.
 - c) collect something.
- 12) The *transmission* of a disease is ...
 - a) the reason the disease kills people.
 - b) the cure for the disease.
 - c) the way the disease moves from one person to another.
- 13) If you *insist on* something, you ...
 - a) repeatedly say it must happen.
 - b) suggest it.
 - c) stop it.
- 14) If you *introduce* a new way to do something, you ...
 - a) suggest and explain it.
 - b) discover it.
 - c) sell it for a lot of money.
- 15) A *network* of railway lines is ...
 - a) a line on which trains can travel quickly.
 - b) a collection of lines which start from the same place.
 - c) a collection of lines which connect with each other.



D Make a time line

On a long piece of paper, draw a line which starts in 1812 and finishes in 1870. Add the events mentioned in the article and on the Charles Dickens poster to your time line.

E 1812-1870 In my world

1) What happened in your country and culture between 1812 and 1870? Think about the same topics as those in the article. Do some research and share your discoveries.



Key

- A] Open answers. With younger students, encourage them to compare their lives with their parent's lives.
- B] Open answers. This activity may start with note taking and writing before giving an oral presentation of the summary.
- C] 1a, 2b, 3c, 4b, 5b, 6c, 7b, 8a, 9b, 10c, 11b, 12c, 13a, 14a, 15b. Encourage students to use dictionaries to help with the exercise.
- D] Open answers
- E] Open answers. Most students will need to do some research and perhaps refer to information they have learned in History lessons.