



Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens was one of the most famous English [writers](#) of the 1800s. His [books](#) show many of the difficulties of living in [Victorian](#) times. His books are still very popular today.

Charles Dickens was born on 7th February 1812, in Portsmouth, England. His family moved to London in 1822. The Dickens family often had money problems. For a while Charles had to leave school to work in a factory. He wrote about the difficult working conditions he experienced.

Dickens left school for good at age 15 and went to work. He wrote stories and articles for magazines and newspapers. His first novel, *The Pickwick Papers*, was published in 1837.

He wrote many famous books. *Oliver Twist* (1838) tells the story of an orphan boy in London. *A Christmas Carol* (1843) became one of the most popular Christmas stories of all time. Another novel, called *David Copperfield* (1850), was based partly on Dickens' childhood. In many of his later books, Dickens wrote about social problems that worried him. For example, his book *Hard Times* (1854) is about problems faced by factory workers.

In his later years, Dickens wrote less. He published *A Tale of Two Cities* in 1859. It is a novel about the French Revolution. *Great Expectations* was published from 1860 to 1861. Dickens died on 9 June 1870.