

## Year 7 'Oliver Twist' Knowledge Organiser

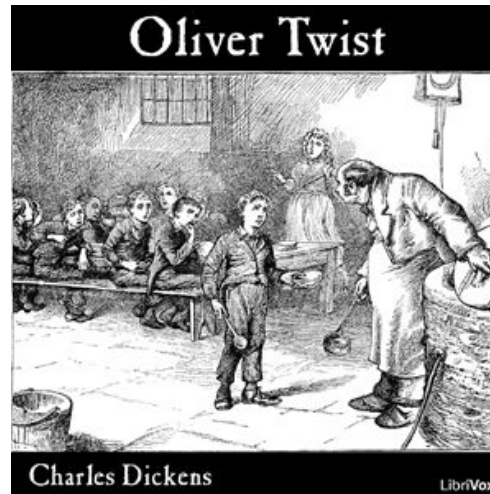
### MAIN THEMES

Social Class - Criminality - Religion  
Identity - Fate and Free Will - Poverty

The story shows the impact that good role models and positive influences can have on a person's life. Overall, "Oliver Twist" teaches us about the importance of empathy, social justice, and the power of compassion to transform lives. Oliver Twist was written by Charles Dickens in England centuries ago.

### Plot summary

The novel follows the journey of the titular character, Oliver Twist. Oliver, an orphan since birth, spends much of his childhood at a "child farm" (orphanage) with too many children and too little food. The farm is located roughly 70 miles outside London. One night, after being served his portion of gruel, Oliver asks for a second helping. This is unacceptable, and Oliver is sent to work as an apprentice to an undertaker. Eventually, after suffering repeated mistreatment, Oliver runs away and heads for London. He soon finds himself in the presence of the Artful Dodger, who tells him to stay at the house of an "old gentleman" (named Fagin) with a number of other boys.



### QUOTATIONS

Please, sir, I want some more.' –  
Oliver (Chapter 2)  
"Every trade has its drawbacks." – Mr. Bumble (Chapter 4)  
"Every man's his own friend, my dear." – Fagin (Chapter 43)  
"Some people are nobody's enemies but their own" – Morris Bolter (Chapter 43)

### Vocabulary

**Morality:** a code of right and wrong. People who try to be good can be called moral and people who do bad things can be called immoral.

**Vulnerable:** In a situation in which you could be easily harmed. People living on the streets are vulnerable.

**Naïve:** Someone who doesn't have experience of how complicated life can be and therefore trust people too much.

**Workhouse** A place where people who couldn't support themselves were sent to live and work.

**Mannerisms:** Distinctive gesture or way of speaking.

**Poverty:** The state of being poor.