

A Tale of Two Cities

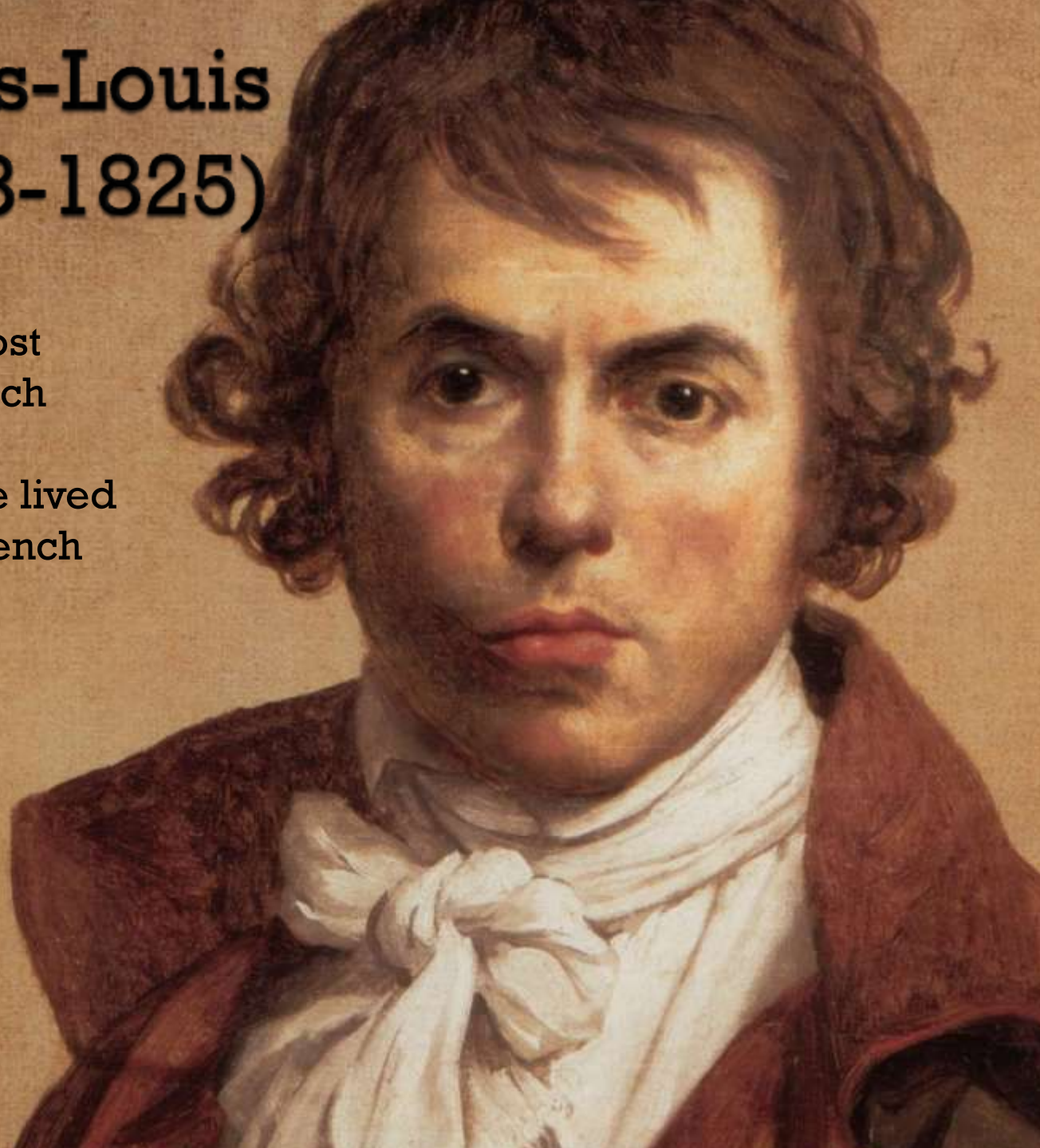
by Charles Dickens

The French Revolution



Jacques-Louis David (1748-1825)

David was the foremost artist during the French Revolution and in the Neoclassical style. He lived through the entire French Revolution and the Napoleonic era.



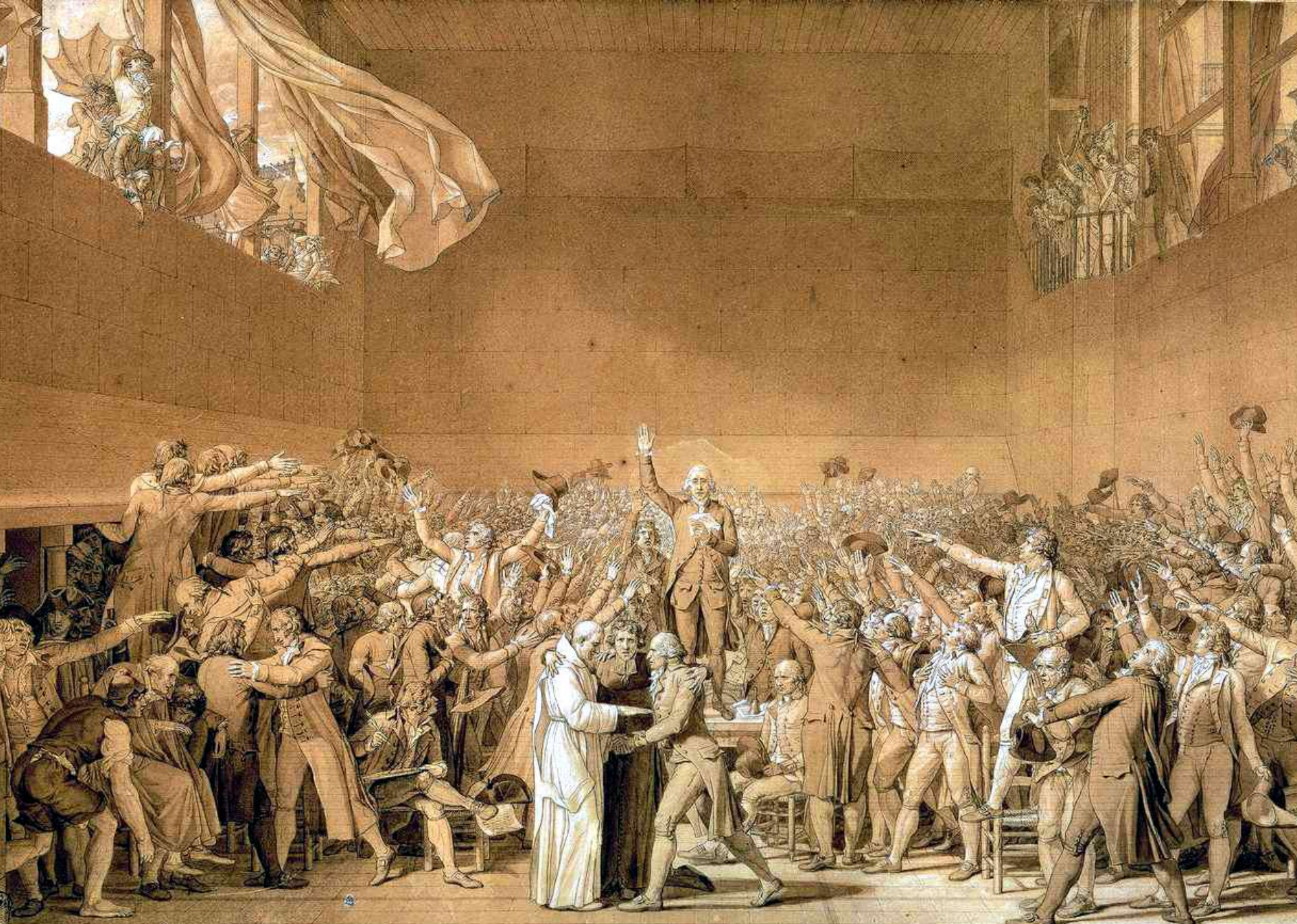
The French Revolution

King Louis XVI called the Estates-General to find a solution to tax problems:

- Three Estates:
 - First Estate: Clergy, 0.5% of population
 - Second Estate: Nobility, 2% of population
 - Third Estate: Everyone else, 97.5% of population

The Estate General of 1789

- The representatives of the Third Estate, wanting a republican government, declared themselves to be a National Assembly.
- These delegates made an oath (The Tennis Court Oath) that they would create a constitution, ending the absolute monarchy in France.



Jacques-Louis David, *The Tennis Court Oath*

Escalation of the French Revolution

- The Storming of the Bastille on 14 July 1789 is the first major violent act of the Revolution. The Bastille was a royal prison that represented the King's power in Paris.
- Revolutionaries solidify power over the next couple of years, eventually executing the King in 1793.

The Reign of Terror

- Two major factions of revolutionaries (the Jacobins and the Girondists) begin fighting with each other later in 1793.
- Maximilien Robespierre, leader of the Jacobin party, took power.
- Between September 1793 and July 1794, tens of thousands of people were executed by guillotine.



Jacques-Louis David,
The Death of Marat,
1793

Marat, a journalist of the Jacobin faction, was murdered in his bathtub by a Girondist in 1793.

Later French Revolution

- The Thermidorean Reaction was a period of the fall of Robespierre's power. He was executed in 1794.
- The moderate Directory period from 1795 to 1799 was opposed by remaining radical Jacobins and royalists.
- In 1799, Napoleon Bonaparte took control of the French government.

Jacques-Louis David, *The Coronation of Napoleon*, 1804





Jacques-Louis David,
*Napoleon at the
Saint-Bernard Pass,*
1801

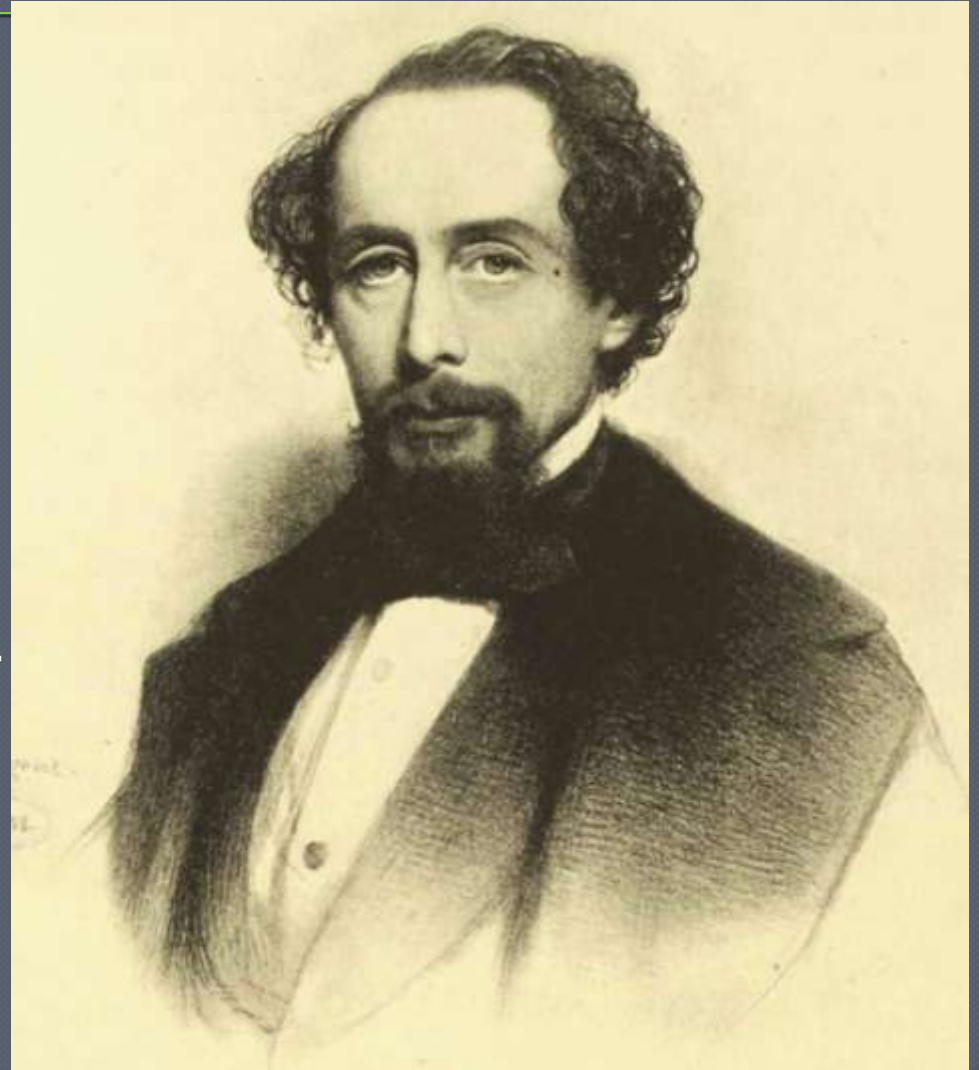
Napoleon led his army into Italy in 1800 through the Saint-Bernard Pass. Napoleon conquered much of Europe in the early 1800s, but was opposed and eventually defeated by a coalition led by the British and Austrians.

England of the 1850s

- The Crimean War (1853-1856) was the most significant European war between the Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815) and World War I (1914-1918).
- Prime ministers in the 1850s came from four different parties, including the first from the Liberal party (which advocated classical liberalism or *laissez-faire*).
 - **Laissez-Faire:** the economy works best if private industry is not regulated and markets are free

Charles Dickens

- b. 1812 in Portsmouth
- d. 1870. Buried in Westminster Abbey
- Wrote novels, short stories, plays, and non-fiction
- Very popular during his time
- Created characters from his own experiences and observations while walking around London



Charles Dickens' Childhood

- ◉ Came from a poor family
- ◉ Father sent to debtor's prison
- ◉ Worked in a factory as a child
- ◉ Didn't see his family often
- ◉ He expressed feelings of humiliation, loneliness, and rejection in the children of his novels

Serial Novels

- ◉ Chapters of the novel were published in monthly magazines
- ◉ Allowed authors to refine the novel based on popular taste
- ◉ Chapters generally ended with a cliffhanger

Major Works

- ◉ *The Pickwick Papers* (1836-7)
- ◉ *The Adventures of Oliver Twist* (1837-9)
- ◉ *Nicholas Nickleby* (1838-9)
- ◉ *A Christmas Carol* (1843)
- ◉ *David Copperfield* (1849-50)
- ◉ *Bleak House* (1852-1853)
- ◉ *Hard Times* (1854)
- ◉ *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859)
- ◉ *Great Expectations* (1860-1)

A Tale of Two Cities

- Published in weekly serial form between April 20, 1859, and November 26, 1859
- When Dickens published this novel, he may have been the most popular author of his time and throughout the Victorian Age.

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times . . . it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair . . .” —from A Tale of Two Cities

Background for *A Tale of Two Cities*

- Based on Thomas Carlyle's history of the events during the French Revolution.
- Many events in the novel actually took place.
- Dickens may have been "influenced by Carlyle's belief that the revolution was inspired by the centuries of cruelty and poverty the French poor had to endure at the hands of the corrupt nobility."
 - Dickens shows the violence of the French Revolution.
 - The violence of overthrowing a government leads to more violence.

A Tale of Two Cities

● **SETTING:** 1775–1793 in London & Paris

- Some of the story takes place earlier, as told in the flashback.
 - **Flashback:** “Reveals something that happened before that point in the story or before the story began. It provides information to help explain key events in the story.” (Glencoe)

● **NARRATOR:** Anonymous

- Can be thought of as Dickens

● **POINT OF VIEW:** Third person omniscient

- Omniscient: all-knowing
 - Reveals the thoughts, emotions, and motives of the characters
 - Comments on the historical events


Themes, Symbols, & Motifs in *A Tale of Two Cities*

- ◉ Resurrection
- ◉ Sacrifice
- ◉ Violence & Oppression
- ◉ Doubles
- ◉ Madame Defarge's Knitting: vengeance

Character Cards

○ Back:

- Relationships
- Main facts
- Personality
- Important Quotes
- Add Information as you learn more about the character

SHORTSTOP **DEREK JETER** 

HT: 6'3" WT: 185
BATS: RIGHT THROWS: RIGHT DRAFTED: YANKEES #1-JUNE, 1982
ACQ: VIA DRAFT BORN: 6-26-74, PEGANNOCK, NJ HOME: PEGANNOCK, NJ

COMPLETE MAJOR LEAGUE BATTING RECORD LEAGUE LEADER IN ITALICS, TIE *

YR	TEAM	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SOB	BB	SO	SLG	OPS	AVG
85	YANKEES	15	48	5	12	4	1	0	7	0	3	11	.275	.669	.250
86	YANKEES	157	562	104	163	25	6	10	76	14	48	182	.430	.800	.314
87	YANKEES	158	654	116	180	31	7	10	70	23	74	175	.405	.775	.291
88	YANKEES	143	606	127	203	25	8	19	84	30	57	119	.441	.864	.324
89	YANKEES	158	622	134	219	37	9	24	102	18	91	115	.352	.809	.348
00	YANKEES	148	593	119	200	31	4	15	73	22	66	99	.401	.897	.326
01	YANKEES	150	614	110	191	35	3	21	74	27	56	99	.400	.857	.311
02	YANKEES	157	644	124	191	26	0	18	75	32	72	114	.421	.794	.292
03	YANKEES	119	482	87	156	25	3	10	52	11	42	86	.450	.843	.324
04	YANKEES	154	643	113	188	44	1	23	79	23	46	90	.471	.823	.290
05	YANKEES	159	654	122	202	25	5	19	70	14	77	117	.450	.829	.308
06	YANKEES	154	623	118	214	39	3	14	87	34	68	102	.483	.900	.343
07	YANKEES	156	639	102	206	38	4	12	73	15	56	100	.452	.840	.322
08	YANKEES	150	596	98	179	25	3	11	69	11	52	85	.408	.771	.300
09	YANKEES	153	634	107	212	27	1	18	84	30	72	90	.405	.871	.334
MAJ. LEA. TOTALS		2138	8059	1574	2747	428	58	224	1008	305	885	1466	.408	.847	.317

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NEW YORK YANKEES™



1ST ROUND DRAFT PICK

DEREK JETER

○ Front:

- Name
- Sketch (based on description- try to visualize the character)

Create Character Cards

○ Important Characters:

1. Charles Darnay
2. Sydney Carton
3. Dr. Manette
4. Lucie Manette
5. Monsieur Defarge
6. Madame Defarge
7. Jarvis Lorry
8. Jerry Cruncher
9. Miss Pross
10. Mr. Stryver

A Tale of Two Cities



Novel Vocabulary

Vocab Cards

Back

Definition:

Synonym/Antonym: From the dictionary

Sentence used in the novel:

Visual Example:



Front

vocabulary word

Part of Speech

Book the First



1. EPOCH (period of time) n.
2. ADJURE (to appeal to; to charge) v.
3. CESSATION (a ceasing, a stopping) n
4. LEVITY (lightness, gaiety, frivolity) n.
5. STOLID (not easily excited) adj.
6. EXPOSTULATE (to object, to reason earnestly) v.
7. SUPPLICATORY (beseeching, praying) adj.
8. FEIGN (pretend) v.
9. LETHARGY (a state of inaction) n.
10. SAGACITY (cleverness, wisdom, shrewdness) n.

Book the Second Part I



1. INVARIABLY (without exception, constantly) adv.
2. EXTEMPORIZE (improvise, to make without preparation) v.
3. DEPRECATE (to express disapproval) v.
4. COGITATE (ponder, think) v.
5. APHORISM (short pithy sentence, proverb) n.
6. PERNICIOUS (highly injurious, causing injury) adj.
7. MALIGN (to speak evil of) v.
8. LACONIC (concise, terse, brief) adj.
9. PROPENSITIES (a natural inclination, a liking, a bent, a bias) n.
10. PROPITIATE (appease, pacify, calm) v.

Book the Second Part II



1. ELICIT (to draw forth, to evoke) v.
2. REGENERATION (rebirth) n.
3. MANIFEST (obvious, clear, plain, evident) adj.
4. DUBIOUS (doubtful) adj.
5. RUMINATE (ponder) v.
6. RECOMPENSE (a return for something, a reward) n.
7. PRECIPITATE (hurl headlong) adj.
8. AMICABLE (friendly, peaceable) adj.
9. ANTECEDENTS (previous history, immediate ancestry) n.
10. FURTIVE (sly, stealthy) adj.

Book the Third



1. DOGGEDLY (stubbornly) adv.
2. BLIGHTED (ruined, withered) adj.
3. INVIOATE (unharmed, unimpaired) adj.
4. JOCOSELY (wittily, jokingly) adv.
5. PRODIGIOUS (extraordinary, vast) adj.

Sources

- ◎ Sparknotes: <http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/twocities/>
- ◎ The Glencoe Literature Library
- ◎ Signet Classic Teacher's Guide