

ENGLISH TEST (WRITTEN COMPREHENSION)

ES. 1 Leggi il testo e scegli la parola giusta per ogni spazio

(years old - is - my - an - she - teacher - her - place - he -- are - mum - favourite - hi - they - 38 years old)
....., I'm Gill and this issister Karen. This.....a photo of our..... and dad.are teachers. My mum is 35andis a maths..... favouriteis California. My dad isandisEnglish teacher. HispeopleKaren and me, of course.

ES.2 - Leggi il testo e rispondi alle domande

CHARLES DICKENS

The famous English novelist Charles Dickens was born in Landport, Hampshire, on 7th February 1812. His father was an office worker and Charles was the second of eight children. When he was a little boy his mother taught him how to write and then Charles went to a private school. When he was ten, his family moved to London, but after only two years, in 1824, his father was arrested for debts and went to prison. Charles stopped going to school and, like many children at that time, he went to work in a factory. He worked for ten hours a day and working conditions were very hard. However, in 1827 Dickens became an office worker, and after a few years he started working as a reporter for a London newspaper. He spent many hours walking around the streets of the city and met all kinds of people. The years spent in the factory and this new experience as journalist were very important for his future career. Dickens started writing articles and short stories, and after his first novel, *The Pickwick Papers*, he became a very famous novelist. During his life Dickens wrote a lot of short stories and novels. He described life in Victorian England and described the contradictory aspects of London in unique way. He was critical and protested against the social injustices of that age. People liked his novels, full of characters and adventures: for example, *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield*, *Bleak House*, *Hard Times* and *Great Expectations* were very popular. Dickens travelled a lot. He visited Europe and the USA. He lived in Switzerland and in Paris. He got married in 1836 and had ten children, but his family life was not very happy and he separated from his wife in 1858. Charles Dickens died suddenly in 1870.

Rispondi alle seguenti affermazioni con VERO (T) o FALSO (F)

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|--|---|---|
| 1. Charles Dickens had 8 brothers and sisters. | T | F |
| 2. His mother taught to him to write | T | F |
| 3. He moved to London in 1822. | T | F |
| 4. His father was arrested for omicide | T | F |
| 5. All children in that period went to work. | T | F |
| 6. His working conditions were very good | T | F |
| 7. He only wrote novels. | T | F |
| 8. He got married and he had 10 children | T | F |
| 9. He lived a very happy life with his wife | T | F |
| 10. Dickens died in 1870 | T | F |

Rispondi alle seguenti domande:

1. Why were Dickens's experiences very important for his career as a novelist?
2. What did he write first?
3. Why was he critical of the society of his time?
4. Where did he spend part of his life?
5. Why was he a very popular novelist?