Summary

Read Charles Dickens's biography on page 529

1 **CHECK KEY CONCEPTS** Complete the texts and check your answers with your teacher.

A. poor 15 law released Westminster court work three London greatest social long Portsmouth ten debt three Factory short

Charles Dickens was born in ..... in 1812, the second of eight children. When Charles was ..... years old, the Dickens family moved to ...... In 1824, John Dickens, Charles's father, was imprisoned for ..... in Marshalsea Prison with his wife and children. Charles was taken out of school and sent to ..... in Warren's Blacking ..... for about five months. He worked ..... hours in miserable conditions and the experience marked him for life. When his father was ..... from prison Charles was able to stop work in the factory. He went to school for ..... more years and then became an apprentice in a ..... firm. Hoping to become a journalist, he taught himself shorthand and then became a freelance ..... reporter. Later he worked as a parliamentary reporter and, using a pseudonym, began contributing articles on contemporary London life. Dickens wrote ..... novels, several ..... stories, and was editor of ..... popular periodicals. He was an ardent campaigner for ..... reform.

He is buried in Poet's Corner, ... Abbey with the inscription: "He was a sympathiser to the ....., the suffering, and the oppressed; and by his death, one of England's ..... writers is lost to the world."