CHARLES DICKENS' CHILDHOOD

Read the text and write in the correct word.

Charles Dickens was one of the greatest nineteenth-century English novelists. At the time of (1)_____ death in 1870 he was a wealthy man, in contrast to the poverty of his early days. His parents (2)_____ their best to look after him but were always in difficulties (3)_____ money. Eventually, his father owed (4)_____ a large amount of money that he was sent to prison for three months.

Two days after his twelfth birthday, Dickens was taken away from school by his parents and made (5)_____ work in a factory to increase the family income. Factories could be dangerous places in (6) _____ days and some employers were cruel. Charles was not (7)_____ extremely unhappy, but also ashamed of working there, and he (8)_____ never get that period of his life. In his novels Dickens showed just how shocking working and living conditions were.

Working in the factory affected him so deeply that he found (9)_____ much too painful to speak about in later life. His own wife and children knew (10)_____ at all about the unhappiness of his childhood while Dickens was still alive, (11)_____ shortly after his death a biography was published in (12)_____ Dickens' terrible childhood experiences in the factory were revealed (9)_____ the first time.

LIVEWORKSHEETS