

Hard Times: By Charles Dickens (Illustrated Unabridged Active Contents)

*A novel based on the life of the artist Robert Seymour—the caricaturist behind *The Pickwick Papers*, and the extraordinary events surrounding the birth of Charles Dickens' first novel—departs from the accepted origin of *Pickwick* put forward by Dickens and his publisher, Edward Chapman; and it does so for good reason—the accepted origin is a lie.*

*"Have a heart that never hardens and a temper that never tires, and a touch that never hurts." *Hard Times* is Charles Dickens's tenth novel that has been considered much seriously by literary critics and historians. It concentrates on the portrayal of the English society of the nineteenth century as well as on its different cultural and economic aspects. The story, which is set in a fictional Victorian town, is divided into three parts which are respectively entitled "Sowing," "Reaping," and "Garnering." The central character of*

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the first part is Mr. Thomas Gradgrind, a wealthy man, a school headmaster and a father to 5 children. Generally, Mr. Gradgrind is a man of reason and thought, but also of strict rules and codes of behavior. The narrative gives minute details of his daily activities and habits as well as of the way he brings up his children, teaching them principles of rationalism and self-interest. The story then follows the existence of his children and family in the remaining parts of the novel.

Dickens mainly deals with the much-debated social issues of the time such as the importance of professional careers, love and marriage. By the end of the narrative, Mr. Gradgrind eventually seems to become less categorical as to his strict principles of rationalism and utilitarianism.

*"Set in Coketown, the fictitious English mill-town modeled after Preston, *Hard Times* follows the stories of Thomas Gradgrind, a wealthy mill owner, his family, and the poor mill workers in the town. The storylines of Gradgrind's children, Louisa, Tom, and Sissy, run parallel to the troubles of*

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*the hard workers struggling to survive in a time of severe inequality. This Norton Critical Edition is based on the 1854 first edition, with new edits made to encompass more recent scholarly findings. The text comes paired with explanatory footnotes, illustrations and photographs depicting the scenes of the novel in contrast with their historical counterparts, and an introduction by the editor that brings *Hard Times* into a twenty-first century analysis on the social, economic, and political themes of the novel.*

*"Contexts" carries over most of the contextual materials that help a modern reader acclimate to the harsh realities of mid-nineteenth century industrial England. "Criticism" brings together eighteen essays on *Hard Times*, five of which were seen in the third edition by Taine, Ruskin, Gissing, Leavis, and Shaw. New essays by Christopher Barnes, Christine Lupton, Victor Sage, Efraim Sicher, and Nils Claussøn reexamine the novel as literary art, while Tamar Ketabgian, Kent Greenfield and John E. Nilsson, David M. Levy, Paulette Kidder, Martha Nussbaum, David Lodge,*

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David L. Cowles, and Theodore Dalrymple provide perspectives ranging from the connections to the natural world to the study of law and the word of human experience in between. A Chronology and revised Selected Bibliography are also included." - -

The Works of Charles Dickens: Hard times

Works of Charles Dickens

Hard Times

Christmas Stories from Household Words and All the Year Round

Considered Dickens' harshest indictment of mid-19th-century industrial practices and their dehumanizing effects, *Hard Times* offers a fascinating tapestry of Victorian life, filled with the richness of detail, brilliant characterization, and passionate social concern that typify the novelist's finest creations.

New York reporter Paige MacKenzie has a hidden motive when she heads to the small town of Timberton, Montana. Assigned to research the area's unique Yogo sapphires for the *Manhattan Post*, she hopes to reconnect romantically with handsome cowboy Jake Norris. The local gem gallery offers the material needed for the article, but the discovery of an old diary, hidden inside the wall of a historic hotel, soon sends her on a detour into the

underworld of art and deception. Each of the town's residents holds a key to untangling more than one long-buried secret, from the hippie chick owner of a new age café to the mute homeless man in the town park. As the worlds of western art and sapphire mining collide, Paige finds herself juggling research, romance and danger. With stolen sapphires and shady characters thrown into the mix, will Paige escape the consequences of her own curiosity? Unlock the more straightforward side of *Hard Times* with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of *Hard Times* by Charles Dickens, the shortest novel written by the celebrated English author. It is set in the fictional town of Coketown, where the influential Mr. Thomas Gradgrind has founded a school based on Utilitarian principles of reason and logic. However, his reliance on these ideals is challenged when one of his business partners, Mr. Bounderby, marries his eldest daughter, Louisa, sparking a chain of events that touches the lives of many of the people of Coketown. Charles Dickens is widely considered to be the most significant English novelist of the Victorian era, and many of his colourful, vividly crafted characters continue to captivate the public imagination even today. His best-known works include *Oliver Twist*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *David Copperfield* and *A Christmas Carol*. Find out everything you need to know about *Hard Times* in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you: • A

complete plot summary • Character studies • Key themes and symbols • Questions for further reflection Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

Charles Dickens

The Charles Dickens Collection

Written for His Children During the Years 1846 to 1849

Study Guide to Hard Times by Charles Dickens Our Mutual Friend

Heaven knows, we need never be ashamed of our wolfish cravings. . . . Bristly, sensitive, and meat-hungry Pip is a robust young whelp, an orphan born under a full moon. Between hunting escaped convicts alongside zombified soldiers, trying not to become one of the hunted himself, and hiding his hairy hands from the supernaturally beautiful and haughty Estella, whose devilish moods keep him chomping at the bit, Pip is sure he will die penniless or a convict like the rest of his commonly uncommon kind. But then a mysterious benefactor sends him to London for the finest werewolf education money can buy. In the company of other furry young gentlemen, Pip tempers his violent transformations and devours the secrets of his dark world. When he discovers that his beloved Estella is a slayer of supernatural creatures, trained by the corpse-like vampire Miss Havisham, Pip's desire for her grows

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stronger than his midnight hunger for rare fresh beef. But can he risk his hide for a truth that will make Estella his forever—or will she drive one last silver stake through his heart?

DICKENS/HARD TIMES (SC)

No library's complete without the classics! This new edition collects the greatest works of Charles Dickens, one of the most popular novelists of all time. *Oliver Twist*. *Pip*. The ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future. The characters of Charles Dickens live on in our imaginations long after we've read his renowned works of social commentary and vivid storytelling. And though these novels were written more than one hundred years ago, no home library today would be complete without them. This *Canterbury Classics* edition of Charles Dickens collects some of his most famous and beloved works--*The Adventures of Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *Great Expectations*--into a single volume. For those who've never read Dickens, it's the perfect opportunity to experience his unique and compelling writing. And for those who are already Dickens devotees, an introduction by a renowned scholar will provide additional context and food for thought.

Four Novels

The Art of Bleak House and *Hard Times*

Hard Times illustrated

(Penguin Classics)

Charles Dickens's "Hard Times": A Critique of Benthamite Utilitarianism

Two classics in one! Wonderfully spread out in one, annotated and illustrated, compact volume. Many vintage books are increasingly scarce and expensive. We

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published this volume in an affordable, modern, high-quality edition complete with a biography of the author. Includes: *Hard Times* (1854) *Oliver Twist* (1867) A comprehensive study guide offering in-depth explanation, essay, and test prep for Charles Dickens's *Hard Times*, a novel that brought to light the harsh conditions of factory workers during the nineteenth century. As a novel set in nineteenth-century England, many lower class citizens worked factory jobs and were very poorly treated. Dickens comments on this treatment and the abuse of power regarding the wealthy. This Bright Notes Study Guide explores the context and history of Dickens's classic work, helping students to thoroughly explore the reasons it has stood the literary test of time. Each Bright Notes Study Guide contains: - Introductions to the Author and the Work - Character Summaries - Plot Guides - Section and Chapter Overviews - Test Essay and Study Q&As The Bright Notes Study Guide series offers an in-depth tour of more than 275 classic works of literature, exploring characters, critical commentary, historical background, plots, and themes. This set of study guides encourages readers to dig deeper in their understanding by including essay questions and answers as well as topics for further research.

The scene was a plain, bare, monotonous vault of a school-room, and the speaker's square forefinger emphasized his observations by underscoring every sentence with a line on the schoolmaster's sleeve. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's square wall of a forehead, which had his eyebrows for its base, while his

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eyes found commodious cellarage in two dark caves, overshadowed by the wall. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's mouth, which was wide, thin, and hard set. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's voice, which was inflexible, dry, and dictatorial.

The Life of Our Lord

Charles Dickens's *Hard Times*

Hard Times and Reprinted Pieces

Hard Times by Charles Dickens (Book Analysis)

A Novel

Written deliberately to increase the circulation of Dickens's weekly magazine, "*Household Words*, *Hard Times*" was a huge and instantaneous success upon publication in 1854. Yet this novel is not the cheerful celebration of Victorian life one might have expected from the beloved author of "*The Pickwick Papers*" and "*The Old Curiosity Shop*," Compressed, stark, allegorical, it is a bitter expose of capitalist exploitation during the industrial revolution-and a fierce denunciation of the philosophy of materialism, which threatens the human imagination in all times and places. With a typically unforgettable cast of characters-including the heartless fact-worshipper Mr. Gradgrind, the warmly endearing Sissy Jupe, and the eternally noble Stephen Blackpool-"*Hard Times*" carries a uniquely powerful message and remains one of the most widely read of Dickens's major novels.

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The story of *Oliver Twist* - orphaned, and set upon by evil and adversity from his first breath - shocked readers when it was published. After running away from the workhouse and pompous beadle Mr Bumble, Oliver finds himself lured into a den of thieves peopled by vivid and memorable characters - the Artful Dodger, vicious burglar Bill Sikes, his dog Bull's Eye, and prostitute Nancy, all watched over by cunning master-thief Fagin. Combining elements of Gothic Romance, the Newgate Novel and popular melodrama, Dickens created an entirely new kind of fiction, scathing in its indictment of a cruel society, and pervaded by an unforgettable sense of threat and

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mystery. This Penguin Classics edition of *Oliver Twist* is the first critical edition to faithfully reproduce the text as its earliest readers would have encountered it from its serialisation in Bentley's *Miscellany*, and includes an introduction by Philip Horne, a glossary of Victorian thieves' slang, a chronology of Dickens's life, a map of contemporary London and all of George Cruikshank's original illustrations. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

GRT EXPECTATIONS & HARD TIMES

Have a Heart That Never Hardens and a Temper That Never Tires, and a Touch That Never Hurts.

Grave Expectations

Original Text

Detailed Summary, Analysis and Reading Guide

Hard Times and Reprinted Pieces by Charles Dickens.

Worldwide literature classic, among top 100 literary novels of all time. A must read for everybody. In the

1980s, Italo Calvino (the most-translated

contemporary Italian writer at the time of his death)

said in his essay "Why Read the Classics?" that "a

classic is a book that has never finished saying what it

has to say", without any doubt this book can be considered a Classic This book is also a Bestseller because as Steinberg defined: "a bestseller as a book for which demand, within a short time of that book's initial publication, vastly exceeds what is then considered to be big sales".

Presents four narratives in which former slaves describe their experiences in captivity and portray the harsh conditions they faced in everyday life.

“An excellent collection of critical and social commentary that will help to make Dickens’ image of Victorian England meaningful to all students.” —John

Howard Wilson, Dakota Wesleyan University This Norton Critical Edition includes: - Sylvere Monod’s superbly edited text, based on the 1854 edition and accompanied by Fred Kaplan’s expanded annotations.

- Fourteen illustrations from 1854 to circa 1890. -

Contextual pieces by social critics and theorists of Dickens’ time that give readers outstanding examples of views on industrialism, education, and

utilitarianism in the nineteenth century. - Eight new critical essays by Paulette Kidder, David M. Levy,

Christopher Barnes, Theodore Dalrymple, Christina Lupton, Efraim Sicher, Nils Clausson, and Kent

Greenfield and John E. Nilsson. - A Chronology and a Selected Bibliography.

From the *Hard Times* of Charles Dickens

Dickens Redressed

(Aberdeen Classics Collection)

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Ulysses

Hard Times for These Times

From the editor of the popular Annotated *Pride and Prejudice* comes an annotated edition of Jane Austen's *Persuasion* that makes the beloved novel an even more satisfying and fulfilling read. Here is the complete text of *Persuasion* with hundreds of annotations on facing pages, including: ? Explanations of historical context ? Citations from Austen's life, letters, and other writings ? Definitions and clarifications ? Literary comments and analysis ? Plentiful maps and illustrations ? An introduction, a bibliography, and a detailed chronology of events Packed with all kinds of illuminating information—from what Bath and Lyme looked like at the time to how “bathing machines” at seaside resorts were used to how Wentworth could have made a fortune from the Napoleonic Wars—David M. Shapard's delightfully entertaining edition brings Austen's novel of second chances vividly to life.

'NOW, what I want is, Facts. Teach these boys and girls nothing but Facts. Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else. You can only form the minds of reasoning animals upon Facts: nothing else will ever be of any service to them. This is the principle on which I bring up my own children, and this is the principle on which I bring up these children. Stick to

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Facts, sir!'The scene was a plain, bare, monotonous vault of a school-room, and the speaker's square forefinger emphasized his observations by underscoring every sentence with a line on the schoolmaster's sleeve. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's square wall of a forehead, which had his eyebrows for its base, while his eyes found commodious cellarage in two dark caves, overshadowed by the wall. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's mouth, which was wide, thin, and hard set. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's voice, which was inflexible, dry, and dictatorial. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's hair, which bristled on the skirts of his bald head, a plantation of firs to keep the wind from its shining surface, all covered with knobs, like the crust of a plum pie, as if the head had scarcely warehouse-room for the hard facts stored inside. The speaker's obstinate carriage, square coat, square legs, square shoulders, -nay, his very neckcloth, trained to take him by the throat with an unaccommodating grasp, like a stubborn fact, as it was, -all helped the emphasis.

In the city of Coketown, young and stifled Louisa accepts the marriage proposal of a man 30 years her senior, Stephen strives to earn a living by honest means, and Sissy has to decide between an education and the circus she grew up in. In this classic of great renown, Charles Dickens brings to life a world where each character has a choice and

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every choice has the power to evoke good or the greatest of evils.

Hard Times (Fourth Edition) (Norton Critical Editions)

The Classic Slave Narratives

Oliver Twist

Sketches by Boz

Hard Times & Oliver Twist (Annotated)

A collection of the three best Charles Dickens novels: *A Christmas Carol*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *Oliver Twist*. Charles Dickens was an English writer and social critic. He created some of the world's best-known fictional characters and is regarded by many as the greatest novelist of the Victorian era. His works enjoyed unprecedented popularity during his lifetime, and by the 20th century critics and scholars had recognised him as a literary genius. His novels and short stories enjoy lasting popularity. Born in Portsmouth, Dickens left school to work in a factory when his father was incarcerated in a debtors' prison. Despite his lack of formal education, he edited a weekly journal for 20 years, wrote 15 novels, five novellas, hundreds of short stories and non-fiction articles, lectured and performed readings extensively, was an indefatigable letter writer, and campaigned vigorously for children's rights, education, and other social reforms.

When he wrote *Hard Times* - which can be considered an epilogue to the much longer *Bleak House* - Dickens was able to conceive a plot neither centered around a hero nor fueled by the kind of wish fulfillment that structure had implied.

Charles Dickens's other Christmas classic, with a new introduction by Dickens's great-great-grandson, Gerald Charles Dickens. Charles Dickens wrote *The Life of Our Lord* during the years 1846-1849, just about the time he was completing *David Copperfield*. In this charming, simple retelling of the life of Jesus Christ, adapted from the Gospel of St. Luke, Dickens hoped to teach his young children about religion and faith. Since he wrote it exclusively for his

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children, Dickens refused to allow publication. For eighty-five years the manuscript was guarded as a precious family secret, and it was handed down from one relative to the next. When Dickens died in 1870, it was left to his sister-in-law, Georgina Hogarth. From there it fell to Dickens's son, Sir Henry Fielding Dickens, with the admonition that it should not be published while any child of Dickens lived. Just before the 1933 holidays, Sir Henry, then the only living child of Dickens, died, leaving his father's manuscript to his wife and children. He also bequeathed to them the right to make the decision to publish *The Life of Our Lord*. By majority vote, Sir Henry's widow and children decided to publish the book in London. In 1934, Simon & Schuster published the first American edition, which became one of the year's biggest bestsellers.

The Annotated Persuasion

The Moonglow Cafe

Sissy Jupe

Charles Dickens' Hard Times

The Personal History of David Copperfield

*Let us strike the keynote, Coketown, before pursuing our tune... It was a town of machines and tall chimneys, out of which interminable serpents of smoke trailed themselves for ever, and never got uncoiled... Hard Times*The novel is set in the imagina

Seminar paper from the year 2012 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,0, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, language: English, abstract: Hard Times is arguably Dickens's most controversially discussed work. It was published in 1854 as a serial in his weekly periodical Household Words. Critics such as F.R. Leavis

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reprehend his novel for having flat and stereotypical characters that seem to be crude caricatures of reality, whereas others applaud him for his socio-economic critique of 19th century England and his amiable characters. In this paper I will show that Dickens strongly criticizes the utilitarian ideas of Jeremy Bentham and his ideological followers through the characters and the plot as well as the stylistic device of repetition.

*Hard Times illustrated Charles Dickens - Hard Times: For These Times (commonly known as Hard Times) is the tenth novel by Charles Dickens, first published in 1854. The book surveys English society and satirises the social and economic conditions of the era. "Now, what I want is, Facts. . . . Facts alone are wanted in life." Thus begins Superintendent Mr. Gradgrind—a wealthy, retired merchant—addressing a group of young students at his school in the industrial town of Coketown, England. A rigid man of fact, rational self-interest and realities, he not only teaches his pupils according to the utilitarian principles, but also raises his children with the same philosophy. When they grow up, as their lives begin to turn chaotic, they reproach their father for their upbringing. Will Mr. Gradgrind realize his flaws and become a humble man? Satirizing the laissez-faire system, Dickens' *Hard Times* lays bare the wide gap between the rich and the poor. Criticizing the materialistic world, this Victorian*

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(Illustrated Unabridged Active Contents)

novel throws light on the value of emotions and the human heart. It has undergone several film and theatre adaptations.

Death and Mr. Pickwick

Despite the title, Dickens's portrayal of early industrial society here is less relentlessly grim than that in novels by contemporaries such as Elizabeth Gaskell or Charles Kingsley. *Hard Times* weaves the tale of Thomas Gradgrind, a hard-headed politician who raises his children Louisa and Tom without love, of Sissy the circus girl with love to spare who is deserted and adopted into their family, and of the honest mill worker Stephen Blackpool and the bombastic mill owner Josiah Bounderby. The key contrasts created are finally less those between wealth and poverty, or capitalists and workers, than those between the head and the heart, between "Fact"—the cold, rationalistic approach to life that Dickens associates with utilitarianism—and "Fancy"—a warmth of the imagination and of the feelings, which values individuals above ideas. Concentrated and compressed in its narrative form, *Hard Times* is at once a fable, a novel of ideas, and a social novel that seeks to engage directly and analytically with political issues. The central conflicts raised in the text, between

government's duty not to intervene to guarantee the liberty of the subject, and between quantitative and qualitative assessments of progress, remain unresolved today in the late or post industrial stages of liberal democracies.

A collection of eight critical essays on the Dickens novel, arranged in chronological order of original publication.

Hard Times for These TimesHard Times