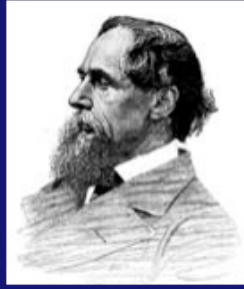


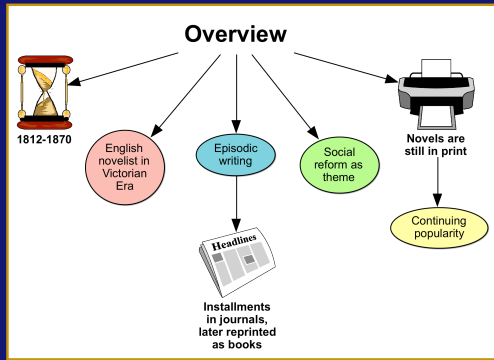
Charles Dickens

A report by
Alexandra Gott



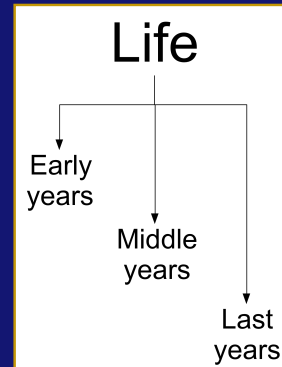
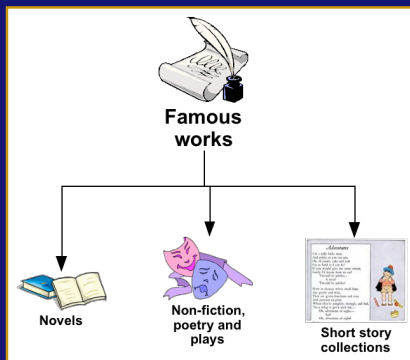
Novels

- The Adventures of Oliver Twist (February 1837- April 1839)
- A Christmas Carol (1843)
- A Tale of Two Cities (April 1859- November 1859)



Short stories, non-fiction, poetry and plays

- Christmas stories (1851-1867)
 - *Household Words* & *All Year Round* magazines
- Sketches by Boz (1836)
- The Uncommercial Traveller (1860-1869)
- Memoirs of Joseph Grimaldi (1838)
- Pictures from Italy (1846)
- The Life of Our Lord: As written for his children (1849)



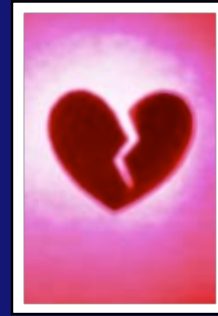
Early years

- Born Feb. 7, 1812
 - Portsmouth, Hampshire, England
- Early family wealth
- Dickens' father, John

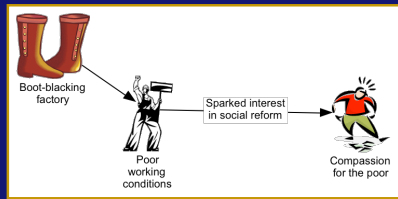


Met Maria Beadnell

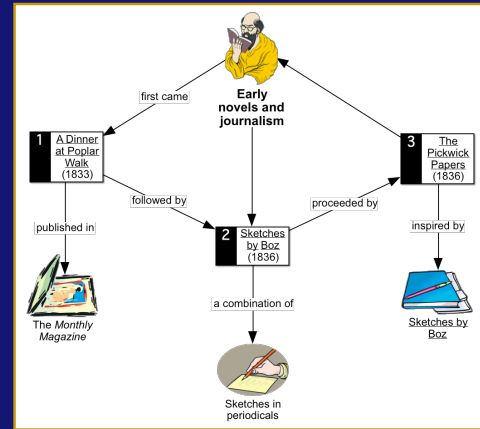
- First love
- Heartbroken when her parents wouldn't allow them to marry



- Worked at boot-blackening factory at age 12



- Father released from prison
 - Went back to school at Wellington House Academy



- Issues with mother, Elizabeth
- Worked as junior clerk in law office
 - Understanding of law
- Became freelance reporter at newspaper *Doctors Commons Courts*
 - Reported legal proceedings

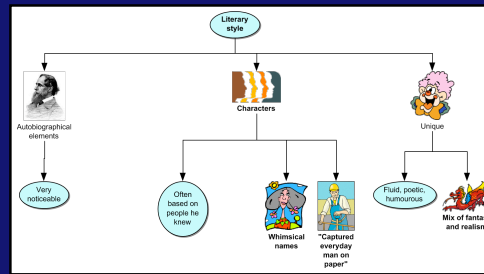


Middle years

- Marries Catherine Hogarth (April 2, 1836)
- Has Charles Dickens Jr. (1837)
 - First of 10 children
- Publishes A Christmas Carol (December 1844)

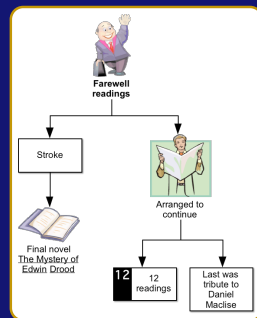


- Philanthropic work
 - Angela Burdett Coutts and Urania Cottage
 - Offered different approach
 - 'An Appeal to Fallen Women'
 - Women provided inspiration
 - Great Ormond Street Hospital
- Bought dream house, Gad's Hill Place



Last years

- Divorced in 1858
- Farewell reading series
- Stroke
- Began final novel

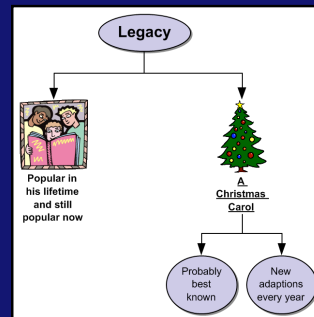


Social commentary

- Nineteenth-century English society
 - Fiercely critiqued poverty and social stratification
 - Industrial Revolution - Dickens' wrote about the plight of the urban poor
 - Campaigned specific issues
 - Sanitation, workhouse and changing public opinion of social inequalities
- Oliver Twist
 - Shocked readers with images of poverty and crime
 - Responsible for clearing of London slum, Jacob's Island
 - Humanized prostitutes and other such women

- Died June 9, 1870
 - At Gad's Hall
 - Day after his second stroke
 - 58 years old
 - Buried in poets corner at Westminster Abby

Legacy seen in popular culture



- "Scrooge"
- "Bah! Humbug!"

Questions?