



Charles Dickens

9 Little Charles was the second child of the Dickens
19 family. He was born in England, at a time when
29 there was no such thing as movies. He made up
37 his own adventures, playing at a nearby castle
42 with his older sister Fanny.

49 Charles was lucky to attend school, something
58 many children didn't have the chance to do at
67 the time. Soon, he was devouring books as if
75 they were sweets. Hungry for more, he started
83 observing people and made up stories about them.

95 But there was a twist in his own tale the day his
104 father was sent to prison because of his debts.
114 Charles was forced to leave school and work in a
122 factory, labelling pots for ten hours every day –
125 even on weekends!



Questions

1. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'watching'.

2. How do you think Charles felt when he was forced to leave school?

3. What type of entertainment did not exist when Charles was growing up?

4. Compare Charles's life at the beginning of the text to his life at the end.

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Answers

1. Find and copy one word that means the same as 'watching'.
observing

2. How do you think Charles felt when he was forced to leave school?
Learners' own responses, such as: I think Charles felt disappointed because he enjoyed learning and reading and he would not have been able to continue these things when he was forced to leave school.

3. What type of entertainment did not exist when Charles was growing up?
Movies did not exist when Charles was growing up.

4. Compare Charles's life at the beginning of the text to his life at the end.
Learners' own responses, such as: At the beginning, Charles was a seemingly happy child, playing imaginative games with his sister and attending school. By the end, his life was very different as he had to leave school and work long hours at a factory.