



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

**THE ORIGINS AND THE CAUSES OF THE
INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION**

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE ORIGINS

WHERE → England

WHEN → 1750: this year can be considered the moment that changed it all

Before 1750 in England:

- there was an agricultural society
- 80% of people lived and worked on small farms
- they harvested crops and raised herds of livestock
- agriculture was the main economic activity

- manufacturing was small and localised
- tools were powered by people, animals and waterwheels

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE ORIGINS

Before 1750 in England:

- towns and villages were small
- the roads dated back to the Roman period
- people worked where they lived
- British society was divided in social classes
- social position was based on wealth and especially birth
- 1% of the population was formed of nobles, aristocrats who owned the lands



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE BACKGROUND

The Industrial Revolution was possible also because before there had been the **Agricultural Revolution** (mid-1600s)

The population increased and so did the food demand, which required more innovations in the production

Agriculture became a business: people didn't produce just for themselves but also sold their products to other people

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE BACKGROUND

Three were the main changes that characterised the Agricultural Revolution:

1. **enclosures**

- common lands were enclosed, fenced and then passed into the hands of private landowners
- three quarters of common lands were enclosed by 1790
- poor people who used to work those common lands were forced to move to towns and start working in factories

2. **crop rotation**

- before farmers used to leave part of the land unused
- then “four-field system” was introduced: each season the crops were rotated and no field was left unused

3. **improved farm machineries and methods**

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: WHY BRITAIN?

1. The British Empire

- Britain has gained authority and wealth thanks to the extension of the Empire
- colonies provided raw material and workforce (as slaves)
- the more the colonies, the more the materials

2. Coal supplies

- a vital fuel for the steam power that drove the industrial revolution

3. Navy and naval power

- island
- trading experience

4. Individual freedom and intellectual Spirit

- people wanted to try new things and the government encouraged them
- they didn't fear taking risks

5. Government stability

- a prolonged period without social or political conflict

6. Money availability

- financial services supported trade
- banking system was more advanced and modern



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

**THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES
OF THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION**

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES

The most important changes that the Industrial Revolution brought about were as follows:

- increase in the population
- factories and mills with new workers
- modern towns and cities
- new sources of power (steam power and electricity, supplied by coal)
- improvements in transports and communications (canals, roads, railway lines)
- the emergence of a new social class, the middle class
- wealth for the nation
- progress and technological innovations
- hope of improvements in other people's lives

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES

Industrial cities rise

Urbanisation: city building and movement of people to cities

- changes and improvements in farming practices
- lure of new jobs in the factory towns

Movement from countries to cities because of the concentration of factories

Factories developed in clusters (close to the source of energy: coal and water)

1750: 15% of people in GB lived in cities

1880: 80% of people in GB lived in cities

Low birth rate but the population increased because of the constant flow of people from the countryside

More people \longleftrightarrow more need to work

People worked \longrightarrow earned salaries \longrightarrow bought products \longrightarrow need to produce

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES

Living conditions

Rapid growth of cities: no development plan, sanitary or building codes

Lack of adequate housing and safety (both at work and at home)

Families of workers were crowded into one bedroom

No drains in the streets and rubbish everywhere

Sickness and illnesses were widely spread

Life expectancy of a factory worker was of 17 years old (38 for the country people)

Working conditions

Machines ran as many hours as possible because of the need to increase production

People worked 14 hours a day, 6 days a week

Monotony of work (in comparison to the work in the countryside)

Lack of safety in the workplace (no aid plan)

Coal mines were the place where the working conditions were the worst

→ Women and children were employed in factories because they were cheaper and better fit for certain jobs

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES

Class tension

Workers lived in poverty but part of the population grew richer during the revolution (factory owners, shippers, merchants) and they formed a new social class: the middle class

The rise of this new social class transformed the social structure of GB

Some of the the members of this class were now richer than members of the nobility

Nobles looked down on this new class because their richness came from work and not from birth

Middle class was itself divided into upper middle class (lawyers, doctors, factory owners,...) and lower middle class (skilled and professional workers)

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES

Rise of global inequality

Gradually the industrial revolution spread all over Europe and also reached the United States: some countries were then industrialised, some others were not

- Wealth gap between the industrialised and non industrialised countries
- Stronger economic ties

→ Industrialised countries needed raw materials and new markets

→ Non industrialised countries supplied raw materials and were seen as new markets

*The products that were produced needed to be sold

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES

The Great Exhibition

The British Government wanted to impress the world and encourage international **trade**

Joseph PAXTON (architect and gardener)

1851

Hyde Park

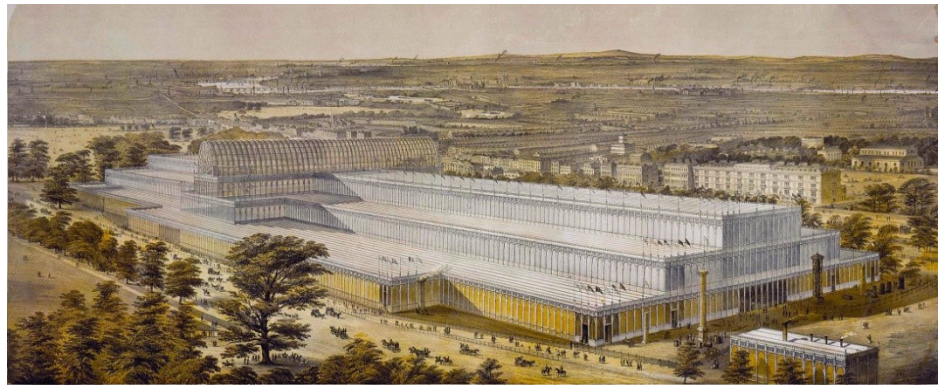
Structure in iron and glass: the Crystal Palace

All the countries had a spot in it and scientific and technological marvels, as well as works of art and craftsmanship, were on display

6 million people attended the exhibition

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqM6PXyp5MA&ab_channel=worldstaracademy

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES



THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES

Environmental impacts

The employment of fossil fuels (coal and oil) caused the first forms of water and air pollution: at the time, they were not aware of the possible environmental disasters caused by pollution and it was unknown that fossil fuels would run out

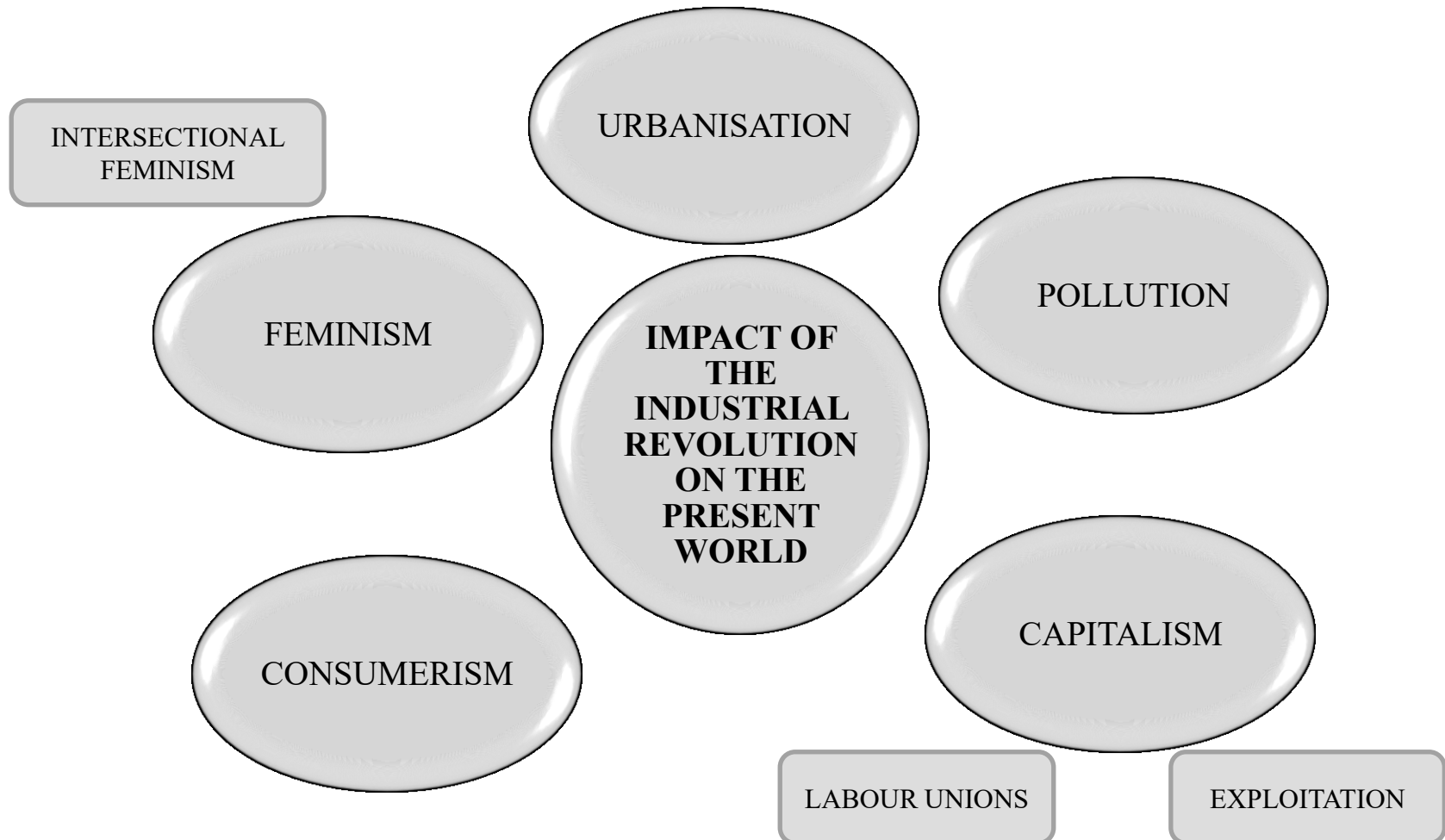
- Coal burnt produced thick layers of smog

*this was discovered after testing famous people's hair samples (Napoleon and Isaac Newton) where concentrations of mercury and lead were found

- Water was polluted because factories were built next to streams and sewage and human waste from houses ended up in the rivers

*in the River Thames there were salmons up to 1833 and the first one only reappeared in 1974

THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: THE MAIN CONSEQUENCES





THE VICTORIAN AGE AND CHARLES DICKENS

Life and Works

THE VICTORIAN AGE



Queen Victoria (1837-1901)

Queen Victoria and Prince
Albert had nine children

THE VICTORIAN AGE - THE VICTORIAN COMPROMISE

FCE Reading and Use of English – Part 3

4 WORD FORMATION. For questions 1–8, read the text. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the gap in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0).

5 ANSWER: the questions about the text.

- 1 Why did the Victorians feel forced to promote a strict code of values?
- 2 Which social classes refined this code?
- 3 What did the Victorian code of values consist of? In your analysis consider the following concepts:
 - respectability; • work;
 - family; • sex.
- 4 What is the meaning of the word 'compromise' when applied to the Victorian way of life?

The Victorian age was a complex and contradictory era: on the one hand, it was an age of progress, (0) **STABILITY** and great social reforms; on the other, it was also characterised by poverty, injustice and social unrest.

STABLE

The Victorians were great (1) : they faced a large number of problems on such a scale that they felt obliged to support certain values which offered solutions or escapes. Thus they promoted a code of values that reflected the world as they wanted it to be, not as it really was, based on (2) hard work, respectability and charity. These values were refined by the upper and middle classes, who had political and economic power, but they were of equal application to all strata of society.

MORALISE

In fact, one of the most important notions throughout the 19th century was the need to work hard. The idea of being (3) distinguished the middle from the lower class.

DUTY

Respectability was a mixture of both morality and hypocrisy, severity and conformity to social standards. It implied the possession of good manners, the (4) of a comfortable house with servants and a carriage, regular attendance at church, and (5) activity. Philanthropy was a widespread phenomenon; it addressed itself to every kind of poverty, to 'stray children, fallen women and (6) men' and absorbed the energies of thousands of Victorians, large numbers of whom were women.

RESPECT

Middle-class ideals dominated Victorian family life. The family was a (7) unit where the husband represented authority and the key role of women concerned the education of children and the managing of the house. Victorian society was deeply concerned with female chastity, and single women with a child suffered the worst of society's punishments: they were emarginated as 'fallen women'. Sexuality was generally repressed in its public and private forms, and being (8) in its most extreme manifestations led to the denunciation of nudity in art and the rejection of words with a sexual connotation from everyday vocabulary.

OWNER

CHARITY

DRINK

PATRIARCH

PRUDERY

THE VICTORIAN AGE - THE VICTORIAN NOVEL

Literary language The Victorian novel

The main features of the Victorian novel:

- ✓ The voice of the omniscient narrator provided a comment on the plot and erected a rigid barrier between 'right' and 'wrong', light and darkness.
- ✓ The setting chosen by most Victorian novelists was the city, which was the main symbol of industrial civilisation as well as the expression of anonymous lives and lost identities.
- ✓ The plot was long and often complicated by subplots.
- ✓ Victorian writers concentrated on the creation of characters and thus achieved deeper analysis of the characters' inner life.
- ✓ Retribution and punishment were to be found in the final chapter, where the whole texture of events, adventures and incidents had to be explained and justified.



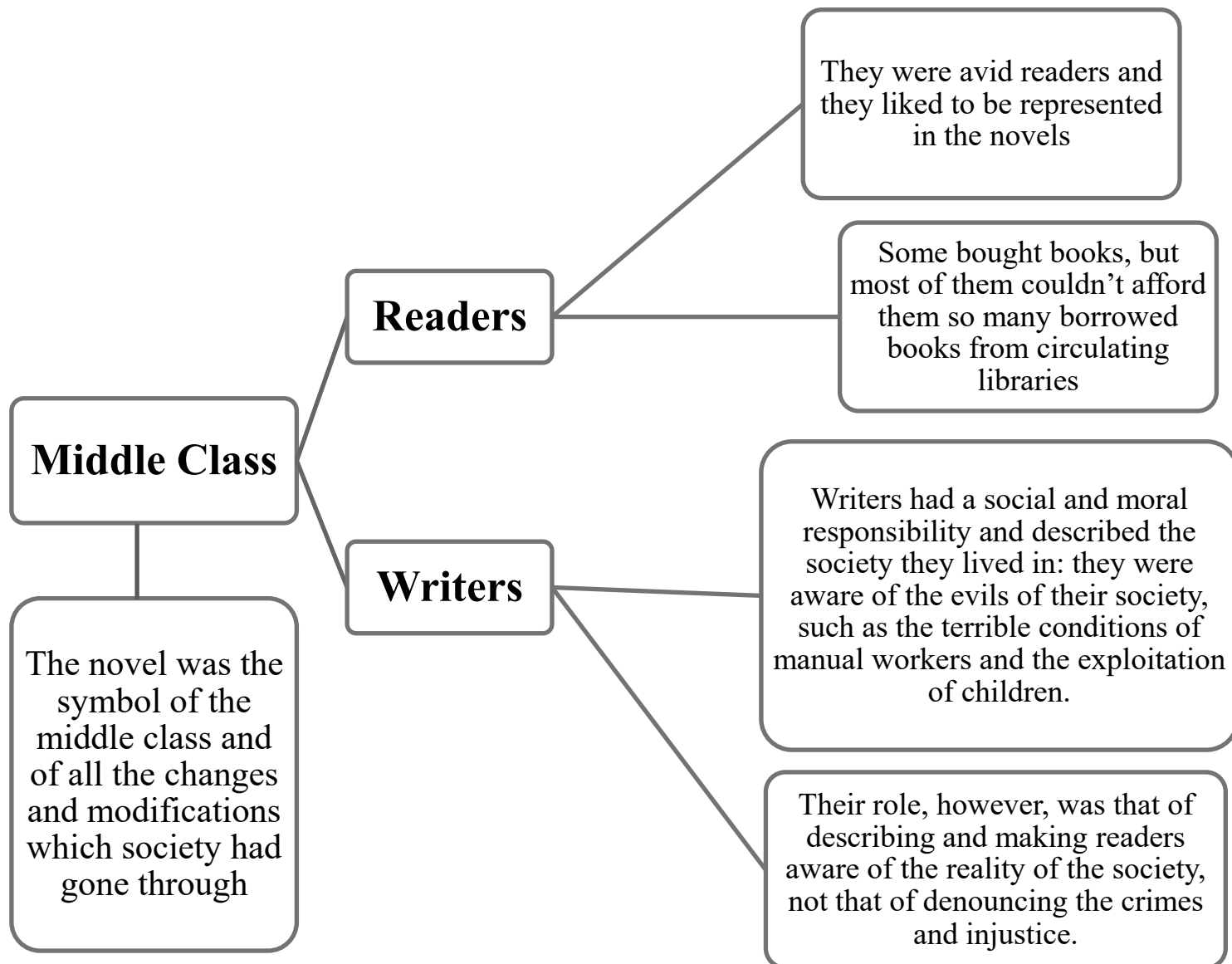
The **omniscient narrator** is an external narrator who provides a comment on the plot, stating what is good and what is wrong

The main setting is that of **cities** and **towns** because they were the protagonists of the century after the Industrial Revolution

The **characters** are realistic so that readers could identify with them

In the end, all that is right gains **retribution** and all that is bad is **punished**

THE VICTORIAN AGE - THE VICTORIAN NOVEL



CHARLES DICKENS - LIFE



Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth in **1812** in a middle class family.

He had an **unhappy childhood**: his father was imprisoned for debt.

Because of the lack of a regular income, he had to go to work in a **factory at the age of 12**.

He worked in a factory for **11 hours** a day: he glued labels to packages of shoe polish. He worked together with other children coming from the poorest parts of the town.

CHARLES DICKENS - LIFE

Only when the financial situation in his family improved and his father was released, he could attend a school in London.

He started working at the age of 15 at a lawyer's and then he worked as a **reporter** for parliamentary debates.

He soon became a **reporter for a newspaper**.

In the same years, he started publishing his first stories under the pen name of **Boz**.

As well as a journalist and a reporter, he was also a full-time **novelist**.

He became very famous and rich for his works.

He died in Kent in **1870**. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, in the Poets' Corner.

CHARLES DICKENS - WORKS

His most famous works are the following:

- *Oliver Twist* (1838)
- *David Copperfield* (1850)
- *Hard Times* (1854)
- *A tale of Two Cities* (1859)
- *Great Expectations* (1861)

→ **realist writer**

→ **social writer**

He doesn't deal with heroes, fairytales and gods. He deals with **real men and real women** and their real **economic and social** problems

CHARLES DICKENS - WORKS

The main themes of his novels deal with the main consequences of the industrial revolution:

→ **Exploitation of childhood** (autobiographical theme)

They were portrayed in the bitter reality of slums and factories.

Children are generally wise and good (they are the moral teachers), while adults behave in a worthless and selfish way (**reverse of the natural order**)

→ **Living and working** conditions of the poor and the working class

He sides with the **outcasts**: he shifted the attention from the upper classes to the lower ones.

Dickens never wanted the workers to rebel: he just wanted to show their conditions and to make the upper classes aware of the worst consequences of the industrial revolution

→ Dominant role of **money** and **social climbing**

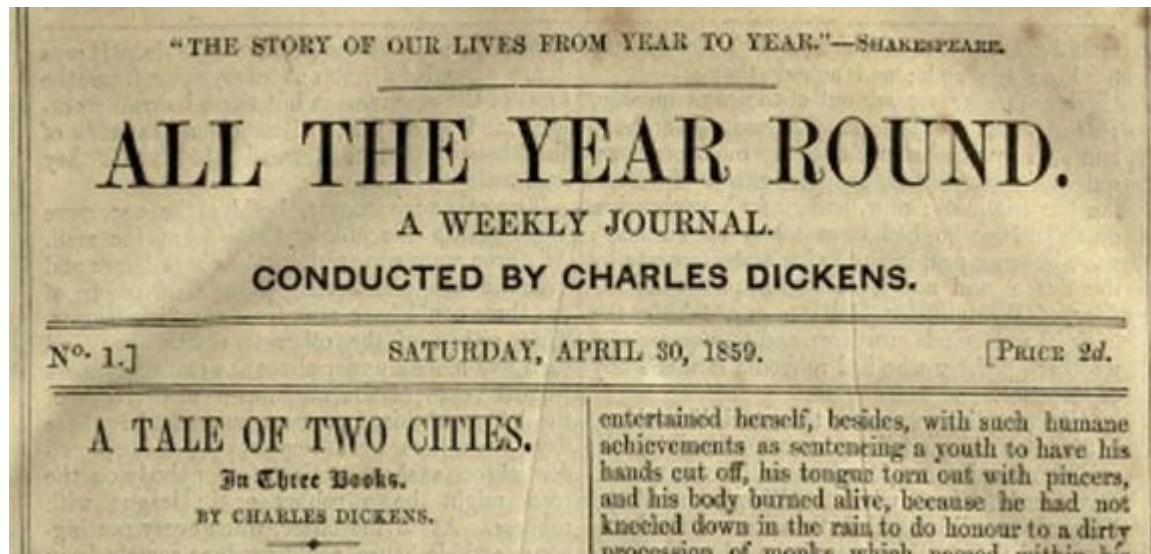
Rich people and people belonging to the upper middle classes wanted to get richer and richer at the expense of the poorest and the weakest

CHARLES DICKENS - WORKS

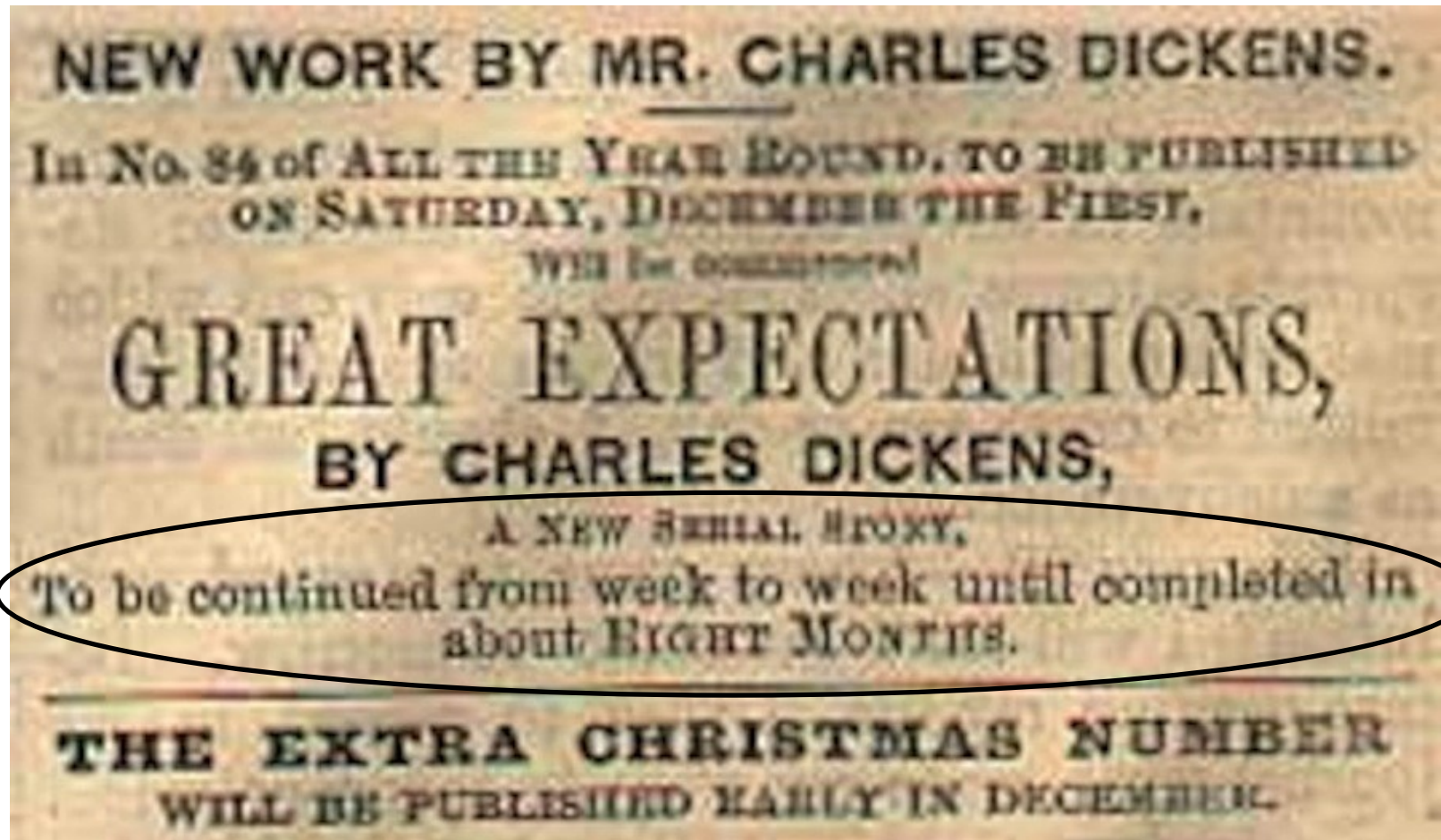
Charles Dickens's novels were published in **instalments**: parts of the same novel were published periodically in newspapers.

It was an economic choice that met the needs of both the writers and the publishers and the readers:

- writers were in contact with readers
- it created suspense
- modifications according to feedbacks
- affordable for readers (they couldn't afford complete books)
- remunerative for writers (were paid after each publication)



CHARLES DICKENS - WORKS



"To be continued from week to week until completed in about EIGHT MONTHS"