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**CHARLES DICKENS “A TALE OF TWO CITIES”  
ABSTRACT**

Literature always affects and changes people's lives and thoughts. People find themselves in the characters or the situations of the novels. Revolutionary characters inspire people to fight for their rights and against injustice. Reading novels also helps us to improve our imagination, and know about historical and nowadays events. Charles Dickens's novels are very famous in his time and now, because his novel's characters and events show different aspects of life. His novels mostly describe poor people's lives and their sufferings. Charles Dickens also came from a poor family and his childhood was not good, so it affected Dickens's works. It is the reason why he can create perfect characters and how he can vividly describe events. In each of his novels, Charles Dickens teaches readers a new lesson and gives them hope for life and the future. In “A Tale of Two Cities” the writer describes successfully the atmosphere of the French Revolution. Although characters are made up, the historical events are real. If readers want to know about this revolution and its reasons, this novel helps its readers. Charles Dickens's fictional characters represent real characters and each of them has a duty. They were not created randomly they represent something or somebody. Symbols are also important in novels. To understand the novel, readers have to be attentive and focus on symbols. They give messages to the readers about the characters or the events.

**Keywords:** French Revolution, love triangle, aristocrats, poor people, execution, symbols, wine, knitting.

Charles Dickens is one of the most popular novelists in the world's literature, and he is known as the greatest novelist of the Victorian era. He was born in Portsmouth, England in a poor family and Dickens spent his life in different cities of England. His father was a clerk and he had many debts. That is the reason why they moved from Portsmouth to Kent, to London. They were running away from their creditors and this made Charles work in the factory at age 12.

Like most people, Charles Dickens wanted fame and he tried his hand at acting. Charles was a very successful actor at the Covent Garden Theatre. But he had to give up this career because of his love for Maria Beadnell. Maria's family was middle class and her parents did not like and accept Charles's job, because in this era actors were considered as of a low social status. So Charles Dickens got a job in a law office and he also worked as a journalist and a parliamentary reporter. Working as a

journalist was the turning point of his career. It helped and inspired him to write stories, novels, articles, etc., and publish them.

Although Charles Dickens is known for his novels in the world, he also wrote hundreds of short stories, five novellas, and nonfiction articles.

As we know, many writers gained fame after their death, but it was different for Dickens. He enjoyed his fame, and popularity during his lifetime. People love his satire, and humor and Dickens describes real characters, and society and shows reality. He always evaluated other people's thoughts, especially his wife's. That is the reason why he always modified the characters and plots in his books. For instance, one day his wife read his novel "David Copperfield" and she did not like Miss Mowcher's character, so Dickens tried to improve and add more positive features to this character. Maybe this was the secret of his novels' popularity. Charles Dickens was fighting for children's rights and education. For this fight, he founded Urania Cottage, his own charity, in 1847. He mostly focused on issues of education and child poverty because of his childhood.

His notable works are "Pickwick Paper", "Oliver Twist", "Nicholas Nickleby", "A Christmas Carol", "David Copperfield", "Bleak House", "Little Dorrit", "A Tale of Two Cities", "Great Expectations", and so on.

Charles Dickens wrote two historical novels: "A Tale of Two Cities" and "Barnaby Rudge". "A Tale of Two Cities" is Charles Dickens's most popular novel. It is set in London and Paris and shows the atmosphere and the situation in 1775-1792 years. This novel is Charles Dickens's historical novel and it is published from 30 April to 29 November 1859. "A Tale of Two Cities" consists of three books and it was published in weekly installments in *All the Year Round*. While writing "A Tale of Two Cities" Charles Dickens read and used Thomas Carlyle's "The French Revolution". Carlyle's book was a perfect material for the factual events in Dickens's novel. For that reason, Charles Dickens contacted and asked for more and detailed information from Thomas Carlyle.

Dickens was inspired by "The Frozen Deep" by Wilkie Collins. When he was an actor, he performed in this play and there was a love triangle. So he created a love triangle between Charles Darnley, Lucie Manette, and Sydney Carton in his novel "A Tale of Two Cities". Besides that Sydney sacrificed himself for his love and his lover's family and this scene was also inspired by "The Frozen Deep".

The novel describes the French Revolution. It shows this revolution did not start suddenly and people had valid reasons for it. Before the French Revolution, aristocrats were living happily, they were doing whatever they wanted. Poor people were suffering from being exploited, starving, and dying for nothing. In the novel, aristocrats do not hesitate to hurt or kill poor people. When they hit children with their cars, aristocrats thought only about their cars. We can see these events in the novel. One gentleman hit a kid by his coach and threw away money. Killing a boy was nothing for this gentleman.

There are colorful and mysterious characters: Doctor Manette, Charles Darnay, Lucie Manette Darnay, Mr. Lorry, Miss Pross, Madame Defarge, Ernest Defarge, Jerry Cruncher, Sydney Carton, etc.

At the beginning of the book, we see Doctor Manette had been imprisoned for 18 years, and he did not have any information about his daughter, Lucie. Thanks to Mr. Lorry, they met and started to live together. In these scenes, we can see that innocent people were imprisoned for many years. And we can also see pure love for parents, especially for fathers. Lucie is the moral and emotional center of the book. She was a faithful wife, daughter, and mother.

Charles Darney is one of the main characters of the book. He was a French aristocrat, but Darney changed his name rejected inheritance, and moved to England. He was arrested and blamed for being a spy. Lucie and Dr. Manette saved his life, and their friendship began. Later Charles Darney fell in love with Lucie and they got married.

Until book 3 Darney was a passive character, he did not do anything to stop injustice. At the end of book 2, he decides to go to France and do something about this revolution. In this character, we can see good aristocrats, but weak ones. They know their families' cruelty, but they did not do anything, they waited and let events direct their fates and control their lives. They realized and understood it too late, like Darney.

When Darney went to Paris, he was arrested. Madame Defarge wanted to see him suffering, that is the reason why she was trying her best about that. At the end of the novel, Miss Pross (Lucie's nanny) killed Madam Defarge. Sydney Carton sacrificed himself for his love and her family. Carton and Darney look alike each other, so Carton was executed instead of Darney. Lucie and Darney lived happily ever after.

Charles Dickens's novel "A Tale of Two Cities" is not a hard book, its language is very easy, but readers must be patient. Because there are many details and readers should analyze each of them. Symbols help readers to understand the novel.

Wine is one of these symbols. It represents blood, the wasteful aristocracy, innocent people, execution, and needless deaths. The flowing wine in the streets shows the blood of the innocent people who were killed, tortured, and executed.

It also describes how aristocracy wastes their life and destroys other people's lives. Wine represents injustice.

Another symbol is Lucie. She represents light, hope for the future, and unconditional love. She saved his father's life and gave him a second chance. Giving birth to her daughter, Lucie, is the hope for the future.

Knitting is an important symbol in the novel. It represents cold-blooded revolutionaries. Madame Defarge always sat quietly knitting, at the same time she was sentencing her victims to death.

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### **ÇARLZ DIKKENS “İKİ ŞƏHƏRİN HEKAYƏTİ” XÜLASƏ**

Ədəbiyyat həmişə insanların həyatına, düşüncələrinə təsir edir və dəyişir. İnsanlar özlərini romanlardakı personajlarda və ya baş verən situasiyalarda tapırlar. İnqilabçı personajlar insanları öz hüquqları uğrunda və ədalətsizliyə qarşı mübarizəyə səsləyir və ruhlandırır. Roman oxumaq həm də təxəyyülümüzü inkişaf etdirməyə, tarixi və müasir hadisələri bilməyə kömək edir. Çarlz Dikkensin romanları öz dövründə və indi çox məşhurdur, çünki onun romanındakı personajlar və hadisələr həyatın müxtəlif tərəflərini göstərir. O romanlarında daha çox kasıb insanların həyatını və onların əzablarını təsvir edir. Çarlz Dikkens də kasıb bir ailədən idi və uşaqlığı yaxşı keçməmişdi, və bu da öz növbəsində Dikkensin əsərlərinə təsir etmişdi. Onun mükəmməl obrazlar yarada bilməsinin və hadisələri bu qədər canlı təsvir edə bilməsinin səbəbi budur. Çarlz Dikkens hər romanında oxuculara yeni dərs verir, onlara həyata və gələcəyə dair ümid verir. “İki şəhərin hekayəti”ndə yazıçı Fransa inqilabının ab-havasını uğurla təsvir edir. Personajlar uydurulsa da, tarixi hadisələr realdır. Oxucular bu inqilab və onun səbəbləri haqqında bilmək istəyirlərsə, bu roman öz oxucularına kömək edir. Əslində Çarlz Dikkensin uydurma personajları real personajları təmsil edir və onların hər birinin vəzifəsi var. Onlar təsadüfi yaradılmayıb, nəyisə və ya kimisə təmsil edirlər. Romanlarda

simvollar da mühüm yer tutur. Romanı başa düşmək üçün oxucular diqqətli olmalı və simvollara diqqət yetirməlidirlər. Oxuculara personajlar və ya hadisələr haqqında mesajlar verirlər.

**Açar sözlər:** Fransız İnqilabı, sevgi üçbucağı, aristokratlar, yoxsul insanlar, edam, simvollar, şərab, toxuculuq.

**АЙТАДЖ ГАДЖИЕВА**

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**Ключевые слова:** Французская революция, любовный треугольник, аристократы, бедняки, казнь, символы, вино, вязание.

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