

CHARLES DICKENS

A Tale of Two Cities

R.P. SEN GUPTA



Baron's Products

CONTENTS

1. The Life of Dickens	...	1
2. The Novels of Dickens	...	11
3. Dickens as a Novelist	...	22
4. What is a Novel ?	...	25
5. Historical Novel	...	28
6. Carlyle's <i>French Revolution</i>	...	33
7. Dickens and the French Revolution	...	37
8. Dickens the Satirist	...	43
9. The Characteristics of Dickens as a Novelist	...	51
10. The Historical Background of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	...	59
11. Critical Appreciation of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	...	63
12. The Themes of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	...	81
13. The Title of the Novel	...	90
14. Plot-Construction: Types of Plot: Distinction between Plot and Story	...	95
15. A Synopsis of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	...	106
16. The Prisons in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	...	116
17. La Guillotine	...	120
18. The Bastille	...	122

19. <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> : London and Paris London: The City of the Novel	... 126
20. The Names of Places in the Novel	... 130
21. The Time Element	... 136
22. The Sources of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	... 139
23. Chapter-wise Summary of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	... 143
24. The Character of Dr. Alexandre Manette	... 227
25. The Character of Lucie	... 233
26. The Character of Charles Darnay	... 237
27. The Character of Sydney Carton	... 241
28. The Character of Ernest Defarge	... 248
29. The Character of Madame Defarge	... 251
30. The Character of Jarvis Lorry	... 254
31. The Character of Miss Pross	... 258
32. The Character of Stryver	... 261
33. The Character of Jerry Cruncher	... 264
34. The Character of Mrs. Cruncher	... 267
35. The Character of John Barsad	... 268
36. The Character of Gaspard	... 270
37. The Character of Marquis d'Evremonde	... 272
38. Characters of Jacques Three, The Vengeance, Monsieur Gabelle, The Mender of Roads, and The Seamstress	... 274
39. Significant Passages and Sentences for Short Notes (Comprehension)	... 280
40. Select Literary Criticism	... 292
41. Important Questions with Answers	... 312
Q.1. What are the themes of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> ?	... 312
Q.2. Estimate <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> as a novel of love.	... 316

Q.3. What are the other types of Love, mentioned and illustrated in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> ?	... 319
Q.4. How has Dickens handled the theme of Prison ?	... 323
Q.5. Write an essay on the comic and humorous element in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> .	... 326
Q.6. What is Dickens' view about the French Revolution ?	... 329
Q.7. Would you call <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> a tragic novel? Substantiate your answer.	... 331
Q.8. Give an account of the scenes of terror and horror.	... 335
Q.9. How far is <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> autobiographical ?	... 339
Q.10. What is meant by Criticism of Life ? What is the 'Vision of life' ? Point out the criticism and vision of life in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> .	... 344
Q.11. Write a note on the plot construction of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> .	... 347
Q.12. What is meant by narrative technique ? Give an estimate of Dickens' narrative technique in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> .	... 351
Q.13. What is the significance of the code words in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> ? Explain, in short, their implications.	... 355
Q.14. To what extent can <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> be called a melodrama? Is the novel tragic in spite of the melodramatic element ?	... 362
Q.15. " <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> is a series of symbols". What is symbolism? What are the major symbols in the novel?	... 365
Q.16. How does Dickens interweave personal or private life and public events ?	... 369
Q.17. " <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> is a tale of two heroes". Discuss.	... 372

Q.18. Draw a comparison between Ernest Defarge and Madame Defarge.	... 375
Q.19. Write a short essay on Dickens' style as illustrated in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> .	... 377
Q.20. What role does 'Doubling' play in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> ?	... 382
Q.21. Compare and contrast Charles Darnay and Sydney Carton.	... 386
Q.22. How does Sydney Carton inspire the poor seamstress with courage and hope?	... 391
Q.23. Compare and contrast Sydney Carton and Stryver.	... 392
Q.24. "Resurrection and regeneration are not the only themes of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> ." Discuss.	... 394
Q.25. Give an estimate of Dickens' art of characterisation with reference to, <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> .	... 397
Q.26. What is coincidence? Point out some of the coincidences in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> ?	... 401
Q.27. Is there a moral in <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> ?	... 406
42. Short Questions with Answers (Comprehension)	... 410
43. Multiple Choice Questions with Answers	... 443
44. True and False Questions with Answers	... 457
45. FILL IN THE BLANKS	... 459
46. The Major Characters of <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> in Various Chapters: A Ready Reckoner	... 461
47. The Complete List of Dickens' Works with Full Titles	... 462
48. Important Dates in the Life of Dickens	... 464
Select Bibliography	... 467