

*A Tale of Two Cities* Study Guide  
English 10 Honors

The following is a breakdown of the three sections of the unit test.

**Part I:** Historical Context and Dickens Biography— review notes

**Part II:** The Characters and Plot—you should be able to recognize and explain who every character is in the novel

**Part III:** Quote/Passage Analysis—be familiar with each quote below. Use **SIFTT** (Symbols, Imagery, Figurative Language, Tone and Theme) as the lens through which to analyze each quote. You should be able to identify **WHO** is speaking, in **WHAT** context, and **WHY** it’s significant to the plot (this includes rhetorical/literary devices), and what **subject theme(s)** it invokes.

*Know how apply the following rhetorical devices to quotes/passages (definitions are in your literary terms packet):*

allegory anaphora metaphor paradox simile repetition characterization foil	imagery foreshadowing symbol dynamic character static character flat character round character satire (verbal irony)	allusion diction conflict personification tone mood point-of-view
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**Subject themes:** family, love, warfare, class disparity, loyalty, oppression, and redemption

**Book 1: Recalled to Life**

Chapter 1

1. “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,...—in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of its noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil in the superlative degree of comparison only” (7).
2. Thus did the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five conduct their Greatnesses, and myriads of small creatures—the creatures of this chronicle among the rest—along the roads that lay before them” (9).

Chapter 4

3. "...digging, digging, digging..." (23).
4. "“These are mere business relations, miss; there is no friendship in them,...in short, I have no feelings; I am a mere machine.”” (27)

#### Chapter 5

5. "The wine was red wine, and had stained the ground...scrawled upon a wall with his finger dipped in muddy winelees—BLOOD" (33).
6. "Indeed they were at sea, and the ship and crew were in peril of tempest" (35).

<b>Book 2: The Golden Thread</b>
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#### Chapter 1

7. "Tellson's Bank by Temple Bar was an old-fashioned place,...Tellson's (they said) wanted no elbow-room, Tellson's wanted no light, Tellson's wanted no embellishment" (57).
8. "“a honest tradesman”” (62).
9. "When the Attorney-General ceased, a buzz arose in the court as if a cloud of great blue-flies were swarming about the prisoner, in anticipation of what he was soon to become" (71).
10. "...and a loud buzz swept into the street as if the baffled blue-flies were dispersing in search of other carrion" (83).

#### Chapter 4

11. "She was the golden thread that united him to a Past beyond his misery, and to a Present beyond his misery:..." (85).
12. "“Do you particularly like the man?”....Come on, and have it out in plain words! You hate the fellow”” (91).
13. "...a long winding-sheet in the candle dripping down upon him" (91).

#### Chapter 5

14. "Waste forces within him and a desert all around,...sensible of the blight upon him, and resigning himself to let it eat him away" (97).

## Chapter 6

15. "The summer light struck into the corner brilliantly...a wonderful place for echoes and a very harbor from the raging streets" (98).

## Chapter 7

16. "Monseigneur, one of the great lords in power at the Court,...he must have died of two" (109).
17. "The leprosy of unreality...things in general were going rather wrong" (112).
18. "The exquisite gentlemen of the finest breeding...that fanned Saint Antoine and his devouring hunger far away" (113).
19. He was driven on, and other carriages came whirling by...The rats had crept out of their holes to look on, and they remained looking for hours;" (117).

## Chapter 8

20. "Heralded by a courier in advance,...as if he came attended by the Furies,..." (119).

## Chapter 9

21. "Detestation of the high is the involuntary homage of the low" (128).

## Chapter 13

22. "O Miss Manette, when the little picture of a happy father's face looks up in yours,...to keep a life you love beside you" (159).

<b>Book : The Track of a Storm</b>
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## Chapter 2

23. "The grindstone had a double handle,...any unbrutalised beholder would have given twenty years of life, to petrify with a well-directed gun" (271-272).

## Chapter 9

24. "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord:...and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die" (323).

## Chapter 12

25. ““Then tell the Wind and Fire where to stop,”” returned madame but don’t tell me”” (352).

#### Chapter 14

26. “But, her courage was of that emotional nature...Madame Defarge so little comprehended as to mistake for weakness” (378).

27. “It was in vain for Madame Defarge to struggle and strike; Miss Pross with the vigorous tenacity of love, always so much stronger than hate, clasped her tight...” (379).

#### Chapter 15

28. “They said of him, about the city that night...Many added that he looked sublime and prophetic” (385).

29. ““It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to than I have ever known” (386).