

English

Lesson 1: Oliver, Bill & the Maylies

Oliver Meets Bill

Mr Johnston



1. Bill is violent.

Wild
animal

The man who **growled** out these words, was a stoutly-built fellow of about five-and-thirty.. He disclosed...two scowling eyes; one of which **displayed various parti-coloured symptoms of having been recently damaged by a blow.**

Recent
fight

Credit: *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens 1838 (Project Gutenberg)



Complete the paragraph

Dickens presents Bill a a violent villain through describing_____. This description suggests_____.

Dickens further emphasises Bill's violent nature through describing_____. This description suggests_____

'Growled'	One of Bill's eyes displays 'various parti-coloured symptoms of having been recently damaged by a blow.'	Fight	Wild animal
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2. Bill is a criminal.

The man who growled out these words, was...in...very soiled drab breeches ... which inclosed a bulky pair of legs... -- **the kind of legs, which in such costume, always look in an unfinished and incomplete state without a set of fetters to garnish them.**

Fetters - chains



**Belongs in
prison**



Credit: *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens 1838 (Project Gutenberg)



Complete the paragraph

Dickens presents Bill as a villainous criminal through describing_____. This description suggests_____.

Bill has ‘the kind of legs, which in such costume, always look in an unfinished and incomplete state without a set of fetters to garnish them.’	Chains	Prison
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3. Bill is intimidating.

Muscular

The man who growled out these words, was a **stoutly-built** fellow of about five-and-thirty, in...very soiled drab breeches...which inclosed a bulky pair of legs, with **large swelling calves**...He disclosed...a broad heavy countenance with a beard of three days' growth, and two **scowling eyes.**'

Angry

Credit: *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens 1838 (Project Gutenberg)



Complete the paragraph

Dickens presents Bill as an intimidating villain through_____.
This description suggests_____. Dickens further emphasises
Bill's intimidating appearance through_____. This
description suggests_____

'Stoutly built'	'Large swelling calves'	'Two scowling eyes'	Muscular	Angry
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Oliver jumped suddenly to his feet, and tore wildly from the room: uttering shrieks for help, which made the bare old house echo to the roof.

'Keep back the dog, Bill!' cried Nancy, springing before the door, and closing it, as the Jew and his two pupils darted out in pursuit. 'Keep back the dog; he'll tear the boy to pieces.'

'Serve him right!' cried Sikes, struggling to disengage himself from the girl's grasp.
'Stand off from me, or I'll split your head against the wall.'

'I don't care for that, Bill, I don't care for that,' screamed the girl, struggling violently with the man, **'the child shan't be torn down by the dog, unless you kill me first.'**

'Shan't he!' said Sikes, setting his teeth. 'I'll soon do that, if you don't keep off.'

The housebreaker flung the girl from him to the further end of the room, just as the Jew and the two boys returned, dragging Oliver among them.



'Well, then, keep quiet,' rejoined Sikes, with a growl like that he was accustomed to use when addressing his dog, 'or I'll quiet you for a good long time to come.'

The girl laughed again: even less composedly than before; and, darting a hasty look at Sikes, turned her face aside, and bit her lip till the blood came.

'You're a nice one,' added Sikes, as he surveyed her with a contemptuous air, 'to take up the humane and gen—teel side! A pretty subject for the child, as you call him, to make a friend of!'

'God Almighty help me, I am!' cried the girl passionately; 'and I wish I had been struck dead in the street, or had changed places with them we passed so near to-night, before I had lent a hand in bringing him here. He's a thief, a liar, a devil, all that's bad, from this night forth. Isn't that enough for the old wretch, without blows?'



Extension Task

‘How does Dickens present Bill as a villainous character in this extract?’

Write a paragraph/essay on the question above.

