

ANSWERS



1. This is a picture of gruel.

What do you think it means when the ladies 'ladled the gruel'?

They dished/spooned out the gruel. (Accept food or porridge also)

2. What do you think Charles Dickens meant when he wrote 'The bowls never wanted washing'?

The bowls never needed to be cleaned as the boys ate every last bit/morsel of food.

They boys scraped them clean.

3. Tick which group of words has the closest meaning to the word 'devour'.

eat slowly

demolish

eat hungrily

4. What did 'that one boy, who was tall for his age' warn the other boys he might have to do?

If he was unable to get another bowl of gruel to eat, then he would have to eat one of the (smaller) boys during the night.

5. What does 'implicitly' mean in the quotation 'they implicitly believed him'?

impishly

wholeheartedly

foolishly



6. Who was picked to ask for more?

Oliver Twist

7. Find and copy the word that tells us the master was stood at the copper.

stationed

8. In the paragraph starting, 'The evening arrives..' it describes how Oliver approaches the master. Find two examples of how he's feeling.

1. hungry/ 'hunger'
2. miserable / 'reckless with misery'

9. Find and copy the word that tells us he is moving towards his master.

advancing

10. Find three examples of how the master reacts to Oliver's request.

1. 'turned very pale'
2. gazed in stupefied astonishment
3. clung for support to the copper

Can also include:

- answered in 'a faint voice'
- 'aimed a blow at Oliver's head with the ladle'
- 'pinioned him in his arms'
- 'shrieked aloud for the beadle'

