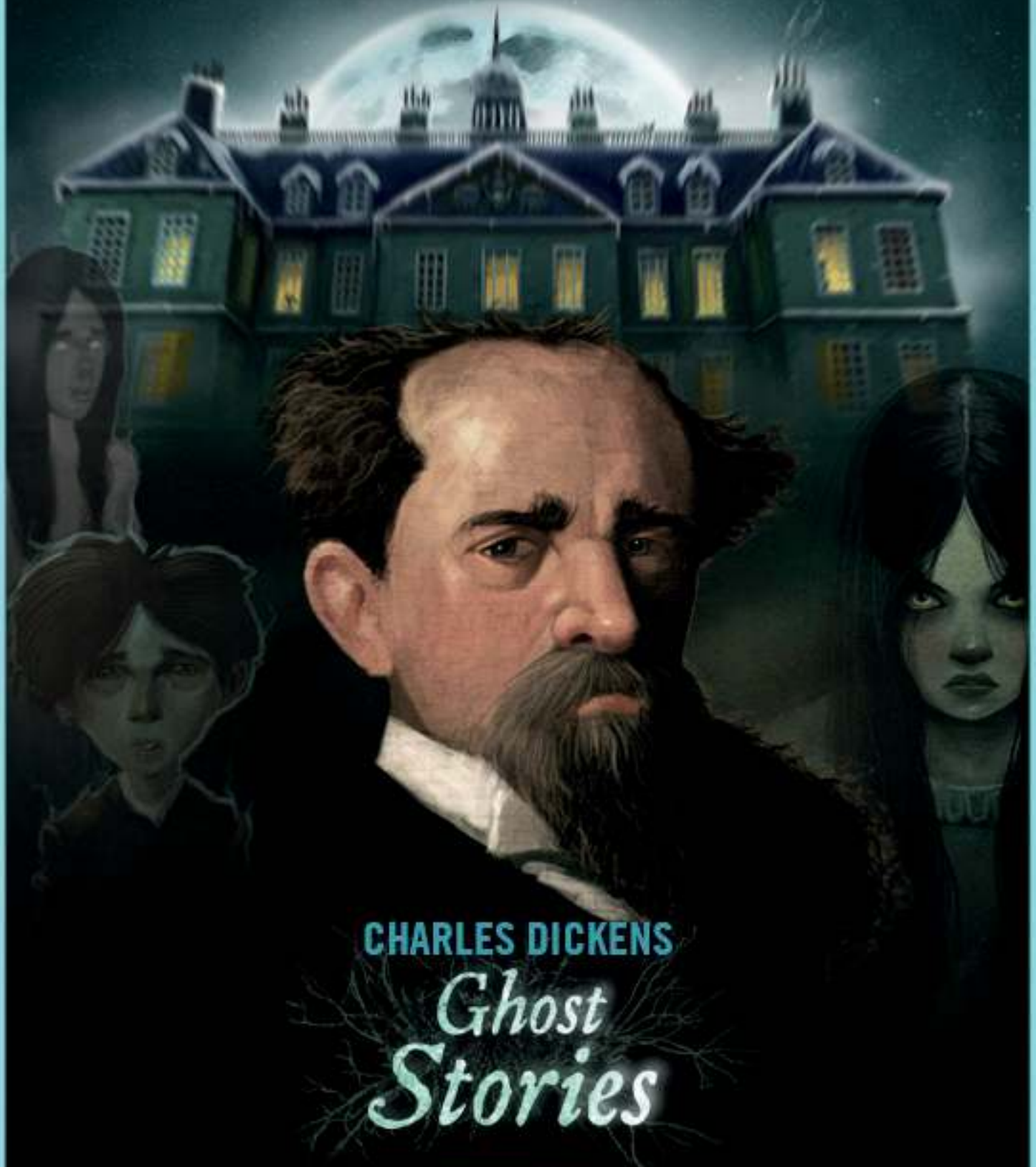
STUDENT ACTIVITY WORKBOOK



CHARLES DICKENS
Ghost Stories

FEATURING:

A MADMAN'S MANUSCRIPT • CHRISTMAS GHOST
THE LAWYER AND THE GHOST • THE IVY GREEN

Character Analysis

Fill in the tables below with details of the ghosts in Dickens' ghost stories.
Provide as much detail as you can.

Character	Description of ghost or supernatural situation (provide as much detail as possible)	Haunting activities (what does the ghost do when it appears, what impact does it have on others, and/or what does it mean?)	Reason for haunting (if known)
 THE GREEN CAVALIER AND THE PALE HOUSEKEEPER			
 LADY MARY AND THE CARRIAGES			
 THE TWO FRIENDS' COMPACT			

Character Analysis

Fill in the tables below with details of the ghosts in Dickens' ghost stories.
Provide as much detail as you can.

Character	Description of ghost or supernatural situation (provide as much detail as possible)	Haunting activities (what does the ghost do when it appears, what impact does it have on others, and/or what does it mean?)	Reason for haunting (if known)
 THE DAUGHTER IN THE ELIZABETHAN HOUSE			
 COUSIN HARRY FROM BOMBAY			
 THE ORPHAN BOY			

Matching exercise

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image.

We can't help peeping out over the counterpane, at the two black figures and the cavalier – that wicked-looking cavalier – in green.	1	A 
We say "This is very foolish, but we can't stand this; we'll pretend to be ill, and knock up somebody"	2	B 
Well we are just going to do it, when the locked door opens, and there comes in a young woman, deadly pale, and with long fair hair	3	C 
He was false to a housekeeper once attached to that family, and famous for her beauty, who drowned herself in a pond, and whose body was discovered, after a long time, because the stags refused to drink of the water.	4	D 
"Do not come near me. I am dead. I am here to redeem my promise. I come from another world, but may not disclose its secrets!"	5	E 
"Who is that pretty forlorn-looking child who has been peeping out of that closet all night?"	6	F 
From fatal experience, the parents came to know that this was the Orphan Boy, and that the course of that child whom he chose for his little playmate was surely run.	7	G 

Glossary

Fens (n) a low and marshy area of land
Hare (n) a fast-running animal that looks like a large rabbit
Fern (n) a flowerless, leafy plant
Nobleman (n) a man of the aristocracy
Cavalier (n) a courtly gentleman
Baronial (n) a turreted style of building
Hearth (n) the floor of the fireplace
Cleave (v) to stick to
Girdle (n) a belt or cord worn round the waist
Wretched (adj) in a very unhappy or unfortunate state
Queer (adj) strange, odd
Wings (n) parts of a large building
Fatigued (adj) extremely tired
Compact (n) a formal agreement
Twain (n) two
Bureau (n) a writing desk
Elizabethan (adj) relating to the reign of Queen Elizabeth I
Twilight (n) the soft glowing light visible when the sun is below the horizon
Shied (v) to make a sudden startled movement (especially a horse)
Spurs (n) spikes worn in horse-riders heels to urge a horse forward
Faculties (n) abilities
Heir (n) the person entitled to inherit another's fortune
Decamp (v) to leave a place suddenly
Closet (v) to shut yourself or someone away in privacy
Forenoon (n) the morning



Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

1. What does the narrator think everybody should do at Christmas?
a. Come home and have a rest
b. Buy each other lots of presents
c. Do something kind for another person
d. Nothing – he hates Christmas

2. How many figures can you see in the window of the big house on page 2? *
a. 10
b. 2
c. 3
d. None

3. What animals are lurking between the trees and ferns on page 3? *
a. A wolf and an owl
b. 2 wolves, 2 deer and a hare
c. 2 wolves

4. What does the narrator compare the watchful eyes of the animals to?
a. Icy dewdrops on the leaves
b. The burning of small fires in the distance
c. Lighthouses flashing a warning

5. What happens to the standing wolf on page 3? *
a. He kills the hare
b. His head falls off
c. He jumps at the screen with his jaws hanging open

6. Who is the narrator?
a. A wanderer
b. A middle-aged nobleman
c. Santa Claus
d. The King of a distant land

7. What portrait hangs over the fireplace in the narrators room?
a. The half-shaded face of a fair maiden
b. A cavalier in green
c. An aged duke

8. What does the narrator find not agreeable about the cavalier and the black figures (even though they are not by any means superstitious)?
a. How realistic they look in the firelight
b. That they appear to move towards and away from him
c. That they seem to have been taken from a nearby graveyard

9. Who comes through the locked door and sits by the fire?
a. The cavalier, dressed in green
b. A very pale young woman with wet clothes
c. A ghostly figure draped in a dark and tattered robe

10. What descriptions below describe the pale girl? Choose all that apply.
a. Wet clothes
b. Glowing eyes
c. Muddy hair
d. Dressed in the fashion of 200 years ago
e. Wearing an opal necklace
f. Grinding her teeth in anxiety
g. Pale

11. What does the pale girl say to the cavalier in a low, terrible voice?
a. “They won’t open”
b. “The prophecy is begun”
c. “The stags know it!”

*For these questions, refer to the App: “Charles Dickens”

Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

12. What materializes behind the writing as the narrator learns the story behind the painting of the cavalier? *
a. A stag
b. A drowning face
c. The green cavalier

13. How did the cavalier's family discover the body of the beautiful housekeeper?
a. She washed up drowned on the shore
b. The dogs of a hunting party alerted them
c. The stags refused to drink the water

14. Why does Lady Mary think there is a party going on while she's sleeping?
a. She hears music and laughter
b. She hears carriages beneath her window
c. She dreams about a huge ball

15. Who signs to Lady Mary to say no more?
a. Her husband
b. Lord Archibald of Wane
c. Charles Macdoodle of Macdoodle
d. Her mother

16. Where is the friend staying when he sees the ghost of his old college friend?
a. The Scottish Highlands
b. The Yorkshire Moors
c. A distant Scandinavian forest

17. What flashes across the face of the girl the withered flowers when you tap her? *
a. A look of desperate fear
b. A skull
c. Bloody wounds

18. Where and when does the uncle of the narrator's brother's wife come across the man in the cloak?
a. In a field of poppies at sunrise
b. At the centre of a narrow way at sunset
c. Near his own house at dawn
d. In a dark cave at midnight

19. Why didn't the sensible maiden lady ever marry?
a. No one ever asked her
b. Her lover died young
c. She was mistrustful of men
d. She wanted to keep her freedom

20 Who does the sensible maiden see peeking out of her closet during the night?
a. A handsome young maiden girl
b. A pretty forlorn-looking child
c. A mouse
d. A strange apparition

21. How many children can you see beside the oak tree? *
a. 1
b. 2
c. 3
d. 4

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Charles Dickens"

Writing

PART 1. Create your own ghost story. First fill in the table with information about your story.

PART 2. Once you have filled in the table, write your ghost story out in full. Try and mimic Dicken's style in Christmas Ghosts.

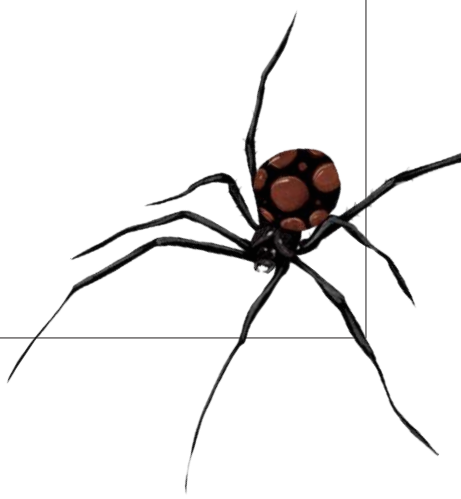
My Ghost Story







Description of ghost or supernatural situation (provide as much detail as possible)	Haunting activities (what does the ghost do when it appears, what impact does it have on others, and/or what does it mean?)	Reason for haunting (if known)



Fill in the table below about The Ivy Green.

Name of plant	Where does it grow?	What is special about it?
 THE IVY GREEN		



1. Match each phrase from the story with an image.

Oh, a dainty plant is the Ivy green
That creepeth o'er ruins old

1

A



Creeping where grim death has been
A rare old plant is the Ivy green

2

B



The brave old plant, in its lonely days
Shall fatten upon the past

3

C



Glossary

Creepeth (v) creeps
Choice (adj) good quality
Ween (v) to think or suppose
Whim (n) a sudden desire, often unusual or unexpected
Mouldering (v) slowly decaying
Stealeth (v) moves quickly and quietly
Staunch (adj) strong or firm
Twineth (v) winds around
Traileth (v) moves slowly or is drawn along behind something
Wretched (adj) in a very unhappy or unfortunate state
Hale (adj) strong and healthy
Stately (adj) impressive or grand

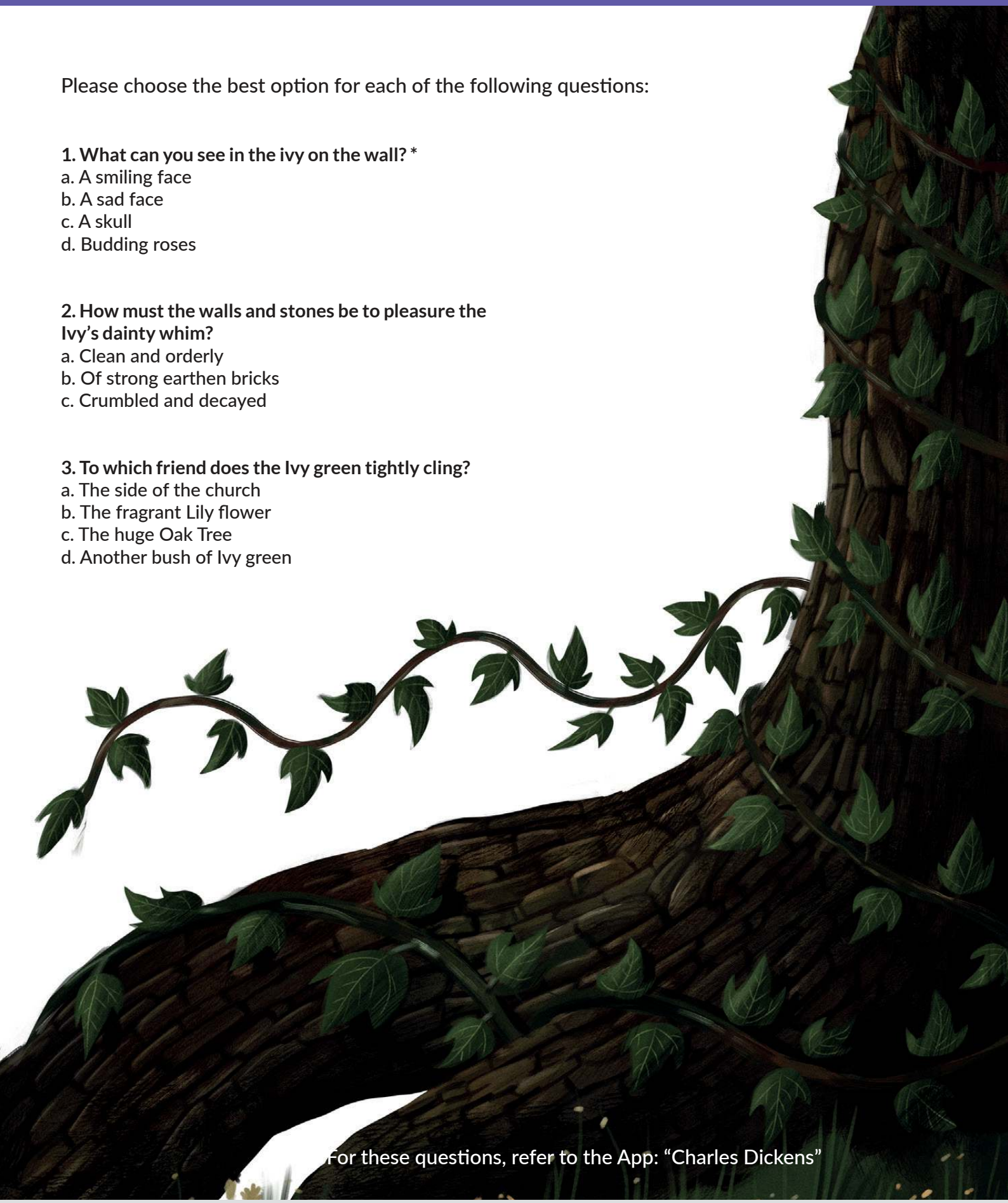


Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

1. What can you see in the ivy on the wall? *
a. A smiling face
b. A sad face
c. A skull
d. Budding roses

2. How must the walls and stones be to pleasure the Ivy's dainty whim?
a. Clean and orderly
b. Of strong earthen bricks
c. Crumbled and decayed

3. To which friend does the Ivy green tightly cling?
a. The side of the church
b. The fragrant Lily flower
c. The huge Oak Tree
d. Another bush of Ivy green



For these questions, refer to the App: "Charles Dickens"

1. Choose a different plant that you like. Fill in the table below about your plant.

Name of plant	
 Where does it grow?	
What is special about it?	

2. The Ivy Green is written in rhyming couplets, which means that the last word of every second line rhymes. The last two lines on each page rhyme directly. Look at the extract from the poem below as an example, then write a short poem (10 lines) about your plant, in rhyming couplets, in the style of the Ivy Green.

Oh, a dainty plant is the Ivy green,
That creepeth o'er ruins old!
Of right choice food are his meals, I ween,
In his cell so lone and cold.
The wall must be crumbled, the stone decayed,
To pleasure his dainty whim:
And the mouldering dust that years have made
Is a merry meal for him.
Creeping where no life is seen,
A rare old plant is the Ivy green.

Fill in the table about the ghost in the wood press.

Character	Description of ghost (provide as much detail as possible)	Haunting activities (What does the ghost do? When does it appear?)	Reason for haunting
 THE GHOST IN THE WOODEN PRESS			



Matching exercise

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image.

among the rest, was a great lumbering wooden press for papers, with large glass doors, and a green curtain inside

1

there was something in the hue of the skin, and gaunt and unearthly appearance of the whole form, which no being of this world was ever seen to wear.

2

'Don't throw the poker at me' replied the form: 'If you hurled it with ever so sure an aim, it would pass through me, without resistance, and expend its force on the wood behind.'

3

'Egad, that's very true; I never thought of that before', said the ghost.

4

A



B



C



D



Glossary

Chamber (n) room
Press (n) cupboard
Credit (n) the ability to buy something without paying upfront, based on the trust that you will pay later
Carcase (n) the remains of something
Fender (n) a low frame bordering a fireplace
Poker (n) a metal rod used to stir fire
Apparel (n) clothes
Countenance (n) face
Hue (n) a colour or shade
Gaunt (adj) very thin and haggard
Wily (adj) skilled at gaining advantage
Harpy (n) a monster with a woman's head and body and a bird's wings and claws
Farthing (n) a coin (money) formerly used in the UK, withdrawn in 1961
Egad (exclamation) expressing surprise
Confer (v) to discuss with someone



Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

1. Why did the man take the chambers at the old inn even though they were damp, rotten and far from being cheerful?
a. Because he had a strange attachment to the place
b. Because his grandmother used to own it
c. Because he was poor
d. Because he liked old, rotten things

2. How many gallons of whiskey did the man order on credit?
a. 2
b. 5
c. 1
d. None – he had no credit left to use

3. What did the man initially think the faint groan must be?
a. A mouse
b. Someone in the next room who had eaten out
c. The ghost of his grandmother
d. The wooden press

4. What happens when you tap the pale figure? *
a. His limbs and head come off
b. He emits a low groan
c. The green light around him radiates outwards

5. Why is the room important to the apparition?
a. He used to own the inn
b. It is where he and his children were financially ruined
c. It is where he was murdered

6. What does the tenant want to ask the apparition?
a. How he came to be financially ruined
b. Who the two harpies that divided up his fortune were and how he met them
c. Where his children are now
d. Why he keeps visiting the sight of his misery rather than the nicest places in the world

7. What bad aspects of the apartment does the narrator point out to the ghost? Choose all that apply.
a. It is uncomfortable
b. The surrounding climate is disagreeable
c. It doesn't have enough furniture
d. It is in a dangerous neighbourhood
e. The presence of bugs

8. What insects can you see in the room with the narrator and the ghost? Choose all that apply. *
a. A red spotted spider
b. A large cockroach
c. A green striped spider
d. A small woodlouse

9. How does the Ghost respond to the narrator's question?
a. He flies through the man's heart, killing him
b. He begins to weep profusely
c. He politely agrees and vanishes to find a fairer spot

10. What is rather remarkable about the end of the story?
a. The tenant began to haunt the same press as the apparition
b. Ghosts are determined to be miserable
c. The ghost left and never came back

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Charles Dickens"

1. The tenant manages to convince the ghost to stop haunting the site of his misery and to use his powers to see the fairest spots on earth. He even convinces him to spread the word to other ghosts to do the same!

Imagine you are the ghost. You have just left the old inn on your new mission. Write a message to your friend – another ghost, who haunts a new farm house. In your message:

a. Refresh their memory as to why you were haunting the old inn.
b. Show that you understand why they haunt the old farmhouse – make up a reason and describe it.
c. Describe your meeting with the tenant and explain the decision you have now taken to stop haunting and enjoy beautiful places instead.
d. Try to convince them to stop haunting the old farm house and join you.





Character Analysis

Fill in the table below with information about the characters in The Madman's Manuscript. Provide as much information as possible in each box.

Character	Physical description	Personality description	Relationship to other character	Role in the story (what are the most important things the character does in the story?)	Narrator's opinion of the character
 NARRATOR					
 BRIDE					
 THREE HAUGHTY BROTHERS					
 WHITE-HEADED FATHER					

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image.

Ho! Ho! It's a grand thing to be mad! to be peeped at like a wild lion through the iron bars – to gnash one's teeth and howl, through the long still night	1	A 
I knew they were telling each other of the doomed madman; and I slunk away again to mope in solitude	2	B 
They screamed it into my head till the room rang with it, that in one generation before him the madness slumbered, but that his grandfather had lived for years with his hands fettered to the ground to prevent his tearing himself to pieces.	3	C 
I should have known that the girl would rather have been placed, stiff and cold in a dull leaden coffin, than borne an envied bride to my rich, glittering house.	4	D 
That figure never moves; it never frowns and mouths as others do, that fill this place sometimes; but it is much more dreadful to me, even than the spirits that tempted me many years ago.	5	D 

Matching exercise

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image.

Now I could have killed her without a struggle; but the house was alarmed.	6	F 
The proud brothers dropped a tear over the insensible corpse of her whose sufferings they had regarded in her lifetime with muscles of iron.	7	G 
His face grew purple; his eyes were starting from his head, and with protruded tongue, he seemed to mock me.	8	H 
I was borne upon the arms of demons who swept along upon the wind, and bore down bank and hedge before them, and spun me round and round with a rustle and a speed that made my head spin.	9	I 

Glossary

Rouse (v) wake up
Dew (n) tiny drops of water that form on surfaces at night due to the cooler temperature
Monarch (n) king or queen
Gripe (v) complain
Gnash (v) grind your teeth together
Twine (v) to wind around something
Weary (adj) tired
Marrow (n) the substance on the inside of bones
Pestilence (n) a fatal epidemic disease
Dusky (adj) dark in colour
Fetter (v) restrain with chains or manacles
Dexterity (n) skill
Court (v) to pursue someone for marriage
Profuse (adj) very plentiful
Deference (n) submission and respect
Gay (adj) brightly coloured or light-hearted
Borne (v) carried
Wretched (adj) in a very unhappy or unfortunate state
Resolve (v) decide
Jest (n) joke
Stropping (v) sharpening
Listless (adj) lacking energy or enthusiasm
Placid (adj) calm and peaceful
Cowed (v) intimidate
Quail (v) to feel or show fear or apprehension
Bereft (adj) lacking
Gaudy (adj) extravagant or over-the-top
Resound (v) to fill or echo throughout a place
Insensible (adj) unable to use your mental faculties
Mirth (n) amusement
Behold (v) see
Dissipation (n) overindulgence in sensual pleasures
Reproach (v) express disapproval
Puling (v) crying weakly
Eddy (v) move in a circular way
Brawny (adj) strong and muscular
Hatchet (n) a small axe
Rivulet (n) a small stream of water
Seldom (adv) rarely
Gambol (v) run or jump playfully



Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

1. Why is the narrator no longer scared of the term "madman"?
a. Because he has now recovered from his mental problems
b. Because of the fear commanded by the mad
c. Because it is simply a word, nothing more
d. He was never scared of the term

2. What creature rears up out of the flames on page 2? *
a. A white dragon
b. A red snake
c. A swarm of cockroaches
d. A dark lion

3. Why does the narrator claim to have known that he would become mad?
a. He deliberately nurtured madness within himself
b. Madness runs in his family
c. He had a terrible experience that would drive anyone to madness

4. What did the narrator do when the madness came over him?
a. He kept it secret and continued to live a normal life
b. He immediately turned himself over the to authorities
c. He strapped himself to his bed and told his servant not to let him out

5. How many brothers did the narrator's new wife have?
a. 3
b. 1
c. She had no siblings
d. She had no brothers, but 3 sisters

6. Why wasn't the bride happy with the marriage?
a. She realised that her new husband was a madman
b. She was in love with a dark-eyed boy
c. She disagreed with the institution of marriage

7. How does the narrator know the girl was beautiful, despite his failure to remember forms or faces?
a. Her wasted form appears in his cells on bright moonlit nights
b. He keeps her photograph on his bedside
c. She comes to visit him every weekend

8. What makes the narrator determined to kill his wife?
a. He develops a wild hatred for her
b. He wants to see what it will feel like
c. He doesn't want her to give birth to a child destined to pass madness down to further generations
d. Her haughty brothers and white-haired father cause him grave offence

9. What methods of murder does the narrator initially consider? Choose all that apply.
tb. Beheading
c. Drowning
d. Fire
e. Starvation

10. What can you see in the wide and terrified eyes of the narrator's wife? *
a. Glistening tears
b. The silhouette of the narrator, raising his razor
c. Flickering green flames

*For these questions, refer to the App: "Charles Dickens"

Please choose the best option for each of the following questions:

11. What freezes the narrator in his tracks?
a. His wife's eyes fixed on his
b. The realisation of the ghastly deed he's about to commit
c. His wife leaps up and pins him to the bed

12. Why doesn't the narrator kill his wife immediately?
a. He decides to continue to torment her first
b. Her fixed gaze causes him to have a change of heart
c. Her shrieks alert the rest of the house to the commotion

13. What does the cleverest doctor tell the narrator?
a. That his wife is mad
b. That he knows that he tried to murder his wife
c. That his wife will soon die

14. What happens to the narrator when he remembers how he finally let the world see his madness?
a. He emits a terrible cackle
b. He feels an urge to end his life
c. The strength of a giant comes over him

15. Who came to see the narrator with urgent visit on the night that his madness came out?
a. His dead wife's proudest brother
b. His dead wife's white-headed father
c. A young messenger boy
d. His dead wife's beloved dark-eyed boy

16. What does the narrator's visitor say to him?
a. That his recent behaviour has insulted his wife's memory
b. He asks him for money
c. He comforts him about the death of his wife
d. He cannot find the words to speak

17. What happens to the narrator's visitor when the narrator finally turns his gaze on him?
a. He is filled with a senseless fury
b. He begins to weep openly
c. He draws back and grows fearful
d. He smiles and becomes more gentle

18. What flits across the page as the narrator flees the room to escape his assailants? *
a. A blue serpent
b. A red demon
c. A dark lion

19. Where is the narrator when he wakes up?
a. In a hospital bed
b. In a gray cell
c. Alone in the woods

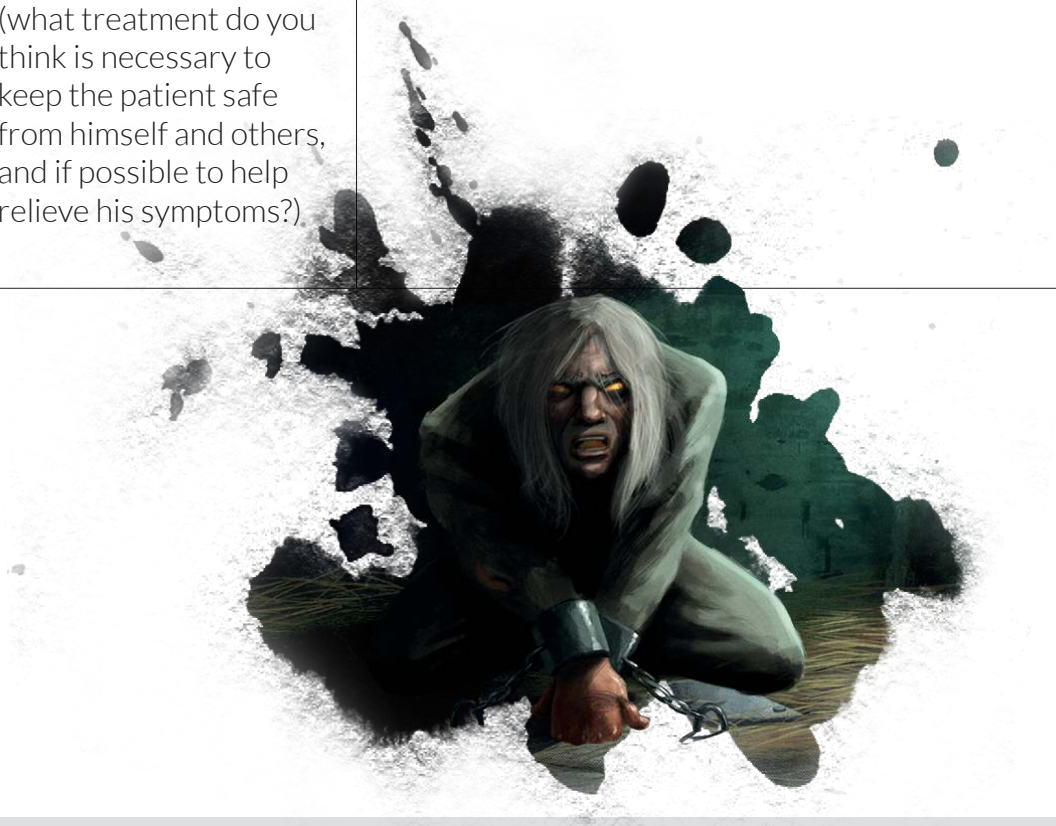
20. What happens to the pale form of the narrator's wife when you tap it? *
a. It jerks towards the screen and becomes a red-eyed monster
b. It fades further into the darkness
c. It disappears in a flash of bright light

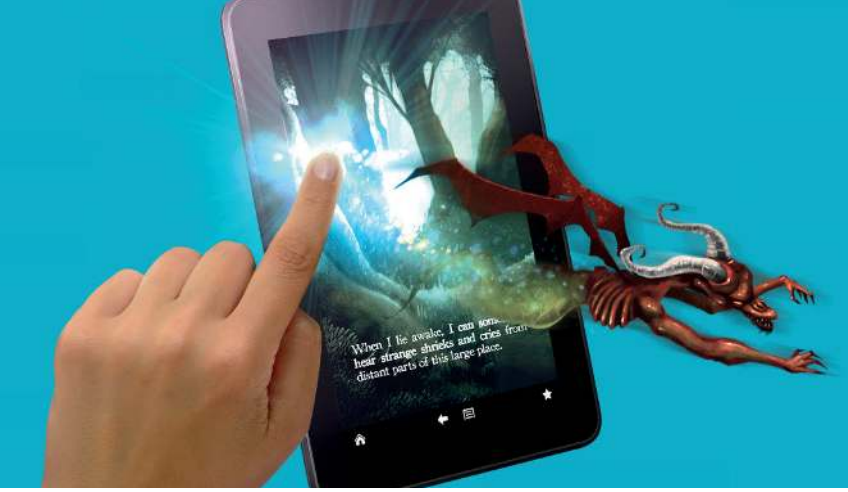
*For these questions, refer to the App: "Charles Dickens"

1.Imagine you are a doctor at the madhouse where the narrator is locked up. Fill out the table below describing your patient's physical and mental state. Suggest what treatment you think would be suitable for him.



Physical symptoms (what unusual physical actions does the patient do?)	
Mental delusions (how does the patient describe himself and his condition? Does he experience any hallucinations? If so, what?)	
Suggested treatment (what treatment do you think is necessary to keep the patient safe from himself and others, and if possible to help relieve his symptoms?)	





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