Character Analysis

Name: _____

Date: _____

Fill in the table below about *The Ivy Green*. Use the poem and the illustrations.

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

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Matching exercise

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image. Draw a line to join them.

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

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

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

A 

B 

C 

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Glossary

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

BEFORE YOU READ

Have you ever seen a plant growing over an old wall or ruin? What does it make the place look like?

Poems can describe a plant as if it were a character. What could a plant want, feel or plan?

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

1. 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

2. 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

If you read it in the iClassics app

Answer these extra questions about what you discover as you read:

1. What can you see in the ivy on the wall (first illustration)?

_____

Think like a detective

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer in full sentences. Support your ideas with evidence from the text.

1. The ivy is called “dainty” and “rare”, yet it feeds on ruins and decay. Why does Dickens describe something so grim with such cheerful words?

2. The poem says the ivy will “fatten upon the past”. What do you think this means, and what might Dickens be saying about time and what lasts?

3. Find the places where the ivy is described like a person (it has a “whim”, a “meal”, a “friend”). What effect does this personification have on the reader?

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Writing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part 1. Choose a different plant that you like and fill in the table. **Part 2.** *The Ivy Green* is written in rhyming couplets (the last two lines of each stanza rhyme directly). Write a short poem of 10 lines about your plant, in rhyming couplets, in the style of the Ivy Green.

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

