



Reading Comprehension: Marking Guide

...because your child comes first

1. The Workhouse
2. The students should receive **1 point** for identifying what Oliver *thinks* the board is, and **1 point** for identifying what the board *actually* is. Oliver conceives of the 'board' as he would a board or plank of wood, whereas the 'board' is actually a Board of Directors, or a group of men in charge of running the workhouse.
3. The students should aim to include two quotes in their answers, with an explanation for each quote. Students should focus on the fact that the gentlemen are "fat", and thus a large, imposing presence compared to a small, frightened Oliver. Students should also point out that the image of the men sitting at a table, in high chairs, emphasizes their authority and thus makes them seem intimidating.
4. Students must identify both reasons why the gentlemen think that Oliver is a fool: **1 point** for Oliver stumbling over the question of his name as a result of Mr. Bumble's prodding, and **1 point** for Oliver not know what an orphan is.
5. Students must list both reasons: **1 point** for 'education' and **1 point** for 'to learn a trade'.
6. The answers to this question may vary, but should emphasise that Oliver seems to meek, and extremely scared by his current environment. Answer may also point to the fact that Oliver finds his current situation very confusing. Acceptable answer may also include references to his unfortunate childhood. All answers must be supported by an appropriate quote from the text in order to receive full credit, with **1 point** to be awarded for each correct observation, and **1 point** to be awarded for a well-chosen supporting quote.
7. To receive full marks for this question, students should describe the sarcastic or ironic tone that the narrator takes throughout the passage (for which they can earn **2 points**), and support their assertion with appropriate examples. Appropriate quotes must be included, and **1 point** should be awarded for each.
8. Answer should focus on the uncomfortable environment, as detailed in the final paragraph. Reference should also be made to the uncaring way in which Oliver is treated, and how that would make Oliver feel afraid and lonely.

