

Are the experiences of *Oliver Twist* supported by the evidence in the sources?

Look for experiences that are the **SAME** or **DIFFERENT**.

Do you think Dickens is for or against the workhouse system?

What clues are there in the text?

"Well! You have come here to be educated, and taught a useful trade," said the red-faced gentleman... "So you'll begin... tomorrow morning at six o'clock." Oliver bowed low and was then hurried away to a large ward, where, on a rough bed he sobbed himself to sleep.

Oliver Twist and his companions suffered the tortures of slow starvation for three months: at last they got so wild with hunger, that one boy who hadn't been used to that sort of thing hinted to his companions that unless he had another basin of gruel per day, he was afraid he might happen to eat the boy who slept next to him. A council was held; lots were cast who should walk up to the master after supper that evening, and ask for more; it fell to Oliver Twist.

The evening arrived; the boys took their places. The master, in his cook's uniform, stationed himself at the copper; the gruel was served out and a long grace was said. The gruel disappeared, the boys whispered to each other and winked at Oliver; while his neighbours nudged him. Child as he was, he was desperate with hunger, and reckless with misery. He rose from the table and advancing to the master, basin and spoon in hand, said, "Please, sir, I want some more."

The master was a fat, healthy man, but he turned very pale. He gazed in astonishment at the small rebel for some seconds... The assistants were paralysed with wonder; the boys with fear. "What!" said the master at length, in a feint voice.

"Please, sir," replied Oliver, "I want some more."

The master aimed a blow at Oliver's head with the ladle and shrieked aloud for the beadle. "Mr Limbkins, I beg your pardon, sir! Oliver Twist has asked for more!"

"For *more!*" said Mr Limbkins... "That boy will be hung, I know that boy will come to be hung."