

## Character cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### **Narrator 1 (N1) \***

You and Narrators 2 and 3 understand how to tackle and Edexcel essay questions. You point out exam tactics designed to get candidates the most marks.

### **Narrator 2 (N1) \***

You and Narrators 1 and 3 understand how to tackle and Edexcel essay questions. You point out exam tactics designed to get candidates the most marks.

### **Narrator 3 (N3) \***

You and Narrators 1 and 2 understand how to tackle and Edexcel essay questions. You point out exam tactics designed to get candidates the most marks.

### **PowerPoint Operator**

(N.B. This is a non-speaking part)

You are in charge of the PowerPoint slides. You make sure that the background to each scene matches the action on stage. The script tells you when to change slides with instructions in brackets:

### **Director \*\*\***

You are in charge of the production. You instruct the actors where to move and how to behave.

### **Stage Manager \*\*\***

You are in charge of the production. You instruct the actors where to move and how to behave.

## Character cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Thomas Sowden\*\*\*

You live and work in Bray's Yard, just off the 1842 Street, in Leeds.

You are a night soil collector. You dig out the human dung that clogs up the communal toilets, (which you call 'privies'), used by you and your neighbours.

Only rich people have sinks and toilets inside their houses.

You were once married and had four children, who all died before the age of five. Your wife died of complications after the birth of your youngest daughter.

You are 42 years old.

**Costume:** filthy trousers, shirt, jacket and scruffy hat

**Props:** a ruler

### John Oddy \*\*

You live and work in Bray's Yard, just off the 1842 Street, in Leeds. You are a Slaughterhouse Boy, working for Mr Sowerby, the Butcher. It is a disgusting, stinking job and you hate it.

You hold the sheep and pigs as he cuts their throats in the slaughterhouse yard. You collect the blood to make black pudding. You cut out the liver and kidneys, to sell in Sowerby's Butchers shop.

You wash out the intestines to make sausage skins. You scrape meat from the bones, add them to flour and sawdust and stuff the mixture into skins, to make sausages.

You live with your uncle because your mother is dead and your father is in the lunatic asylum. You drink heavily, usually in the Black Dog tavern.

You are 17 years old.

**Costume:** filthy trousers, shirt, jacket and scruffy hat

## Character cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Reverend Henry Holdforth\*\*\*

You live in the vicarage, near St Saviour's Church in Leeds. You take your Christian duty very seriously. You regularly visit the poor and the sick who live in Bray's Yard and the 1842 Street.

You are disgusted by the conditions in which these people live and you campaign to improve public health in the area. You complained to Leeds Waterworks Company because they took so long to supply clean water to the yards and alleyways off Kirkgate and Briggate.

You want landlords to upgrade the filthy privies in Bray's Yard. You are sure that they overflow into the pipes that supply drinking water to the pump at the end of Bray's Yard.

You come from a wealthy middle class family and you are university educated.

You are 51 years old.

**Costume:** smart jacket, trousers, clean shirt and cravat

**Props:** Bible

### Alice Finch\*\*\*

You are the daughter of Mr and Mrs Finch the bookseller, whose bookshop is at the end of Bray's Yard.

The shop was once surrounded by fields, but then Mr Marshall opened a flax mill, other industrialists followed, and they all built tenement houses for the factory workers to rent.

The area has become overcrowded and unhealthy. Your parents are planning to move house to the village of Headingley where the air is fresh. They believe people get ill when they smell the poisonous miasmas that infect the area around the 1842 Street.

You are well educated. You are very interested in medical matters and if you had been born a boy, you would have trained to be a doctor. It is unheard of for a girl to train in medicine in 1842.

You are 11 years old.

**Costume:** smart dress, jacket, shawl and bonnet

## Character cards

Asterisks indicate the size and complexity of each part: the more asterisks, the bigger the part.

### Mary Holmes\*\*\*\*

You live in Bray's Yard with your seven year old daughter, Margaret. You work at home as a dressmaker, but the pay is very poor.

Your husband died in a factory accident in 1836, and you struggle to survive without his wage.

You rent a room from Mr and Mrs Finch, the booksellers and often go without food in order to pay your rent.

You are a clever young woman, but you have little education. You had to leave school at the age of eleven.

You and Margaret attend St Saviour's Church every Sunday without fail. It comforts you to know that God loves you and sees your sufferings.

**Costume:** blouse and long skirt, darned and patched

### Mrs Ingham \*\*\*

You are an enterprising woman. You have turned your tiny home into a business: you rent out rooms to factory workers. Each room is subdivided by curtains, so you rent out each corner and make more money.

You earn extra money by running a crèche for the children of workers who cannot afford to stay at home to care for them.

You look after nine-month-old Martha O'Bryan. She coughs a lot, so you dose her with 'Holbeck Tincture' to make her sleep. This lets you get on with your work in peace.

You have very little education, but you are quick witted and you learn a lot by listening to other people's conversations.

You are 73 years old.

**Costume:** tatty blouse and long skirt, shawl

### James Wilson\*\*

You were brought up in the workhouse, like Oliver Twist. Mrs Finch, the bookseller's wife picked you out to be a servant for her husband, who runs a bookshop in Bray's Yard.

You run errands, deliver books, clean and tidy and do whatever Mr and Mrs Finch or Alice Finch tell you to do.

You have no family. You sleep in a corner of Mrs Ingham's Lodging House. Sometimes you can afford to buy a hot meal from Mrs Ingham.

You are 11 years old.

**Costume:** filthy trousers, shirt, jacket and scruffy hat