

CHARLES DICKENS
DOMBEY AND SON

Task 1. Read the text, write down and translate the words in bold

This novel was written in 1848. It is the story of a city businessman, whose only interest in life is his firm. Dombey is busy with **money – making** and all that surrounds him **is of little or no importance**. The firm which is his life is called "Dombey and Son". He has a daughter Florence, whom he doesn't love although the little girl loves him dearly. When at last a son is born, it is he who becomes the centre of Dombey's life and interests. He sees in little Paul only **a means to** continue his money-making business. He doesn't notice that the little boy sickens at school. The little boy can't **get accustomed to** school life. Little Paul feels that he will die like his mother died when he was born. He can't understand why the money couldn't save his mother and can't make him strong and healthy.

The death of little Paul is the beginning of Dombey's **misfortunes**. His second wife Edith hates him and leaves him. His secretary runs away with his money and ruins him. Only Florence's love for him remains unchanged.

Dickens managed **to disclose** the ugliness of relations based on money in a work of art. Dombey was shown as a cold and tragic figure, a product of the money-making environment. Opposed to him are his two children. Dickens made them loving creatures who **despised** money. That is why **the novel sounds at times as the story of the two children, rather than that of their money-making father**.

Task 2. Make up sentences with the words

Task 3. Learn the words of wisdom said by Dickens

Charity begins at home, and justice begins next door.

There is a wisdom of the head, and a wisdom of the heart.