**ANALYSIS**

“The definition of a horse” is an extract from Charles Dickens’ “Hard Times”, a novel which emphasizes and denounces the negative effects of the Industrial Revolution in people’s life.

Reading the title of the chapter, which the extract belongs the intelligent reader should notice Dickens’ negative approach to the effects of the Industrial Revolution remarked by the words “Murdering” and “Innocents”. Indeed reading the title of the extract the intelligent may thinks the text is about a lesson or a discourse about something which is connected to the scholastic or intellectual world in cause of the word “definition”. Reading the word “definition” he could also think in the text will come to light a rational and unchangeable vision of the world.

The narrator begins the text describing Mr Gradgrind’s personality. It is represented in a negative view, in fact is like Coke Town, he is characterized only on fact, he is interested only in the concrete. The narrator use the anaphora of the word “fact” as in the description of Coke Town. The narrator shows Mr Gradgrind to the reader at first using the technique of telling, describing generally his personality, using also the grotesque, the exaggeration and then the technique of showing, during Mr Gradgrind lesson. Mr Gradgrind represents in the first person the Industrial Revolution, in fact the narrator through the technique of grotesque tells the reader that Mr Gradgrind himself is a machine.

The intelligent reader should note Mr Gradgrind’s indifference with the children contemporary to his obsession about facts reading the expression: “Girl number twenty”.

The narrator emphasize Gradgrind’s sense of superiority with the language used by characters, in fact Mr Gradgrind use a language which expresses disgust, whether children use a formal language full of polite forms.

The narrator underline the Gradgrind’s ideology, when the character says to the girl, she does possess no facts. He thinks there is only one truth, only one way to study and explain something which is based on facts and so on the concreteness.

The narrator remarks another time the concept through Bitzer’s answer to the question what a horse is. In fact he uses only concrete terms to describe a horse, for example “teeth”, “grinders”, “incisive” ... and this is what Mr Gradgrind wants.

The narrator in the extract also shows children’s feeling during lessons, it is a negative atmosphere, in fact they are afraid from Mr Gradgrind, the have difficulty even to speak.