TEXT 1 analysis

The present text is taken from Charles Dicken’s Oliver Twist. It tells the story of Oliver: a poor child that lives in an orphanage after of her mother death while giving him birth. That was hard times for population indeed there were crisis, famine, hard social conditions (you have to think that Oliver’s mother was poor and lived in a workhouse). As said, Oliver grown in an orphanage and in it there is problems too. Children, indeed, have “gruel at meal times. Of this festive composition each boy had one porringer, and no more”. The famine and the scarce quantity of food aspects are also underlined in other parts in the text for example when Dicken’s tells the reader that “The bowls never wanted washing. The boys polished then with their spoons till they shone again; and when they had performed this operation […], they would sit staring at the copper, […], as if they could have devoured the very bricks of which it was composed” or when he tells “Oliver Twist and his companions suffered the tortures of slow starvation for three months: at last they got so voracious and wild with hunger, that one boy, who was tall for his age, and hadn't been used to that sort of thing (for his father had kept a small cookshop), hinted darkly to his companions, that unless he had another basin of gruel per diem, he was afraid he might some night happen to eat the boy who slept next him, who happened to be a weakly youth of tender age”.

The text is told by a third person narrator which know many things about the protagonists as if he had to bear with the problems, he tells the reader, every day. In addition to this, the narrator also reports some parts of dialogues that take place into the orphanage. With this expedient he wants to create a better link with the reality: he can push the reader thinks about the problem told.

The main character, as said, is Oliver which is not directly described from the narrator but the reader can image how he really is from analysing how he acts and reacts to different situations.

With this text, Charles Dickens probably wants to put the reader’s attention on how children live during that hard times for all the society and how they behave in that situation. With this text he probably wants to push high economical classes and politicians to take actions to prevent this situation and helps children in a such difficult time.

TEXT 2

This text is taken from Charles Dicken’s Bleak house. In the text, a third person narrator whom know everything about all the people he is talking about, tells the reader how does a city behave in front of a typical November’s day: he tells about a city where there are plenty muds and a lot of fog that contributes to create a mystery and a surrealistic atmosphere. With this novel, Dickens probably wanted to express his ideas about the new society that were born and he uses an environmental metaphor to express this idea at the reader.