Mr. Bounderby

1. He was a rich man: banker, merchant, manufacturer, and what not. A big, loud man, with a stare, and a metallic laugh. A man made out of a coarse material, which seemed to have been stretched to make so much of him. A man with a great puffed head and forehead, swelled veins in his temples, and such a strained skin to his face that it seemed to hold his eyes open, and lift his eyebrows up. A man with a pervading appearance on him of being inflated like a balloon, and ready to start. A man who could never sufficiently vaunt himself a self-made man. A man who was always proclaiming, through that brassy speaking-trumpet of a voice of his, his old ignorance and his old poverty. A man who was the Bully of humility.

2. Adjectives: banker, merchant, manifacturer, ignorant, bully.

3. The fact that he is an enriched man. He came from the poor class, and thanks to his work he was enriched. Dickens wants to criticize his arrogance, conceit and ignorance.

4. Bounder means “canaglia”. The phrase that reinforses the meaning of the surname is “Mr. Bounderby was as near being Mr. Gradgrind's bosom friend, as a man perfectly devoid of sentiment can approach that spiritual relationship towards another man perfectly devoid of sentiment”.

5. Because Dickens wants to criticize the unjust presumption of the rich, their perception of superiority.

7. The aspect of Bounderby’s character that is emphasised is his phisical description: a man with a great puffed head and forehead, swelled veins in his temples, and such a strained skin to his face that it seemed to hold his eyes open, and lift his eyebrows up. A man with a pervading appearance on him of being inflated like a balloon, and ready to start.

8. What he says contradicts the description, because he talks about his past, when he was a child and did not even have shoes, and had to spend time in an unhealthy environment, a pigsty. At the beginning, however, he is described in his current condition as a rich man.

9. a. Repeats the word "ditch" several times to emphasize its origin from the lower class. He is pathetic when he speaks, it seems as if he was trying to be at the center of the world, he thinks he is the only person he has suffered. He uses many adjectives to emphasize the fact that he was always sick like miserable, sickly, moaning and groaning.

b. He uses a pathetic description, emphasizing a lot, exaggerating his past conditions.

c.It is in line with his physical description that makes him an exaggerated and caricatured character. But it contrasts his social description, because it is not expected that a rich and presumptuous man speaks in such a pathetic way.