

QUOTES FROM INSPIRING CHILDREN IN ENGLISH LITERATURE

By *Helen Cherkasov* and *Pauline Carr*

I. Read the following quotes from books about children and write down what you think each quote means.

a. From the book *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery

“Life is worth living as long as there’s a laugh in it.”

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“‘Dear old world’, she murmured, ‘you are very lovely, and I am glad to be alive in you.’”

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“Next to trying and winning, the best thing is trying and failing.”

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b. From the book *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë

“Even for me life had its gleams of sunshine.”

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c. From the book *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain

“They said they would rather be outlaws a year in Sherwood Forest than President of the United States forever.”

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d. From the book *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

“But, tears were not the things to find their way to Mr. Bumble's soul; his heart was waterproof.”

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2. Class discussion. Share your opinions with your classmates. What do you think the quotes tell us about the personality of each character or the world in which he/she lived? You can write down your notes in the space below.

a. Anne Shirley

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b. Jane Eyre

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c. Tom Sawyer

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d. Oliver Twist

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Teacher's Notes

1. Give students time to read the quotes and write down what they think each quote means. Tell them there are no right answers, just their interpretation.
2. Ask volunteers to tell the class their interpretation of each quote. Then discuss together what each quote reveals to us about the personality of the character or the world in which he or she lived. Afterwards, based on how much time you have at your disposal, you can give the students more information about each novel and its main characters.