

The story so far

1. Answer the following questions.

- 1) In which period does the story take place?
- 2) What war is going on?
- 3) In which country do the events happen?
- 4) Where exactly?
- 5) Who are the first characters you meet?

Words

2. Write the words in the correct group in the table.

church trees river bridge houses birds
water bell forest square

Village	Countryside

CHAPTER 1

A Strange Boy

Sir Daniel Brackley and his men were at Kettleby that night. Sir Daniel was sitting at a table in an inn with a bottle of beer. He was wearing a blood red cloak; his head was bald and his face was dark and thin. He was collecting taxes as usual.

In the room there were some of his men. A young lad, of twelve or thirteen, was sitting on the floor. His face was as soft as a child's, but his expression was older. He was very thin and blushed easily.

Dick Shelton arrived at the inn with his men.

"Dick Shelton!" cried Sir Daniel. "Where is Bennet Hatch?" "Read this letter from Sir Oliver and you will know," answered Dick, presenting the priest's message. "On our way here we met a messenger from Lord Risingham. Lord Risingham needs your help. The Yorkists are defeating him in the battle!"



Check your comprehension

3. Answer the questions.

- 1) Where was Sir Daniel?
- 2) What was he doing?
- 3) What was he wearing?
- 4) Who was sitting on the floor?
- 5) Who arrived at the inn?
- 6) Where was Dick riding to?
- 7) What was the lad's name?

Characters

4. Complete the sentences below with words from the prologue and chapter 1. Then write the name of the characters.

NAME	SENTENCE
_____	His face was as _____ as a child's, but his expression was _____.
_____	He was a _____ man of about 18 with grey _____.
_____	He arrived at a gallop. His face was _____ and _____.
_____	He was a _____, _____ man of almost fifty. He was _____ and trembling.

Words

5. Use the words below to complete the following sentences.

floor letter windmill lad road money verses

- 1) A young _____ is sitting on the _____.
- 2) Sir Daniel opens the _____ and reads the _____.
- 3) Dick tells the lad to take the _____ near the _____.
- 4) That boy means _____ for me.