**Class Schedule**

1. Vocab Bingo! (15 mins)
2. Opening Activity (10 mins)
3. Read extract (10 mins)
4. Comprehension questions (15 mins)
5. Read through new vocab (10 mins)

**Vocabulary Bingo**

* Spot check on definitions, antonyms and synonyms of last week’s words (use the words in sentences)

**Opening Activity**

*Match the word to the definition!*

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| 1. Deceit 2. Conspire 3. Privilege 4. Charred 5. Shun 6. Abysmal      1. Aristocrat      1. Lacerate 2. Flaccid 3. Admonish | 1. Persistently ignore, avoid or reject 2. Warn or reprimand someone firmly 3. Tear or make deep cuts 4. The action or practice of deceiving someone by concealing or misrepresenting the truth 5. A member of the aristocracy, the highest class in society 6. Soft and hanging loosely or limply, usually unpleasant 7. Burnt and blackened 8. Make secret plans with someone to commit an unlawful or harmful act 9. Extremely bad; appalling 10. A special right, advantage or immunity granted or available only to a particular person or group |

Martin Chuzzlewit by Charles Dickens – Winchester College 13+ 2016

It was a small place—something like a **turnpike**. But a great deal of land may be got into a dice-box, and why may not a whole **territory** be bargained for in a shed? It was but a **temporary** office too; for the Edeners were ‘going’ to build a **superb** **establishment** for the **transaction** of their business, and had already got so far as to mark out the site. Which is a great way in America. The office-door was wide open, and in the doorway was the **agent**; no doubt a **tremendous** **fellow** to get through his work, for he seemed to have no **arrears**, but was swinging backwards and forwards in a rocking-chair, with one of his legs planted high up against the door-post, and the other doubled up under him, as if he were **hatching** his foot.

He was a **gaunt** man in a huge straw hat, and a coat of green stuff. The weather being hot, he had no **cravat**, and wore his shirt collar wide open; so that every time he spoke something was seen to twitch and jerk up in his throat, like the little hammers in a **harpsichord** when the notes are struck. Perhaps it was the Truth **feebly** **endeavouring** to leap to his lips. If so, it never reached them.

Two grey eyes lurked deep within this agent’s head, but one of them had no sight in it, and stood stock still. With that side of his face he seemed to listen to what the other side was doing. Thus each **profile** had a distinct expression; and when the movable side was most in action, the rigid one was in its coldest state of watchfulness. It was like turning the man inside out, to pass to that view of his features in his liveliest mood, and see how **calculating** and **intent** they were.

Each long black hair upon his head hung down as straight as any plummet line; but **rumpled** tufts were on the arches of his eyes, as if the crow whose foot was deeply printed in the corners had pecked and torn them in a savage recognition of his **kindred** nature as a bird of **prey**.

Such was the man whom they now approached, and whom the General **saluted** by the name of Scadder.

‘Well, Gen’ral,’ he returned, ‘and how are you?’

‘Ac-tive and spry, sir, in my country’s service and the **sympathetic** cause. Two gentlemen on business, Mr Scadder.’

**Comprehension Questions**

1. Summarise the extract in a few sentences.
2. Describe in your own words the Edener’s office.
3. What are the effects of some of the descriptive details used by Dickens in this extract?
4. This passage is satirical which means that it uses humour to point to a more serious message. What do you consider that message to be and what makes you think that?
5. Discuss your impressions of Scadder and your impression of his trustworthiness. Use details from the text to back up your ideas.

**Vocabulary**

* *Define each word, put it into one of four categories (noun, adjective, verb or adverb) and, where applicable, note down a synonym or antonym.*

1. Turnpike – a toll gate
2. Territory – an area of land under the jurisdiction of a ruler or state
3. Temporary
4. Superb – very good; excellent
5. Establishment – a business organization, public institution or household
6. Transaction
7. Agent – a person who acts on behalf of another person or group
8. Tremendous – very great in amount, scale or intensity
9. Fellow – a man or boy; a person in the same position, involved in the same activity, or associated with another
10. Arrears – money that is owed and should have already been paid
11. Hatching
12. Gaunt – lean and haggard, especially because of suffering or hunger
13. Cravat – a strip of fabric worn by men around the neck
14. Harpsichord – an old-fashioned keyboard instrument
15. Feeble
16. Endeavour
17. Profile – an outline of something, especially a face as seen from one side
18. Calculate
19. Intent – intention or purpose; adj – determined to do something
20. Rumpled – creased, ruffled or dishevelled
21. Kindred
22. Prey
23. Salute – a gesture of respect or of polite recognition
24. Sympathetic

**Homework**

* Revise the vocabulary we have learned today.
* Write a story about a business deal using the extract above as inspiration. Use ten of the words from the vocab list above.