

Dickens used realism in "Hard Times".

Realism writing tends to be the opposite of romance, where fantasy and escapism is promoted instead of facing up to the harsh realities of life.

Chapter one of "Hard Times" has limited scene setting and focuses on the narrator. Dickens describes the character before allowing the reader to hear the character Mr Gradgrind.

Dickens addresses utilitarian economists.

In chapter five of "Hard Times", there are elements of facts along with elaborate imagery, atypical of Dickens' writing. The town of Coketown is imaginary, so Dickens is not aiming for the realism other social problem novelists aimed for. Although there are imagistic elements in "Hard Times", the imaginary town is based on actual northern towns.

The characters in "Hard Times", their names are synonymous with their character types i.e. Mr Bounderby turns out to be a bounder and Mrs Sparsit have aristocratic connections and good breeding is sparse. The different characters' opinions represent the different issues the novel debates.

Preview from Notesale.co.uk
Page 2 of 2