The master was a fat, healthy man; but he turned very pale. He gazed in stupefied astonishment on the small rebel for some seconds, and then clung for support to the copper. The assistants were paralysed with wonder; the boys with fear.  
  
“What!” said the master at length, in a faint voice.  
  
“Please, sir,” replied Oliver, “I want some more.”  
  
The master aimed a blow at Oliver’s head with the ladle; pinioned him in his arm; and shrieked aloud for the beadle. The board were sitting in solemn conclave, when Mr. Bumble rushed into the room in great excitement, and addressing the gentleman in the high chair, said,  
  
“Mr. Limbkins, I beg your pardon, sir! Oliver Twist has asked for more!”  
  
There was a general start. Horror was depicted on every countenance.  
  
“For *more*!” said Mr. Limbkins. “Compose yourself, Bumble, and answer me distinctly. Do I understand that he asked for more, after he had eaten the supper allotted by the dietary?”  
  
“He did, sir,” replied Bumble.  
  
“That boy will be hung,” said the gentleman in the white waistcoat. “I know that boy will be hung.”  
  
Nobody denied the prophetic gentleman’s opinion. An animated discussion took place. Oliver was ordered into instant confinement; and a bill was next morning pasted on the outside of the gate, offering a reward of five pounds to anybody who would take Oliver Twist off the hands of the parish. In other words, five pounds and Oliver Twist were offered to any man or woman who wanted an apprentice to any trade, business, or calling.  
  
“I never was more convinced of anything in my life,” said the gentleman in the white waistcoat, as he knocked at the gate and read the bill next morning: “I never was more convinced of anything in my life, than I am that that boy will come to be hung.”  
  
As I purpose to show in the sequel whether the white waistcoated gentleman was right or not, I should perhaps mar the interest of this narrative (supposing it to possess any at all), if I ventured to hint just yet, whether the life of Oliver Twist had this violent termination or no.  
  
For a week after the commission of the impious and profane offence of asking for more, Oliver remained a close prisoner in the dark and solitary room to which he had been consigned by the wisdom and mercy of the board. If Oliver had a feeling of respect to the prediction he would have accepted that sage individual’s prophecy, once and forever, by tying one end of his pocket-handkerchief to a hook in the wall and attaching himself to the other. To the performance of this feat, however, there was one obstacle: namely, that pocket-handkerchiefs being decided articles of luxury, had been, for all future times and ages, removed from the noses of paupers by the express order of the board, in council assembled: solemnly given and pronounced under their hands and seals. There was a still greater obstacle in Oliver’s youth and childishness. He only cried bitterly all day; and, when the long, dismal night came on, spread his little hands before his eyes to shut out the darkness, and crouching in the corner, tried to sleep: ever and anon waking with a start and tremble, and drawing himself closer and closer to the wall, as if to feel even its cold hard surface were protection in the gloom and loneliness which surrounded him.

**QuestionS:**

1. Why do you think Dickens described the master as fat and healthy?
   1. To show how healthy the master is compared to the children
   2. To highlight how unfair the master treats the boys in the orphanage
   3. **To demonstrate how much the master eats compared to the boys**
   4. To show the master looks after himself better than the boys do
2. Why is Oliver described as a rebel for asking for more?
   1. Because none of the boys wanted anymore
   2. Because it is against the rules to ask for more
   3. **Because Dickens is using sarcasm here**
   4. Because rebels eat more when breaking the law
3. “The master aimed a blow at Oliver’s head with the ladle; pinioned him in his arm; and shrieked aloud for the beadle.” From this sentence, what is suggested happened in this scene?
   1. The master hit Oliver and dragged him to the beadle
   2. The master hit Oliver, dragged him and shouted for the beadle
   3. The master hit Oliver, restrained him and took him to the beadle
   4. **The master hit Oliver, restrained him and shouted for the beadle**
4. Which description best fits Mr. Bumble?
   1. **Violent and extreme**
   2. Cruel and mysterious
   3. Mean and childish
   4. Prophetic and pathetic
5. What was Oliver’s punishment?
   1. Hang himself
   2. **Solitary Confinement**
   3. Starvation
   4. Kept in darkness
6. Was Oliver’s punishment appropriate for what he done? What does it suggest about those who carried out the punishment?

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1. “by tying one end of his pocket-handkerchief to a hook in the wall, and attaching himself to the other.” What is inferred in this line?
   1. They wanted Oliver to entertain himself with the handkerchief
   2. They wanted Oliver to make a lamp from the handkerchief
   3. They wanted Oliver to keep himself warm with the handkerchief
   4. **They wanted Oliver to hang himself with the handkerchief**
2. Why was Oliver not able to hang himself?
   1. Handkerchiefs only belonged to rich people
   2. **Poor people were not allowed to have handkerchiefs**
   3. Poor people couldn’t afford any handkerchief
   4. Oliver was too afraid to go through with it in the end
3. Which best describes how Oliver felt in the room?
   1. Afraid and alone
   2. **Cold and alone**
   3. Lost and afraid
   4. Confused and hurt