**Chapter 7**

*In the old days (it ran), before the glorious Revolution, London*

*was not the beautiful city that we know today. It was a dark, dirty,*

*miserable place where hardly anybody had enough to eat and where*

*hundreds and thousands of poor people had no boots on their feet*

*and not even a roof to sleep under. Children no older than you are 5*

*had to work twelve hours a day for cruel masters who flogged them*

*with whips if they worked too slowly and fed them on nothing but*

*stale breadcrusts and water. But in among all this terrible poverty*

*there were just a few great big beautiful houses that were lived in by*

*rich men who had as many as thirty servants to look after them. 10*

*These rich men were called capitalists. They were fat, ugly men with*

*wicked faces, like the one in the picture on the opposite page. You*

*can see that he is dressed in a long black coat which was called a*

*frock coat, and a queer, shiny hat shaped like a stovepipe, which*

*was called a top hat. This was the uniform of the capitalists, and 15*

*no one else was allowed to wear it. The capitalists owned everything*

*in the world, and everyone else was their slave. They owned all the*

*land, all the houses, all the factories, and all the money. If anyone*

*disobeyed them they could throw them into prison, or they could take*

*his job away and starve him to death. When any ordinary person 20*

*spoke to a capitalist he had to cringe and bow to him, and take off*

*his cap and address him as 'Sir'. The chief of all the capitalists*

*was called the King, and-*

**How was the city described?**

**Explain why this is propaganda.**

**How are the capitalists described? Why are they described this way?**

**Which sentence best shows the absolute power of the capitalists? Explain.**

**What is the motif of this passage?**