

A Tale of Two Cities

Charles Dickens

How does Carton's resemblance to Darnay weaken evidence that had just seemed certain?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Carton's resemblance creates reasonable doubt
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Book II, Chapter III · A Disappointment
START	A singular circumstance then arose in the case.
END	this witness like a crockery vessel, and shiver his part of the case to useless lumber.
PASSAGE ID	sec-ttc-02

THE MOVE

Track how comparison changes the value of evidence

WHY THIS PASSAGE

The witness has just made an identification look secure when Carton's resemblance to Darnay introduces a concrete alternative explanation. The scene lets students see how one comparison can reduce the certainty of evidence without proving the opposite conclusion.

MARK

Underline the testimony that appears to identify Darnay with confidence. Circle the physical similarities between Carton and Darnay. Then write LESS CERTAIN beside the exact point where the resemblance changes the value of the testimony.

NOTICE

- What did the witness seem able to prove before Carton was brought into the comparison?
- Why does resemblance create doubt without proving that the witness is lying?
- How does the courtroom's understanding of the same evidence change once a second plausible person is visible?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does Carton's resemblance to Darnay weaken evidence that had just seemed certain? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: How does Carton's resemblance to Darnay weaken evidence that had just seemed certain? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Carton's resemblance weakens the witness because it creates a plausible alternative: if another man looks so much like Darnay, confident identification is less reliable than it seemed. The comparison lowers certainty without proving Darnay innocent by itself.
EVIDENCE	Use the witness's confident identification before Carton is compared, then the visible resemblance and the courtroom's changed reaction afterward.
WATCH FOR	Do not say resemblance proves the witness lied. It changes the value of the evidence by introducing reasonable doubt.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

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START ANCHOR	A singular circumstance then arose in the case.
END ANCHOR	this witness like a crockery vessel, and shiver his part of the case to useless lumber.

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OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. **MARK** - Underline the testimony that appears to identify Darnay with confidence. Circle the physical similarities between Carton and Darnay. Then write **LESS CERTAIN** beside the exact point where the resemblance changes the value of the testimony.
2. **NOTICE** - What did the witness seem able to prove before Carton was brought into the comparison? Why does resemblance create doubt without proving that the witness is lying? How does the courtroom's understanding of the same evidence change once a second plausible person is visible?
3. **THINK** - Answer provisionally: How does Carton's resemblance to Darnay weaken evidence that had just seemed certain?
4. **WRITE** - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.