Now let us read and understand the last two remaining pages of the prose "The Shoemaker"
He stared at her with a fearful look, and after a while his lips began to form some words, though no sound proceeded from them. By degrees, in the pauses of his quick and laboured breathing, he was heard to say,

'What is this?'

With tears streaming down her face, she put her two hands to her lips, and kissed them to him.

'You are not the gaoler's daughter?'

She sighed 'No.'

'Who are you?'

Not yet trusting the tones of her voice, she sat down on the bench beside him. He recoiled, but she laid her hand upon his arm. A strange thrill struck him when she did so, and visibly passed over his frame. He laid the knife down softly, as he sat staring at her. Advancing his hand little by little, he took it up and looked at it.

In the midst of the action he went astray, and, with another deep sigh, fell to work at his shoemaking.

Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens (1812–1870) was born in England. His father was imprisoned when Charles was twelve, and he had to work at that tender age. He experienced the pain of poverty and this helped him become the voice of the poor and working class. Some of his popular books are David Copperfield, Oliver Twist, A Christmas Carol and A Tale of Two Cities.
Answer the following:

1) What was the shoemaker doing when Defarge entered the room?
Ans: When Mr. Defarge entered the room with Mr. Jarvis Lorry and Miss Lucie Manette, the shoemaker was busy making shoes.

2) How did the shoemaker react to more light in the room? Why do you think he reacted the way he did?
Ans: When Mr. Defarge opened a little more, the half-opened door, a broad ray of light fell into the garret. The shoemaker stopped his work, looked with vacant air of listening at the floor and then upward at Mr. Defarge.

   The shoemaker's confinement in the prison for eighteen years has given him the ability to work in darkness. A broad ray of light dazzled his vision.

3) When asked his name he says 'Hundred and five, North Tower'. What do you gather from this reply?
Ans: Dr. Manette had forgotten his identity due to vagrancy. He had stayed in the prison for eighteen years and he was called there by other means than by his name. Thus, when he was asked his name he told his prison identification.

4) Who was the young lady? How did the shoemaker react when he saw her?
Ans: The young lady is referred to Miss Lucie Nanette, the only daughter of Dr. Manette.

   When the shoemaker saw Lucie, he had fearful looks. He wanted to say something but no sound proceeded. After much labour he asked Lucie if she was the gaoler's daughter.

5) "Yes, for a moment. At first I thought it's quite hopeless..." Why did the speaker think it was hopeless? Whose face did the speaker recognise?
Ans: Dr. Manette thought it was a hopeless situation for him as he tried to recollect the identity of Mr. Jarvis Lorry but couldn't do it clearly in his first attempt.

   Dr. Manette, the shoemaker, could clearly recognise the face of Mr. Jarvis Lorry, after a hard try.

6) Who was Monsieur Manette? What made him drop the shoe?
Ans: Doctor Alexandre Manette is a character in Charles Dickens' 1859 novel A Tale of Two Cities. He is Lucie's father, a brilliant physician, and spent eighteen years "in secret" as a prisoner in the Bastille, prior to the French Revolution. He is referred to as 'The shoemaker' in the excerpt.

   Mr. Lorry asks Dr. Manette if he is a shoemaker by trade. To this the doctor mutters something about learning it the prison. Mr. Lorry then looks
fixedly at the doctor's face and asks whether he remembers him. At this point the Doctor drops his shoe and stares at Mr. Lorry; a faint flicker of recognition seems to cross Dr. Manette’s face for an instant.