A Christmas Carol Revision



Class: Teacher:

Top Tips: Literature. Use these tips in every essay!

Use the author's name

- Shakespeare
- Dickens
- Priestley
- Anthology Poet name
- Unseen Poet name

Why?

Shows you know the text is consciously created by the writer.

Know the plot and events with or without quotes

Why?

Shows you have understood the importance of what happens in the text.

Use analytical verbs after stating event or quote

- Suggests
- shows
- implies
- Explores
- Demonstrates
- Highlights
- Criticises

Why?

Ensures you are analysing and not just re-telling the story.

+WHY?

- Because
- Due to
- As

Why?

To show you are developing your analytical opinions and reasons for suggesting something about a text.

Top Tips: Literature. What else we include!

Lead with context or embed context

- Author's intentions
- Author's message
- Author's influences
- What was happening at the time of writing?

Why?

Shows you are aware of the influences in the text and reasons the writer wrote it.

Embed Terminology

Use methods

Methods used by the writer

Why?

Shows you have understood the importance of the language and devices in the text and what the writer was doing.

Be tentative/use modal verbs

- Could
- May
- Maybe
- Perhaps

Why?

Shows you are aware that there is a possibility of their being other reasons.

Embed structural awareness

- Plot
- Narrative voice
- Chapter/stave/act/stanza placement of events

Why?

Shows you know what happened where and why it was placed in that part of the text.

High Level Vocabulary choices

- Plot
- Narrative voice
- Chapter/stave/act placement of events - Etc.

Why?

Shows you have a developed understanding of how language creates meaning and what happens in the text.

Top Tips: Literature. What do these tips look like in examples?

Dickens creates his allegorical tale to perhaps show the abject poverty humanity created in Victorian London from Stave One. Dickens does this with the introduction of Bob Cratchit, the clerk, and his dismal working conditions which were indicative of employee exploitation. Cratchit is forced to work long hours "light was dim", for little pay, with no warmth "one coal" or comfort "dismal cell" and in poor lighting "one candle". This bleak description of Bob's desk and the connotations of the fire suggests Scrooge is unaware of basic human rights, unaware of the suffering of others and unaware of his responsibility as a wealthy man to help change conditions for poor families like Bob's, because although Bob is educated he is still subjected to terrible conditions making the reader understand the endemic nature of employers exploiting the power they have over the working classes. The implication throughout Stave One with Scrooge's wealth is that he wants to retain it for himself and his cruel treatment of Bob, is also repeated in his unkind dismissal of his nephew Fred "Good Afternoon" is repeated constantly by Scrooge to Fred, and again with the "two portly gentlemen" who are looking to help the poor. This juxtaposition in character of Scrooge who is metaphorically "a tight fisted hand at the grindstone" and the wealthy men could imply that some people understood the inequality between the rich and the poor and wanted to help bring equality about, which is what some wealthy men campaigned for as a way of showing solidarity with humanity, an ideal that Dickens very much promoted, after experiencing the "blackening" factory while his father was in Debtor's prison.

| Characters - ACC | | Αι | Author – Dickens - ACC | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| Scrooge | Main character - Miserly, mean, bitter, materialistic, unsympathetic, cold, selfish, isolated > Transformed to > charitable, generous, happy. | 1 2 | education until his father inherits some money and he goes to school. Dickens was put to work in a warehouse, pasting labels on bottles. He had first hand experience of poverty. Dickens became a writer of fiction and journalism and worked for radical newspapers on his disillusionment with politics and the class | |
| Bob Cratchit | Bob represents the lower classes and the loving father that we see Scrooge never had. He has an unyielding Christmas spirit and is grateful. | 3 | | |
| Tiny Tim | Tiny Tim personifies the severe consequences of living in poverty, frail and ill. He is an optimistic, | System. Key concepts and context - ACC | | ts and context - ACC |
| Fred | Compassionate, religious, and generous child. Warm-hearted, determined, forgiving, caring. Scrooge's nephew and only living family. Juxtaposes Scrooge at the start of the novella. | Thomas Malthus | | In 1798, the economist Thomas Malthus wrote that human population would always grow faster than food supplies. This would mean that overpopulation would lead to many people, usually the poor, dying due to famine. For Malthus, poverty |
| Marley (ghost) | Haunting, reformed, regretful. Marley is weighed down with chains and baggage, symbolising his | | | was the inevitable result of overpopulation because the wor off in society would get less and less. |
| (6 3 3 7) | greed and negligence of the lower classes. He scares Scrooge and shows him the horror of not being able to help others. | | Dickens' view | Dickens believed that Malthus was wrong and there was plenty of food to go around – but only if the rich were more generous. He thought it was wrong that the poor should |
| The Ghost of Christmas Past | Shows Scrooge his past (isolated at school, his sister, Fezziwig, Belle). The ghost appears as a strange figure – an old man and a child combined. | Allegory Poor Law | | A story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one. |
| The Ghost of Christmas Present | Compassionate, generous, cheerful, illustrates what life is like for different people in Victorian Britain at Christmas. He personifies generosity, both spiritual and material. | | | Dickens is criticising the rich for being ignorant of the poor. 1834 – Poor Law Amendment Act. Led to a cut in aid given to poor people. Workhouses were created which poor people would have to live and work in. there was a high chance of |
| The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come | Mysterious, silent, intimidating. It shows Scrooge what will happen if he doesn't change his ways. Personifies death which is inevitable for all humans. | ACC | CC | December 1843 Dickens writes A Christmas Carol focusing on how many of society's ills can be blamed on greed for money and status as a response to a government report on the abuse |
| Belle | Scrooge's ex – fiancé that left him (stave 2). | | 1 | of child labourers in mines and factories, Dickens vowed he would strike a "sledge-hammer blow on behalf of the Poor |
| Fezziwig | Scrooge's old boss – generous, kind (stave 2) | | | Man's Child." |



Additional Quotations - Stave 1

| Quote | What does it show? |
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Additional Quotations - Stave 2

| Quote | What does it show? |
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'Come in! and know me better, man!'

Scrooge meets the Ghost of Christmas Present.





'Mr Scrooge!...the Founder of the Feast!'

Scrooge sees the Cratchit's Christmas.

A Christmas Carol

Plot summary

Stave 3



'a cheerful company assembled round a glowing fire'

Scrooge is shown Christmas in the mines.



'I am sorry for him'Scrooge sees Fred's Christmas.



Stave 4

Yellow, meagre, scowling, wolfish.' Ignorance and want are revealed.

Additional Quotations - Stave 3

| Quote | What does it show? |
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'A solemn Phantom'

Scrooge meets the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come.





'I thought he'd never die'

Men are discussing the death of a man. People are selling his belongings.



A Christmas Carol

Plot summary

Stave 4

'The noisy little Cratchits were as still as statues'

Scrooge learns Tiny Tim has died.





Stave 5

'I am not the man I was.'

Scrooge sees his grave and repents.

Additional Quotations - Stave 4

| Quote | What does it show? |
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'I am as happy as an angel'

Scrooge wakes - overjoyed to be alive!







'A Merry Christmas to everybody!'

Scrooge vows to change – buys turkey for Cratchits and wishes everyone on the street a Merry Christmas.

A Christmas

E

Carol

Plot summary

Stave 5

'So glowing with good intentions'

Gives money to charity and raises Bob's salary.





The **End**

'will you let me in Fred?' 'he was a second father' 'God bless us everyone!'

Scrooge goes to Fred's for Christmas (rebuilding their relationship) and Scrooge cares for Tiny Tim – he lives!

Final line of the novella.

Additional Quotations - Stave 5

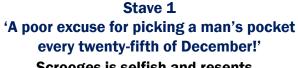
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Key Character - Scrooge

The main character in the novella is Ebenezer Scrooge. At first we see his selfishness and greed in contrast with his humble clerk, Bob Cratchit, and his cheerful nephew, Fred. The ghost of his old business partner, Jacob Marley, warns Scrooge that he will be visited by three spirits.

The Ghost of Christmas Present, the Ghost of Christmas Past and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come all show Scrooge scenes that ultimately bring about his change of character. He is particularly moved by Bob Cratchit's family and his son, Tiny Tim, to whom he eventually becomes like a second father



every twenty-fifth of December!'
Scrooges is selfish and resents
Christmas. Scrooge begrudgingly gives
Bob Christmas day off.

Stave 4 'I am not the man I was.'

Scrooge sees his grave and regrets his past actions, he repents.











Stave 1 'Scrooge... covetous old sinner!'

We are introduced to Ebenezer Scrooge on Christmas Eve. He is miserable, selfish, isolated and greedy.

Stave 2 'Why do you delight to torture me?'

Scrooge's sees Belle's new family and shows the pain and regret he feels.

Stave 5

'will you let me in Fred?'
'he was a second father'

Scrooge is redeemed and becomes giving and thankful. He rebuilds his relationship with Fred and becomes a part of Tiny Tim's life and gives Bob a raise.

Additional Quotations - Scrooge

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Character - Fred

Fred is Scrooge's nephew and only living family. He wishes to have a relationship/friendship with Scrooge despite Scrooge's constant rejection. He represents all that is good about Christmas.



Description - Stave 1

'He was all in a glow; his face was ruddy and handsome; his eyes sparkled.'
Fred is Warm-hearted, determined, forgiving, caring meaning he juxtaposes/ is the
antithesis Scrooge at the start of the novella.

Stave 1 'I'll keep my Christmas humour to the last' Fred insists that he will stay cheerful, despite his uncle's determined

unpleasant manner.

Stave 3
'I am sorry for him.'

We see Fred's Christmas and how he pities Scrooge and never gives up on him.









Stave 1
'A merry Christmas, Uncle! God save you!'

Scrooge's nephew, Fred – his only living family, invites his uncle to Christmas dinner. Scrooge refuses.

Stave 5

'will you let me in Fred?'
Let him in! It is a mercy he didn't shake his arm off.
Scrooge rebuilds his relationship with Fred. Fred is
ecstatic and welcome Scrooge in to his home on
Christmas wholeheartedly.

Additional Quotations - Fred

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Character - Bob Cratchit

Bob Cratchit is Scrooge's clerk and works in unpleasant conditions without complaint.

When the Ghost of Christmas Present takes Scrooge to visit the Cratchits on Christmas Day, he sees Bob Cratchit carrying his sickly son Tiny Tim, and later raising a toast to Scrooge for providing the feast. The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come shows the Cratchits in a future where Tiny Tim has died and here we see how sensitive Bob Cratchit is. His love for his son is shown through his grief.

In the end, when Scrooge changes his ways for the better, Bob Cratchit is delighted. He welcomes Scrooge's new-found generosity and friendship.

Stave 1 'A poor excuse for picking a man's pocket every twenty-fifth of December!'

Scrooges is selfish and resents
Christmas. Scrooge begrudgingly gives
Bob Christmas day off.

Stave 4

"My little, little child!" cried Bob.
"My little child!"

He mourns the death of his son Tiny Tim – he is heartbroken.











Stave 1

'The clerk's fire was so much smaller that it looked like one coal.'

Bob is poorly treated by Scrooge.

Dickens down plays this importance in the opening – only referring to him as the clerk.

Stave 3

'Mr Scrooge! The Founder of the Feast!

Scrooge's sees the Crachit's warm family Christmas – they represent the 'perfect' family despite their poverty.

Stave 5

'I am about to raise your salary!'

'he was a second father'

Bob welcomes Scrooge's new found generosity and friendship.

Additional Quotations - Bob Cratchit

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Character - Tiny Tim

Tiny Tim is one of Bob Cratchit's sons. Despite his physical difficulties, he is a positive and generous child. He thinks of others and is well-loved by his family. Scrooge is affected by the child and when he is shown the Cratchit family Christmas by the Ghost of Christmas Present, he worries whether Tiny Tim will live. The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come shows a possible future in which Scrooge's fears are realised and Tiny Tim has died.

At the end of the novella, after Scrooge changes his character, we learn that he becomes like a second father to Tiny Tim and he lives!

Stave 3 'they were happy, grateful, pleased with one another'

Despite Tiny Tim's sickliness and the family's poverty, he is kind and happy.

Stave 5 'he was a second father' 'God bless us, every one!'

Tiny Tim lives! Scrooge cares and looks after Tiny Tim – becoming like a second father.









Stave 3 'he bore a little crutch, and had his limbs supported by an iron frame.'

Tiny Tim appears fragile and sickly – but remains a cheerful, grateful, religious character.

Stave 4
'The noisy little Cratchits were as still as statues'

Tiny Tim's 'death' arguably highlights social injustice as we know he lives once Scrooge/Scrooge's wealth helps him live.

Additional Quotations - Tiny Tim

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Character - Ghost of Christmas Past

The Ghost of Christmas Past is the first spirit to visit Scrooge after the ghost of Marley. The spirit appears to be both old and young at the same time with light streaming from the top of its head.

It takes Scrooge to scenes from his own past, showing him visions of his own childhood, of his young adulthood and of happier times. The final scene he presents is one that Scrooge cannot bear to witness: his lost love, Belle, with her family. Scrooge turns on the ghost and demands to be shown no more. He attempts to extinguish the ghost's light with its own cap, wrestling it to the ground. However, the light that shines from the ghost cannot be put out.

Stave 2 'would you so soon put out...the light I give?'

Scrooge is uncomfortable with the light from the spirit – highlights his miserly ways?

Stave 2

'these were the shadows of things that have been... Do not blame me!'

The Ghost firmly states how Scrooge is responsible for his own past – encouraging accountability.









Stave 2 'From the crown of its head there sprung a bright clear light.'

It flickers like a candle and seems to reflect the fact that Scrooge's past behaviour can be redeemed.

Light = joy/happiness/hope

Stave 2

'She died a woman... and had, as I think, children... Your nephew!'

The ghost reminds Scrooge of the importance of family and arguably makes Scrooge feel guilty of his treatment of Fred



Key Character - The Ghost of Christmas Present

The Ghost of Christmas Present is a huge and vibrant character who appears as the bell, once again, strikes one. It appears in Scrooge's room, surrounded by a feast - reflecting the generous nature of the spirit.

It shows Scrooge visions of the world on Christmas Day, including heart-warming scenes of celebration at the homes of Bob Cratchit and Scrooge's nephew, Fred. Before it leaves Scrooge, the Ghost shows him two 'yellow, meagre' children who are hiding under its cloak. These are called Ignorance and Want and are a warning to Scrooge to change his ways.

Stave 3 'it's open hand, its cheery voice...its joyful air'

He represents all that is good about Christmas – things Scrooge was not.

Stave 3
'Beware them both...(Ignorance and Want)'

Warns Scrooge about his and societies actions – encourages change.









Stave 3
Come in! and know me better, man!'

The Ghost of Christmas Present is a huge and vibrant character

Stave 3

I see a vacant seat... If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future, the child will die.'

He warns Scrooge of Tiny Tim's death.



Key Character - Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come

The final Ghost is frightening and eerie. It doesn't say a word to Scrooge.

The spirit first shows Scrooge a funeral scene, with businessmen wondering about the money that the dead man has left. The Ghost then takes him through dark alleyways to a scene of three people picking through the belongings of the deceased. Scrooge recognises that his own death could be met this way. Next the Ghost takes him to the Cratchit household where Scrooge is upset to realise that Tiny Tim has died.

Finally the Ghost shows him a tombstone engraved with the name: Ebenezer Scrooge. Clutching at the spirit's robes, Scrooge pledges to change his ways!

Stave 4 'It was shrouded in a deep black garment' Frightful spirit that looks like the grim reaper – representing death and fear?





The Ghost of Christmas Future is silent. Scrooge feels scared/intimidated.

Stave 4

'Trembling as he went; and, following the finger, read upon the stone of the neglected grave his own name, EBENEZER SCROOGE.'

The Ghost reveal the 'dead man' was Scrooge, showing him his own grave.





Stave 4
'I fear you more than any Spectre I have seen'

Scrooge now respects and fears the ghosts.



Key Character - Jacob Marely

Jacob Marley was the business partner of Ebenezer Scrooge. He died seven years ago. Dickens emphasizes the single fact of Marley's death ('dead as a door-nail') to prepare readers to be as astonished as Scrooge is when Marley's Ghost appears.

Scrooge sees Jacob Marley's face in the door knocker. Scrooge shakes off the eerie feeling, opens the door, and tries to pretend it never happened. Marely then appears to Scrooge. Marley is bound by a chain across his middle representing his greed and selfish acts on earth. He comes to warn Scrooge of the fate that may befall him if he does not change. He is full of regret and awareness of his sinful errors and shows remorse for his earthly actions - he is tormented by his situation. He tells Scrooge he will be visited by three spirits.



Marley warns Scrooge what his previous greed and selfish actions have caused in the after life.





'Marley was dead; to begin with'
Dickens establishes Marely is very much
dead. He died 7 years before the novella.

Stave 1

'Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business'

Marley acknowledges the errors of his previous actions as a warning to Scrooge to change.





Stave 1
'No rest, no peace. Incessant torture of remorse.'

Marely explains his awful punishment for his sinful and greedy existence on earth – a warning to Scrooge.

Additional Quotations - Ghosts

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Theme - Family

In the novella, Dickens highlights the importance of family and how it is a source of happiness, comfort and strength. He uses the Cratchits to symbolise the 'perfect' family, despite their poverty.

Scrooge doesn't see why he needs family, not caring for Fred, and only looks at the financial burden of family. Dickens highlights that Scrooge is unhappy due to his lack of family, but through his redemption he can become happy by valuing family (Fred) and gaining family through Tiny Tim and the Cratchits.

Stave 2 'Why do you delight to torture me?' Scrooge's sees Belle's new family and shows the pain and regret he feels.

Stave 3 'I am sorry for him.'

We see Fred's Christmas and how he pities Scrooge and never gives up on him.











Stave 1
'A merry Christmas, Uncle!
God save you!'

Scrooge's nephew, Fred – his only living family, invites his uncle to Christmas dinner. Scrooge refuses.

Stave 3
'they were happy, grateful, pleased
with one another'

'Mr Scrooge! The Founder of the Feast!'
Scrooge's sees the Cratchit's warm
family Christmas – something Scrooge
does not have as he rejects Fred.

Stave 5 'will you let me in Fred?' 'he was a second father'

Scrooge goes to Fred's for Christmas (rebuilding their relationship) and Scrooge cares and looks after Tiny Tim – becoming like a second father.

Additional Quotations - Family

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Theme - Christmas

Christmas was hardly celebrated at the start of the 19th century. Popularisation was a result of Queen Victoria and her marriage to Prince Albert. Christmas is a Christian celebration of the birth of Christ. It is a time when families and friends come together to share food and exchange gifts.

Dickens wrote this novella before Christmas 1843. The story of Scrooge takes place on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and uses the ideas of generosity and compassion that we associate with Christmas to highlight the transformation of the main character.

Stave 1

'A merry Christmas, Uncle! God save you!'
Scrooge's nephew, Fred, invites his uncle
to Christmas dinner. He is the antithesis of
Scrooge - generous and kind.

Stave 3
'they were happy, grateful, pleased with one another'

'Mr Scrooge! The Founder of the Feast!'
Scrooge sees the Cratchit's family Christmas.
Despite their poverty, they are thankful and happy for all they have.











Stave 1

'A poor excuse for picking a man's pocket every twenty-fifth of December!'
Scrooges is selfish and resents
Christmas. Scrooge begrudgingly

gives Bob Christmas day off.

Stave 2

Scrooge's old boss Fezziwig is the antithesis of Scrooge as he is a kind and generous boss who provides a great Christmas party for all.

'Fezziwig...rich, fat, jovial voice.'

Stave 5

'A Merry Christmas to everybody!'
'So glowing with good intentions'
Scrooge is redeemed and becomes
giving and thankful. He then
epitomised all that is good at
Christmas.

Additional Quotations - Christmas

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Theme - Redemption/Change

Redemption is the idea of being saved from sin or evil. In Scrooge we see a man who is transformed from a greedy, selfish miser into a generous and good-natured character by the end of the novella.

He is shown the error of his ways by the ghosts that visit him and is redeemed by his own willingness to change. The moral message of the novella is that all human beings have the opportunity to behave in kinder ways towards each other.

Stave 1 'I wear the chains that I forged in life.'

Marley warns Scrooge what his previous greed and selfish actions have caused in the after life – he encourages Scrooge to change.

Stave 4

'I am not the man I was.'
Scrooge sees his grave and regrets his past actions, he repents.











Stave 1

'Scrooge... covetous old sinner!'
When we first meet Scrooge he is selfish and resents Christmas.

Stave 2

"I should like to be able to say a word or two to my clerk just now! That's all." Scrooge sees his old boss Fezziwig and seems to start regretting his treatment of Bob Cratchit.

Stave 5

'will you let me in Fred?'
'he was a second father'

Scrooge is redeemed and becomes giving and thankful. He rebuilds his relationship with Fred and becomes a part of Tiny Tim's life and gives Bob a raise.

Additional Quotations - Redemption/Change

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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Key Theme - Social Injustice

There was a great divide between the classes within the Victorian era. On the one hand were the rich who enjoyed comfort and feasting at Christmas, and on the other were children forced to live in dreadful conditions in workhouses.

Dickens believed that Malthus' theory that 'poverty was inevitable' was wrong, he thought there was plenty of food to go around, if the rich were more generous. He thought it was wrong that the poor should suffer because the rich were too selfish to share their wealth. Benevolent capitalism: those with more money can and should use some it for good (help those less fortunate).

Stave 3

'Mr Scrooge! The Founder of the Feast!'

Scrooge sees the Cratchit's family Christmas. Despite their poverty, they are thankful and happy for all they have.

Stave 4

'The noisy little Cratchits were as still as statues'

Tiny Tim's death arguably highlights social injustice as we know he lives once Scrooge/Scrooge's wealth helps him live.











Stave 1

'Are there no prisons?'

Charity collectors appeal to Scrooge for help – he refuses. He shows no empathy for the poor and states 'If they would rather die they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population.'

Stave 3

'Yellow, meagre, scowling, wolfish.' Ignorance and Want highlight the flaws of Victorian society and how greed is the catalyst to so many problems.

Stave 5

'So glowing with good intentions' 'he was a second father'

Scrooge is redeemed and becomes giving and thankful. Scrooge choosing to do good for other's highlights what Dickens felt the rich SHOULD be doing.

Additional Quotations - Social Injustice

| Stave | Quote | What does it show? |
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SCROOGE



Generous

Optimistic

Charitable

Christian

Mindful

Obliaina

Altruistic

Familial

Determined

Emblematic

Benevolent

Caring

Genial

Affable

Considerate

FRED



Impoverished

Humble

Kind

Mild

Moral

Dedicated

Vulnerable

Christian

Obedient

Submissive

Compliant

Yieldina

Grateful

Trusting

Forgiving

Virtuous

Accepting

Devoted

Adorina

Cheerful

An antidote

Affectionate

Poor

Hardworking

BOB



MARLEY



Allegorical



PRESENT



Short-tempered Hostile

Antagonistic Unrepentant **Remorseless**

Cold hearted

Miserly **Misanthropic**

Caustic

Inimical

Vicious **Uncharitable**

Detached

Ostracised

Ignorant Unsettled

Frightened

Contrite

Remorseful **Atonina**

Responsibility

Microcosm

Metamorphosis Empathetic

Kind-hearted

CRATCHIT

Prophetic Unhallowed Reformed **Protector** Doomed

Condemned **Undeviatina**

Direct Saviour Greedy

Epiphanic Burdened

Laden **Ominous**

Appallina Melancholic

Chillina **Forebodina**

Tortured Remorseful

Guilt-ridden Rearetful

Deterrent Reprimand

Commandina **Curious** Liaht Redemption Unusual Symbolic Innocent Unsettlina **Peculiar** Indistinct Unfamiliar Strange Memory Angelic Caring

Guidina

Gracious

Jolly Giant Genial **Honest Jovial** Welcoming Majestic **Hospitable Charitable Symbolic** Peaceful **Benevolent** Kingly **Noble** Grand **Magnificent Grandiose**

Impressive

Portent Aphonic Silent Dark **Ominous** Macabre **Deathly** Stately Grave **Fearsome Spectral Terrifying** Chillina Harrowing Intimidating Dreaded Menacing Sinister **Threatenina** Grim Murkv Gloomy Unearthly

Throughout this <u>extract and the novella as a whole</u>, how does Dickens? 40 Marks.

Question will focus on a theme or character(s).

Requires you to explore events and quotes from the extract and elsewhere in the novella.

A01 = support/justify ideas (HOW) A02 = analysis (WHY)

A03 = links to context(WHY)

| Success Criteria | Yes or no? |
|--|------------|
| Write in full sentences | |
| Make a clear point in each paragraph that links to your question | |
| Use evidence from the extract and elsewhere in the novella | |
| Use quotations to support/justify your ideas (HOW) | |
| Use terminology within your response if/when appropriate (HOW) | |
| Consider the effect and/or purpose of moments/quotes (WHY) | |
| Analyse the use of language and/or devices (WHY) | |
| Include relevant links context (WHY) | |

Model: How does Dickens present Scrooge and Fred as juxtaposing characters?

Scrooge is Dickens embodiment of a character that suffers from a terrible temper, avarice and shows us that his appearance matches his dour personality. Although, Fred is his nephew he has characteristics that show a light-hearted, jovial and kind personality in marked contrast to his uncle.

Scrooge (as the main protagonist) and Fred are shown by Dickens to be juxtaposing characters. Scrooge is described using

similes "as solitary as an oyster" to suggest that he is closed off from the world, isolated and dislikes other people, perhaps because he has grown to distrust others or due to his own greed. Whereas, Fred is described in the opposite way with a healthy glow "All in a glow" and "ruddy cheeks" suggesting he is in good health, has colour in his cheeks and is a cheerful sort of person. The use of adjectives are positive for Fred, while they are negatively listed for Scrooge "thin blue lips" and "pointed nose" implying a sharpness in Scrooge's appearance that compliments the sharpness of his personality. We also know Scrooge and Fred juxtapose in appearance and behaviour as Fred uses the cheerful seasons greeting "Merry Christmas" to speak to his uncle and wish him the goodness of Christmas, while Scrooge uses a sarcastic tone to wish Fred "Good Afternoon". Scrooge's repetitive use of the salutation is interesting as Scrooge is clearly not interested in carrying on a conversation with his nephew, showing that Fred is caring, kind and generous, whereas Scrooge cannot wait for Fred to leave. Fred had come to the "counting-house" to offer his uncle a meal on Christmas Day, which is unsurprisingly rejected by Scrooge, but which was offered in a generous spirit of goodwill, which is fitting for the Christian celebrations that will take place due to the birth of Jesus. Clearly, Dickens wants to emphasise the effect money can have on some wealthy people. Scrooge is rich in money and shows avarice, while Fred is not rich in money but shows generosity of spirit. Perhaps, Dickens wanted the audience in Victorian London to see the pain and suffering caused by the desire that many people had to become and then stay middle class during the Industrial Revolution. Scrooge therefore symbolically represents the worst of society in his appearance, behaviour and attitudes to the poor.

- 1) Use a triplet of ideas to develop a sophisticated answer
- 2) Use a combination of quotations and subject terminology to identify the writer's choices (HOW) and comment on their effect.
- 3) Use inference look for deeper meanings that combine your understanding of the text and your understanding of the way people behave (HOW).
- 4) Comment on actions and behaviours and appearance and explain what they reveal about the character (HOW).
- 5) Use tentative language to suggest some of the wider meanings the writer may be trying to get across (WHY).

Model: How does Dickens present family as important to society in A Christmas Carol?

Dicken's presents family as incredibly important in his allegorical novella 'A Christmas Carol' as Dicken's own father was put in prison when he was young, having a profound effect on him. Scrooge juxtaposes other characters as he rejects the possibility of his own family, we see joy in the Cratchit's (despite their poverty) and finally Fred's kindness is also shown towards his family.

In Stave 2 Scrooge rejects his fiancée by not protesting that he will love her and care for her. Belle uses the metaphor "a golden idol has replaced me" when she "releases" Scrooge from his engagement to her. This suggests that money and wealth are infinitely more important to him than his own family. The Ghost of the Past is instrumental in showing Scrooge what could have been when Belle is described as a "comely Matro" by the omniscient narrator to suggest that she has aged well, is happy and content due to her family. Furthermore, she is "surrounded by children" which shows her large family and how this could have been Scrooge's fate if he had not loved wealth as much. Family was comforting in the Victorian society as the Welfare State was not in existence meaning families has to look after their elderly relations or they would end up in workhouses (which was the worst fate for the poor). In Stave one Fred is also introduced to us as Scrooge's nephew and also rejected by him with the repetition of "Good Afternoon" showing how dismissive Scrooge can be when there is no financial gain. Fred shows kindness and caring towards him, but he rejects his offer of "Christmas Dinner" and to "dine with us" suggesting Scrooge likes his isolation and lonely, money-filled life.

Throughout the extract the family is seen as paramount to the happiness of the Cratchit family. Bob is crushed with disappointment when he thinks Martha is not coming for Christmas dinner suggesting love, tenderness and a family bond towards his child. The adjective in "sudden declension in his high spirits" shows how disappointed he is. Tiny Trim and his siblings are extremely caring towards each other when the younger one "spirit him off" so he can "hear the pudding sing" which seems a simple pleasure, but shows that the little things in life matter and that siblings kindness is important, especially as Tiny Tim is the "cripple" and represents Christian goodwill and charity. Perhaps, Dickens was showing the effects of poverty through the presentation of the symbolic Tiny Tim who encourages the people in church to see him as Christmas is about Jesus and he "made beggars walk and blind men see" showing that although Tiny Tim is crippled he is the heart of the family and represents the way people should be towards each other.

Annotate this model

- ✓ Embedded quotations (HOW)
- ✓ Terminology (HOW)

- ✓ Analytical verbs (WHY)
- ✓ Developed analysis (WHY)
- ✓ Links to context (WHY)

- ✓ Structural awareness
- ✓ Higher level vocabulary choices
- ✓ Being tentative/use modal verbs