



The Sutton Academy

Knowledge Rich Curriculum Plan

GCSE English Literature – Christmas Carol

Year 10

	Intent: To provide students with the knowledge of the plot and the process to answer the AQA Exam Question using the 5 Scrooges. Students will also complete the reading of the text at home via Sparx Reader using, depending on the set, either the original or easy read. A booklet of key extracts is also available in which students can annotate at home, again depending on the set. Students will be drilled with exam technique using the steps and the five scrooges. Teacher will use their judgement when it comes to removing scaffolds, again, depending on the set. Staff will use the quote analysis examples and relevant models to support their class. Opportunities for Oracy strategies are highlighted in red.				
Lesson 1: A Christmas Carol Context	- Students will know that A Christmas Carol forms one section of their English Literature exam; that they will be asked one question on the text; that they will be expected to write for 45 minutes. - Students will know that: Charles Dickens was a novelist who lived during the 19th century, and his views on education and poverty. Students will know about aspects of Victorian life including clothing, working conditions, issues of gender and race and education. Students will know that there was a large economic divide between rich and poor in Victorian times.	Tier 2 Dickensian <i>'A typical Dickensian theme is poverty and social injustice.'</i>	<i>Students need to know that Victorian England was a time of great change and social inequality. Students need to know what social class is.</i>	<i>Students have read Oliver Twist in Year 7 and Short Stories SOW in year 9 and have contextual knowledge of the 19th Century. Social class is taught in Blood Brothers.</i>	Notes from the clip. Poor: - Many moved from the countryside to cities to work in factories. - Cities became overcrowded with poorly paid workers. - Worked long hours in jobs like rat catching, street sweeping, matchstick making, and factory work. - Earned very little money and had almost no luxuries. - Lived in damp, dirty, cramped apartments—often all in one room. - Shared public bathrooms. - Streets had sewage running through them, causing terrible smells. - Many children died from diseases. - Extremely poor families who couldn't pay rent lived in workhouses. - Children did not go to school and had to work to help feed the family. - Ate only what they could afford: bread, dripping, gravy, tea, potatoes, and old or rotten vegetables. - Meat was a rare luxury. - Wore second-hand clothes made of wool or cotton; clothes had to be patched up when damaged. - Clothing was dark to hide dirt. - Had no time or money for entertainment or sports. Rich: - Included doctors, lawyers, bankers, factory owners, merchants, and shopkeepers. - Enjoyed a comfortable, luxurious lifestyle. - Wore hats/bonnets, gloves, and men carried pocket watches and handkerchiefs. - Women wore satin or silk dresses in the evening. - Played games like cards; enjoyed sports such as fishing, tennis, and cricket. - Some extremely wealthy people (aristocracy) didn't need to work. - Lived in large houses with many servants. - Ate plenty of meat, vegetables, cheese, eggs, cakes, jam, and tea. - Kept clean and wore beautiful clothes. - Went to the theatre and took seaside holidays.

					- Children had expensive toys. - Many wealthy children had a nanny or governess who taught them reading, writing, languages, art, and music.
Lesson 2: Stave One Pt.1	- Students will know the five Scrooges. Depending on the set, students can learn some synonyms for the five scrooges. - Opportunities for choral response here with new vocabulary	Misanthropic - Distrustful of people - Cynical - Antisocial - Hostile - Unfriendly toward humanity Reflective - Thoughtful - Contemplative - Meditative - Pensive - Considerate Sympathetic - Caring - Compassionate - Understanding - Supportive - Kind-hearted Fearful - Afraid - Terrified - Nervous - Timid - Anxious Benevolent - Kind - Generous - Charitable - Good-hearted - Compassionate	<i>Students need to know that Dickens wrote a Christmas Carol to highlight the need for social reform.</i>		Students should produce flashcards of each Scrooge to continue to learn them. When using oracy, teacher should prompt the students to use these terms.

Lesson 3, 4, 5 Watching the film	- Students will know the plot watching the Disney version. - Students need to use the visual aid to stop and write down what has happened for each scene. - Students need to annotate when each 5 Scrooge is shown. Opportunities for choral response and say it better to solidify knowledge of the four Scrooges.			<i>Students have read Oliver Twist in Year 7 and The Signal-Man and have experience with Dickens' style.</i>	1.
Lesson 6 Key Knowledge of the Plot	Students consolidate their knowledge of the plot of a Christmas Carol by answering short questions and completing the table of how Scrooge has been redeemed. Opportunities for choral response and say it better to solidify knowledge of the four Scrooges.	<i>Redemption means making up for something bad or wrong that you have done in the past. It's about trying to become a better person and earn forgiveness or peace through good actions or change.</i>	<i>Students will need to know the plot of the story.</i>		- He hates Christmas and thinks it's a waste of time and money. - His nephew Fred. - He refuses and says he doesn't support helping the poor. - His former business partner who died seven years earlier. - As a ghost wrapped in heavy chains. - That Scrooge will suffer the same fate if he doesn't change. - Three spirits. - At one o'clock. - The Ghost of Christmas Past. - To Scrooge's old school. - Himself as a lonely young boy left there during the holidays. - Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig and the guests enjoying the party. - She breaks off their engagement because Scrooge loves money more than her. - Sad, regretful, and guilty. - The Ghost of Christmas Present. - To see how others celebrate Christmas, including the Cratchit family. - Tiny Tim is Bob Cratchit's sickly son; Scrooge feels concern for him. - That Tiny Tim will die if nothing changes. - That even poor people celebrate with kindness, joy, and generosity. - The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. - Scenes of the future, including people reacting to someone's death. - He is terrified and desperate to change. - He promises to honor Christmas, live with kindness, and change his ways. How has Scrooge changed? What is juxtaposed here?

					“I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future!” Whereas previously, Scrooge only cared about money and ignored the lessons of his past or the needs of others in the present, now he embraces all three and wants to learn from them. This juxtaposes his former ignorance with his new awareness and commitment to change. “Oh Jacob Marley! Heaven, and the Christmas Time be praised for this!” In Stave 1, Scrooge didn’t believe in Marley’s ghost or anything supernatural. Now he praises Marley, Christmas, and heaven, showing his new appreciation for goodness and gratitude, contrasting with his earlier disbelief and coldness. “I am as light as a feather, I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a schoolboy. I am as giddy as a drunken man. A merry Christmas to everybody!” In Stave 1, Scrooge was miserable, joyless, and bitter about Christmas. Now Scrooge feels childlike joy, excitement, and energy. It juxtaposes his earlier gloom and grumpiness with his new overflowing happiness. “‘An intelligent boy!’ said Scrooge. ‘A remarkable boy!’” In Stave 1, Scrooge treated others with irritation and impatience, especially those asking for help or simply greeting him. Now he speaks kindly and enthusiastically, showing warmth and appreciation toward others. This contrasts with his earlier rudeness and dismissiveness. “Scrooge regarded every one with a delighted smile... three or four good-humoured fellows said, ‘Good morning, sir! A merry Christmas to you!’” Previously, Scrooge’s attitude would have made others avoid him or respond coldly, as he was unpleasant and unapproachable. Now he is so friendly and pleasant that people greet him cheerfully in return. ‘Allow me to ask your pardon... Not a farthing less. A great many back-payments are included in it, I assure you.’ Previously Scrooge refused to give any money to charity and said the poor should go to prisons or workhouses. Now he happily donates a generous amount and apologises, showing genuine generosity and repentance.
Lesson 7 Approaching the exam	- Students will know how to answer an exam question using the steps provided and the four Scrooges. - Teachers will model the approach using the steps in the booklet.	Shows Suggests Highlights	Students will need to know the 5 scrooge’s and the story.	Students already understand Dickens’ view of the middle classes in Victorian	We can rephrase this as How is Scrooge shown / portrayed / depicted in <i>A Christmas Carol</i>? Synonyms of ‘presents’ are shows, portrays, depicts, illustrates, reveals. What do we already know about Scrooge? He is cold-hearted, selfish, greedy, and dismissive of Christmas and other people. He dislikes generosity and avoids human connection.

- When choosing quotes, try to guide students to use the quote of the five scrooges.

Potential for Oracy here in discussion of annotations and analysis using the 5 scrooges and shows, suggests, highlights.

society from Oliver Twist. Should already be familiar with the analysis verbs from KS3 and the poetry schemes.

What's his purpose in the novella?

To show that anyone can change, to teach a moral lesson about compassion, and to demonstrate the consequences of greed and isolation.

Who does he represent in society?

He represents wealthy, uncaring Victorian businessmen who ignored the poor and valued money over humanity.

The Scrooge in the extract is Misanthropic

A similar Scrooge to this in the novella is reflective, he hasn't quite changed yet.

A contrasting Scrooge to this in the novella is benevolent

"No warmth could warm, no wintry weather chill him."

This shows that Scrooge is emotionally cold and completely unaffected by human kindness or the warmth of other people. He is disconnected from normal human feelings.

This suggests that Scrooge is almost inhuman, as if he is beyond natural influences. Dickens uses this unnatural image to show how hardened and uncaring Scrooge has become.

This highlights Dickens's message that a lack of compassion can freeze a person's humanity. Scrooge represents those in society who shut themselves off from others and ignore suffering.

Your turn Choose your own evidence to analyse:

Example 3:

"Secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster."

This shows that Scrooge isolates himself from everyone around him, choosing to shut out human relationships.

This suggests that, like an oyster, Scrooge has a hard, closed exterior that protects something hidden inside — hinting that he may still have goodness or vulnerability within him.

This highlights Dickens's intention to show that even the coldest people can change. The simile implies that Scrooge's isolation is harmful but not permanent, foreshadowing his future transformation.

Lesson 8 Charity	- Students will know that Thomas Malthus was an English economist best known for his theory that population growth will always tend to outrun the food supply and that betterment of humankind is impossible without strict limits on reproduction. - Students will know the Poor Laws were intended to reduce spending on the poor but were inhumane - Students will know how Dickens presents ideas about social responsibility in A Christmas Carol. - Students will know that Dickens criticising the Malthusian attitude to the poor. - He highlights the suffering of the poor He promotes assistance of the poor Potential for Oracy here in discussion of annotations and analysis using the 5 scrooges and shows, suggests, highlights.	<i>Malthusian – Ideas and practices relating to Thomas Malthus and his views on human population and world resources.</i>	Students will need to know that charity is the act of giving to those less fortunate. Students will know that charity is needed because often the people in society who are in need are the most overlooked. Society and governments aren't set up to protect everyone who needs it. That's why charities are here to fill the gaps and provide dedicated resources to help the most vulnerable	Students will know the word morality from KS3	Step 1 Read the question & identify the focus • The focus is Scrooge's attitude to charity. • This means helping the poor, donating, generosity, compassion, responsibility. Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show Scrooge's views on giving money and helping others?</i> Synonyms for 'attitude to charity': • View on generosity • Approach to helping others • Response to poverty • Treatment of the poor • Sense of responsibility Step 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? The Scrooge in the extract is: Misanthropic Scrooge — cold, selfish, uncaring, hostile to charity. Step 3 Evidence from the extract Possible quotations: • "I can't afford to make idle people merry." • "Are there no prisons? Are there no workhouses?" • "It's enough for a man to understand his own business." • "I wish to be left alone." Notes on what they show, suggest, highlight What this shows: • Scrooge refuses responsibility for anyone but himself. • He sees the poor as lazy ("idle people"). What this suggests: • He believes charity encourages weakness. • He thinks poverty should be punished rather than solved. What this highlights: • Dickens criticises Victorian attitudes that blamed the poor for their suffering. • Scrooge becomes a symbol of society's cruelty towards the vulnerable. Step 4 Choose two other Scrooges for comparison A similar Scrooge: Reflective Scrooge (Stave 2 begins to change) • Quote: "A solitary child, neglected by his friends." • This shows he starts to understand loneliness and suffering. • Links to charity: he begins to see why helping others matters.
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					• Similarity: Still connected to his earlier isolation, learning why charity is necessary. OR Sympathetic Scrooge (Stave 3 Christmas Present) • Quote: “Tell me spirit, will the boy live?” • Shows real concern for Tiny Tim. • Links to charity: he recognises the consequences of ignoring the poor. • Similar because he begins to feel responsible. A contrasting Scrooge: Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5 transformed) • Quote: Scrooge gives “many back-payments.” • Quote: “Endeavour to help your struggling family.” • He becomes generous, joyful, and socially responsible. • Juxtaposes: the miserly Scrooge in the extract who refused to give a penny. • Shows Dickens’s message of moral transformation. OR Fearful Scrooge (Stave 4 terrified into compassion) • Quote: “Tell me I may sponge away the writing on the stone!” • Shows fear pushes him to change. • Juxtaposes: he goes from refusing charity to begging for a second chance. Suggested answers How Dickens presents Scrooge’s attitude to charity in the extract • Dickens shows Scrooge as harsh and uncaring towards the poor (Misanthropic Scrooge). • He refuses to donate, saying “I can’t afford to make idle people merry” which shows he believes poor people are lazy. • His question, “Are there no prisons? Are there no workhouses?” suggests he supports punishing the poor rather than helping them. • This highlights Dickens’s criticism of wealthy Victorians who rejected charity and blamed the poor for their suffering. How Dickens presents Scrooge’s attitude to charity in the rest of the novella • Later, Reflective Scrooge begins to understand suffering when he sees his lonely childhood (“a solitary child”). • Sympathetic Scrooge in Stave 3 worries about Tiny Tim (“Will the boy live?”), showing he is developing compassion. • By the end, Benevolent Scrooge transforms completely, donating generously with “many back-payments” and helping the Cratchit family.
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					This juxtaposes the cold, selfish Scrooge in the extract and reinforces Dickens's message that generosity and social responsibility can save lives.
Lesson 9: Overviews and Childhood	- Students will know how to use the overviews (help with ideas and introductions at the beginning of the booklet) - Students will know how social reforms started to develop to protect childhood. Potential for Oracy here in discussion of annotations and analysis using the 5 scrooges and shows, suggests, highlights.			Students know the word oppression from KS3	Overview: <i>Childhood: Dickens highlights childhood as a pure, innocent, and hopeful time that can shape a person's compassion and morality.</i> HAPS In <i>A Christmas Carol</i>, Dickens presents childhood as a formative, innocent, and emotionally powerful period, using it to criticise the neglect of vulnerable children and to show how early experiences shape a person's capacity for compassion. MAPS In <i>A Christmas Carol</i>, Dickens shows childhood as an important, emotional, and innocent stage of life that influences who people become and encourages readers to care for children. LAPS In <i>A Christmas Carol</i>, Dickens shows childhood as a sad but important time that affects Scrooge deeply and helps teach him to be kinder. Bullet-Point Suggestions: How Dickens Presents Childhood in the Extract Use these ideas to build your paragraphs. - Dickens presents childhood as lonely and neglected, shown through Scrooge being left alone at school while others go home. - Childhood is shown as emotionally powerful, as Scrooge reacts with sudden sadness and regret. - Dickens uses the scene to show childhood as formative, shaping Scrooge's later coldness and isolation. - The description of young Scrooge as "a solitary child" highlights vulnerability and abandonment. - Dickens suggests that children need love, care, and companionship, and that the lack of these can have lifelong consequences. - The Ghost of Christmas Past reveals childhood as a time filled with imaginary friends and stories, showing a natural innocence Scrooge has lost.

					- Childhood is presented as a source of moral awakening because the memory softens Scrooge and begins his transformation.
Lesson 10: Christmas	- Students will know that Christmas is a time of celebration and generosity - Students will know that Christmas' values are embodied by Fezziwig - Students can answer this as a practice question or a guided one with their teacher depending on their set.	Foil- a character who contrasts another Charactonyms – a name that reflects the traits of the character	<i>Students will need to know the plot to plan their response.</i> <i>They will need to know the five scrooges</i> <i>They will need to know that Christmas is a time of peace and generosity</i>		STEP 1 Read the question & identify the focus Question focus: Christmas — what Dickens says about Christmas, what values are linked to Christmas, what Christmas symbolises. What we already know: Dickens presents Christmas as: - joyful - generous - compassionate - a time for family, friendship, and togetherness - a moral reminder to help others Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show the meaning and importance of Christmas?</i> Synonyms for Christmas (in meaning): - Festive spirit - Generosity - Celebration - Goodwill - Togetherness - Charity STEP 2 Which Scrooge is featured in the extract? In the Fezziwig memory, Scrooge is: Reflective Scrooge He is learning from the past, seeing how joyful and generous Christmas can be. He regrets losing this part of his life. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract (Stave 2: Fezziwig's Christmas Party) Choose 2–3 quotes related to Christmas: Suggested quotations from the Fezziwig scene: "Yo ho, my boys! No more work tonight!" "The happiness he gives is quite as great as if it cost a fortune." "In came... the fiddler, the dancers, the laughter..."

					• “A small matter... to make these silly folks so full of gratitude.” How to annotate these: What this shows: Fezziwig represents generosity and warmth — Christmas as a joyful, unifying celebration. What this suggests: Christmas is not about money but about kindness, hospitality, and community. What this highlights: Dickens contrasts Fezziwig’s joy with Scrooge’s future miserliness to criticise those who forget the true meaning of Christmas. STEP 4 Choose 2 other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Reflective or Sympathetic Scrooge • Reflective Scrooge realises the value of Fezziwig’s kindness. • Sympathetic Scrooge in Stave 3 learns how the Cratchits celebrate Christmas with love despite poverty. Useful quotes: • “No more spirit! Show me no more!” (regret; reflective) • “Tell me spirit, will the boy live?” (sympathetic concern at Christmas) Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge from Stave 1 Before the ghosts, Scrooge hates Christmas. Useful quotes: • “Bah! Humbug!” • “Every idiot who goes about with ‘Merry Christmas’ ... should be buried with a stake of holly.” • “I wish to be left alone.” Why this is a contrast: This Scrooge sees Christmas as pointless and irritating, unlike Fezziwig who sees it as a joyful, generous, communal event. Or Contrasting Scrooge: Benevolent Scrooge in Stave 5 He finally understands Christmas and embraces it. Useful quotes: • “I am as merry as a schoolboy!” • “A merry Christmas to everybody!” • He donates “many back payments.” Why this is a contrast: This Scrooge now lives the Christmas spirit he once rejected — generosity, family, and goodwill.
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					SUGGESTED ANSWERS (Bullet Points) How Dickens presents ideas about Christmas in the extract (Fezziwig's party): • Dickens presents Christmas as joyful, warm, and full of life through Fezziwig's celebration. • Christmas is shown as a time of generosity — Fezziwig gives happiness freely. • Dickens uses Scrooge's nostalgia to show that Christmas creates community and belonging. • Fezziwig represents the kind of employer Dickens believed Victorian society needed: cheerful, fair, and caring at Christmas. • The extract highlights Christmas as a moral reminder of the importance of kindness, friendship, and gratitude. Overview: Dickens highlights Christmas as a joyful, generous, and unifying celebration that reminds people to care for others.
Lesson 11: Symbols in a Christmas Carol	• Students will know that symbols are used consistently by Dickens throughout the novella • Students will know that these symbols are helpful for AO2 marks. • Students will know that the Cratchit are used to show the poor are deserving of help. • Tim is a symbol of purity and innocence • Tim and Bob represent Jesus and St Christopher Students can practice their oracy skills when sharing their answers to symbols. If reading the information about the poor and symbolism teachers may have to choral response 'allude' and 'bearing' and 'embodiment' depending on the set.	Symbol- an image that represents another idea	• <i>Students will need to know the plot and the meaning of symbol.</i>	<i>Students have looked at symbols in KS3 before</i>	Symbol / Motif — Meaning Chains Chains represent the consequences of a selfish life. Marley's chains symbolise guilt, greed, and the burden of one's actions. Light and Darkness Light symbolises hope, truth, and moral clarity (the Spirits). Darkness symbolises ignorance, loneliness, and Scrooge's moral blindness. Fire and Warmth Warmth represents kindness, generosity, love, and human connection. Coldness represents Scrooge's lack of empathy and emotional isolation. The Ghosts / Spirits The Spirits symbolise reflection, morality, and transformation. Each ghost teaches Scrooge a lesson about the past, present, or future. The Weather (Cold and Snow) Cold weather reflects Scrooge's cold-hearted nature, emotional chill, and lack of compassion. Feasts and Food Food symbolises abundance, celebration, generosity, and community. It contrasts wealth and poverty. Time and Clocks Time represents urgency, change, and the chance for redemption before it is too late. Christmas Tree / Decorations These symbolise joy, celebration, tradition, and the warmth of family and community at Christmas.

					Money and Wealth Wealth symbolises greed, corruption, and moral danger when valued too highly. Dickens criticises those who idolise money over humanity. Children (Tiny Tim & Ignorance and Want) Children represent innocence and vulnerability. Tiny Tim symbolises hope and compassion, while Ignorance and Want symbolise society's neglect of the poor. The Christmas Spirit The Christmas Spirit represents generosity, kindness, goodwill, forgiveness, and the importance of caring for others.
Lesson 12 Practice Poverty Lesson 13- Feedback	Students will independently practice the Poverty Question and teachers will feedback on their response.				Attitudes to poverty — how Dickens shows poverty, how characters respond to it, and how poverty shapes Victorian society. What we already know: Dickens presents poverty as: - unfair and undeserved - caused by society, not individual “laziness” - something the wealthy ignore - dangerous when neglected (Ignorance and Want) - a test of compassion - something that builds love and togetherness in families like the Cratchits Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show people's views and treatment of the poor?</i> Synonyms for “attitudes to poverty”: - views on the poor - treatment of the needy - responses to suffering - opinions on social responsibility - beliefs about hardship

					STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? The Scrooge in the extract is: Sympathetic Scrooge He begins to feel compassion, especially for the Cratchits and Tiny Tim. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract (Cratchits' Christmas) Choose 2–3 quotations focused on poverty: Suggested quotations: • “They were not well dressed; their clothes were scanty.” • “But they were happy, grateful, pleased with one another.” • “Spirit... tell me if Tiny Tim will live.” • “If these shadows remain unaltered, the child will die.” • “Bob had but fifteen ‘Bob’ a week.” How to annotate them: What this shows: Dickens shows poverty as a daily struggle — low wages, poor clothing, lack of resources. What this suggests: Despite poverty, the Cratchits create love, warmth, and dignity. Dickens suggests the poor deserve respect, not judgement. What this highlights: Scrooge begins to reject his earlier cruel attitude (“Are there no prisons?”), showing society must change its view of poverty. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Sympathetic or Reflective Scrooge • He starts to understand poverty and feel responsibility. • Useful quotes: ○ “Have they no refuge or resource?” ○ “A solitary child, neglected by his friends” (reveals how poverty and loneliness shaped him)
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					Link: Shows growing awareness and empathy — Scrooge is learning that poverty is not the fault of the poor. Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) Before the ghosts: • “Are there no prisons?” • “Decrease the surplus population.” Link: This Scrooge is cruel, judgemental, and influenced by Victorian attitudes that blamed the poor. This directly juxtaposes the compassion he begins to feel in the extract. OR contrasting Scrooge: Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5) After transformation: • Scrooge gives “many back-payments.” • “Endeavour to help your struggling family.” • Raises Bob’s wages. Link: Shows complete reversal — from ignoring poverty to actively solving it. Suggested Answers How Dickens presents attitudes to poverty in the extract (Cratchits’ Christmas): • Dickens emphasises that poverty does not destroy dignity, love, or happiness, the Cratchits remain joyful. • Poverty is shown as undeserved: they work hard but still struggle. • Dickens critiques Victorian society for failing to support families like the Cratchits. • Scrooge becomes sympathetic, showing compassion when he asks about Tiny Tim’s future. • Dickens uses Tiny Tim to evoke pity and highlight the real human impact of poverty.
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					Overview: Dickens criticises poverty as a cruel, unjust, and degrading reality caused by society's neglect and selfishness.
Lesson 14: Poverty 2	Students will know that Ignorance and Want show how childhood is corrupted by poverty. Choral response for corrupted. Discussion of annotations, remind students to use the analytical phrasing of shows, suggests, highlights and use the five scrooges.	Corrupted – spoiled, ruined, damaged		Students know the word oppression from KS3.	STEP 1 — Identify the Question Focus <i>Question Focus:</i> <i>Sympathy for the poor — how Dickens creates pity, compassion, and concern for suffering.</i> <i>What we already know:</i> <i>Dickens uses the novella to:</i> - expose the suffering caused by Victorian poverty - criticise the wealthy for ignoring the poor - show the dangers of neglecting the poor (Ignorance & Want) - encourage charity and compassion - make readers feel sympathetic towards struggling families Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens encourage readers to feel compassion for the poor?</i> <i>Synonyms for sympathy for the poor:</i> - compassion - pity - concern - understanding - empathy - support for the needy STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? <i>The Scrooge in the extract is:</i> <i>Sympathetic Scrooge</i> <i>He begins to feel genuine concern for the suffering of the poor, especially when he sees Ignorance and Want.</i>

He also becomes Fearful Scrooge, because he is afraid of the consequences of society neglecting the poor.

STEP 3 Evidence from the Extract

(Ghost of Christmas Present reveals Ignorance & Want)

Choose 2–3 quotations that show sympathy for the poor:

Suggested quotations:

- “This boy is Ignorance. This girl is Want.”
- “Beware them both... but most of all beware this boy.”
- “Yellow, meagre, ragged, scowling, wolfish.”
- “Have they no refuge or resource?” — Scrooge
- “Are there no prisons?” the Spirit turned on him.

How to annotate these:

What this shows:

Dickens presents poverty as violent, frightening, and caused by society’s neglect, the children physically embody suffering.

What this suggests:

Ignorance (lack of education) is more dangerous than poverty itself, Dickens warns that a society that neglects the poor creates monsters.

What this highlights:

Dickens shames the wealthy for their lack of sympathy, including Scrooge’s earlier beliefs. He forces Scrooge (and the reader) to confront the horrors of poverty directly.

STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges

(one similar, one contrasting the extract)

Similar Scrooge: Sympathetic Scrooge (Stave 3)

He begins to care about Tiny Tim and the Cratchits.

Quotes to use:

- “Tell me spirit, will the boy live?”
- “Have they no refuge or resource?”

					<i>Why this links:</i> Shows Scrooge (and readers) developing genuine sympathy for the poor, understanding their vulnerability. <i>Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1)</i> Cold, heartless, and unsympathetic. <i>Quotes:</i> • “Are there no prisons?” • “Decrease the surplus population.” <i>Why this juxtaposes the extract:</i> Shows how far Scrooge must change, from cruel dismissal to emotional concern. <i>OR contrasting Scrooge: Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5)</i> Transformed, generous, compassionate. <i>Quotes:</i> • Scrooge gives “many back payments.” • “Endeavour to help your struggling family.” <i>Why this juxtaposes the extract:</i> Shows how Scrooge’s sympathy becomes action, Dickens’s ideal solution to social injustice. Suggested Answers <i>How Dickens presents sympathy for the poor in the extract:</i> • Dickens uses the frightening figures of Ignorance and Want to show the brutal consequences of poverty. • Their animalistic description (“wolfish”, “ragged”) evokes shock and pity in both Scrooge and the reader. • The Spirit’s warning (“beware them both”) shows that society is responsible for the suffering of children. • Scrooge’s emotional reaction (“Have they no refuge?”) shows he is beginning to feel sympathy. • Dickens uses the scene to condemn Victorian neglect of the poor and force readers to see the human cost.
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					Overview: Dickens criticises poverty as a cruel, unjust, and degrading reality caused by society's neglect and selfishness.
Lesson 15: Fear	- The following lessons are exam practice extracts. Teacher should use Oracy strategies to discuss planning but encourage independent practice as much as possible. - Students will know how to approach the exam. - Teachers must use their judgement to decide where students need support depending on their set. - Teachers must try to provide feedback in written forms and under the visualiser but also using oracy techniques. - Students should use the sentence stems and overviews at the beginning of the booklet when needed.				STEP 1 Identify the Question Focus Question Focus: Fear how Dickens uses fear to change Scrooge, warn society, and highlight moral consequences. What we already know about fear in the novella: - Fear forces Scrooge to confront the consequences of his choices. - Dickens uses fear to warn wealthy readers: change, or face isolation and regret. - The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come is silent, mysterious, and frightening. - Fear helps transform Scrooge into a better man. - Fear is linked to death, time running out, and being forgotten. Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show that fear can change a person?</i> Synonyms for fear: - terror - dread - horror - panic - shock - anxiety - desperation STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? Scrooge in this extract is: Fearful Scrooge He is terrified of the future and desperate to escape his fate. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract (Stave 4: Scrooge sees his grave) Choose 2–3 quotations showing fear: Suggested quotations: "He advanced towards it trembling." "Am I that man who lay upon the bed?" "No, Spirit! Oh no, no!" "I am not the man I was." "Oh, tell me I may sponge away the writing on this stone!"

					• “In his agony...” How to annotate: What this shows: Scrooge is frightened by what he sees and realises he is responsible for his own lonely death. What this suggests: Fear is powerful enough to break through Scrooge’s selfishness and make him desperate to change. What this highlights: Dickens uses fear as a moral warning: if people behave like Scrooge — cold, greedy, isolated — they will die unloved and forgotten. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Fearful Scrooge (Stave 4 earlier) • Terrified when he sees the thieves stealing from his corpse. • Quote: “Spirit, I see, I see. The case of this unhappy man might be my own.” Why this links: Shows fear growing stronger as Scrooge realises the consequences of his behaviour. Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) — no fear, only coldness • Quote: “It’s enough for a man to understand his own business.” • Quote: “Bah! Humbug!” Why this juxtaposes: Early Scrooge is unafraid of consequences and dismissive of humanity; later Scrooge is terrified by the results of his choices. OR Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5) — joy replaces fear • Quote: “Merry as a schoolboy!” • Quote: “I will honour Christmas in my heart.” Why this juxtaposes: Fear turns into transformation; Dickens shows fear can lead to goodness and redemption. Suggested Answers How Dickens presents fear in the extract: • Scrooge is terrified of the future and the certainty of death. • Dickens uses trembling, crying, repetition, and pleading to show Scrooge’s intense fear. • The silent Spirit creates an atmosphere of dread and judgement.
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					• Scrooge's fear forces a moral awakening he realises he must change. • Dickens uses fear to warn readers that selfishness leads to loneliness and regret.
Lesson 16 Redemption					STEP 1 Identify the question focus Focus: How Dickens presents Scrooge especially his change, character development, transformation, and morality. What you already know: • Scrooge changes from misanthropic → reflective → sympathetic → fearful → benevolent. • Dickens uses Scrooge as a symbol of the wealthy and as a vehicle for a moral message: everyone can change. Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show Scrooge's transformation and moral development?</i> Synonyms for "presents": • shows • portrays • depicts • illustrates • reveals STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? The Scrooge in this extract is: BENEVOLENT Scrooge He is kind, generous, joyful, and morally changed. STEP 3 2–3 quotations from the extract & how to analyse them Quotation 1: "A merrier Christmas, Bob... than I have given you for many a year." This shows: Scrooge is openly warm and affectionate. This suggests: He is eager to repair relationships the opposite of his Stave 1 coldness. This highlights: Dickens's message that Christmas inspires generosity and human connection. Quotation 2: "I'll raise your salary, and endeavour to assist your struggling family." This shows: He takes responsibility for the welfare of others.

					This suggests: He is now socially conscious Dickens's ideal employer. This highlights: Dickens criticises Victorian capitalism and celebrates compassion. Quotation 3: "Scrooge was better than his word. He did it all, and infinitely more." This shows: His transformation is genuine and lasting. This suggests: He becomes a role model of moral redemption. This highlights: Dickens's belief that people can truly reform. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar to the extract, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge — <i>Sympathetic Scrooge (Stave 3)</i> Quotes: • "Tell me spirit, will the boy live?" • "Have they no refuge or resource?" Why this links: Scrooge's change <i>begins</i> with sympathy for the Cratchits. This scene foreshadows the generous Scrooge in the extract. Contrasting Scrooge — <i>Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1)</i> Quotes: • "Are there no prisons?" • "Bah! Humbug!" • "Solitary as an oyster." Why this juxtaposes: Scrooge used to be cruel, selfish, and emotionally frozen. This sharp contrast highlights the full extent of his transformation. Suggested Bullet Points for the 30-mark Essay In the extract: • Dickens presents Scrooge as joyful, warm, and benevolent. • Scrooge speaks affectionately to Bob, showing emotional openness. • His offer to raise Bob's salary shows practical generosity. • His commitment to help Tiny Tim demonstrates a new moral awareness. • Dickens uses him as a symbol of the transformative power of Christmas.
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Lesson 17: Greed	-			STEP 1 Identify the Question Focus Question focus: Greed how Dickens criticises selfishness, materialism, and the obsession with money. What we already know about greed in the novella: • Greed isolates people (Scrooge + Marley). • Greed is corrupting and spiritually destructive. • Dickens criticises Victorian society for valuing money over humanity. • Scrooge and Marley are moral warnings. • True happiness comes from generosity, not wealth. Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens warn readers about the dangers of greed?</i> Synonyms for greed: • avarice • selfishness • miserliness • materialism • grasping nature • obsession with wealth STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? In the Marley's Ghost scene, Scrooge is: Misanthropic Scrooge Cold, greedy, dismissive, obsessed with business. He is beginning to shift into Reflective Scrooge, because Marley frightens him into reconsidering his values. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract (Choose any 2–3 quotations) Suggested quotations: 1. Marley's chains • "I wear the chain I forged in life." • "Link by link, yard by yard." Shows: Marley is punished for a life of greed. Suggests: Greed creates spiritual imprisonment. Highlights: Dickens warns that selfishness has consequences. 2. Marley's regret • "Mankind was my business!" Shows: Marley realises too late that caring for others matters more than profit. Suggests: Greed blinded him to his moral duty. Highlights: Dickens criticises businessmen who ignore social responsibility. 3. Scrooge's reaction
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					• “You were always a good man of business, Jacob.” Shows: Scrooge only values money and business success. Suggests: He still misunderstands life’s true purpose. Highlights: Dickens exposes the narrow, corrupted mindset created by greed. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) Quotes: • “A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner!” • “I can’t afford to make idle people merry.” Link: Shows Scrooge at his most greedy, reinforcing Marley’s warning. Contrasting Scrooge: Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5) Quotes: • “Merry as a schoolboy.” • Gives “many back-payments.” • “Endeavour to help your struggling family.” Link: Shows Scrooge overcoming greed through compassion, fulfilling Marley’s hope for him. Suggested Bullet-Point Answers How Dickens presents ideas about greed in the extract (Marley’s Ghost): • Marley’s chains symbolise how greed traps and destroys the soul. • Dickens shows that greed leads to eternal suffering and regret. • Marley’s warning (“Mankind was my business!”) criticises those who prioritise profit over people. • Scrooge’s reaction shows how deeply greed has corrupted him — he still admires business success. • Dickens uses fear to force Scrooge (and the reader) to reconsider the dangers of selfishness.
Lesson 18: Attitudes about Christmas	-				STEP 1 Identify the Question Focus Question Focus: The benefits of Christmas — what Christmas gives people, how it affects them, why Dickens thinks it’s important. What we already know about Dickens’ view of Christmas: • Christmas creates joy even in hardship. • Christmas strengthens community, family, and togetherness. • Christmas encourages generosity and kindness.

					- Christmas brings hope, warmth, and comfort even in dark places. - Dickens presents Christmas as a moral force that improves society. Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show that Christmas brings positive change and human connection?</i> Synonyms for benefits of Christmas: - advantages - blessings - joys - positives - gifts (symbolic) - improvements - uplifting impacts STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? In this moment Scrooge is: Reflective / Sympathetic Scrooge - He is learning from the Ghost of Christmas Present. - He begins to understand how Christmas unites people everywhere. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract Choose 2–3 quotations that show the benefits of Christmas. Suggested quotations & analysis: 1. “A cheerful company assembled round a glowing fire.” This shows: Christmas brings warmth, joy, and community. This suggests: Even poor miners find happiness despite harsh conditions. This highlights: Dickens argues that Christmas has the power to lift human spirits universally. 2. “All decked out gaily in their holiday attire.” This shows: Christmas brings celebration and pride. This suggests: Even those living in poverty find dignity and delight in Christmas traditions. This highlights: Dickens praises Christmas for giving people moments of joy in difficult lives. 3. “They wished each other Merry Christmas... struck up a sturdy song.” This shows: Christmas brings connection and companionship, even in isolation.
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					This suggests: Christmas transforms bleak, dangerous places like the lighthouse into spaces of warmth. This highlights: Dickens believes the Christmas spirit is powerful enough to overcome loneliness and hardship. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Sympathetic Scrooge (Stave 3 — Cratchits' Christmas) Quotes: • "A wonderful happiness." • "Tell me spirit, will the boy live?" Link: Scrooge is learning the emotional benefits of Christmas — love, family, joy. Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) Quotes: • "Bah! Humbug!" • "Every idiot who goes about with 'Merry Christmas'... should be buried with a stake of holly." Link: This Scrooge rejects Christmas and its benefits, making the contrast with the extract very strong. OR Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5) Quotes: • "I will honour Christmas in my heart." • "Merry as a schoolboy!" Link: He finally understands all the benefits of Christmas and lives them fully. Suggested Bullet-Point Answers How Dickens presents the benefits of Christmas in the extract: • Christmas creates joy even in harsh conditions (miners underground). • Christmas brings unity across society — even isolated lighthouse keepers celebrate it together. • Christmas lifts spirits through music, warmth, and companionship. • Dickens shows Christmas as a universal force for hope, comfort, and togetherness.
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					Scrooge learns that Christmas benefits everyone, not just the wealthy.
Lesson 18: Family Importance	-				STEP 1 Identify the Question Focus Question focus: The importance of family how Dickens shows that family creates love, warmth, unity, and moral goodness. What we already know about family in the novella: - Family is shown as a source of love and strength (Cratchits). - Family brings joy even in poverty. - Scrooge's lack of family/love partly causes his misery. - Dickens suggests society should embrace family-like compassion. - Christmas brings families together. Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show that family is valuable and central to a good, happy life?</i> Synonyms for "importance of family": - the power of family - the value of togetherness - family unity - warmth and belonging - domestic love STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? In this moment Scrooge is: Sympathetic / Reflective Scrooge He is beginning to see what he has missed by rejecting family and relationships. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract Choose 2–3 quotations to show the importance of family: Suggested quotations & analysis Quotation 1: "Mrs Cratchit... dressed out but poorly in a twice-turned gown, but brave in ribbons." Shows: The Cratchits make the best of what little they have. Suggests: Family pride, dignity, and care matter more than wealth.

					Highlights: Dickens contrasts material poverty with emotional richness. Quotation 2: “The young Cratchits danced about the table...” Shows: The children bring joy and energy. Suggests: Family creates happiness and excitement, even in simple preparations. Highlights: Dickens presents family as a source of emotional warmth and celebration. Quotation 3: “Bless your heart alive, my dear, how late you are!”... kissing her a dozen times. Shows: Mrs Cratchit shows warmth, love, and affection. Suggests: Family provides unconditional acceptance and emotional comfort. Highlights: Dickens uses the Cratchits to show the true meaning of Christmas: love, togetherness, gratitude. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Reflective Scrooge (Stave 2 — Belle’s family) Quotes: • “A cheerful company assembled round a glowing fire.” • Belle’s family is full of laughter and children. Link: Scrooge sees what he could have had: a loving family of his own. This reinforces Dickens’s message about the value of family. Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) Quotes: • “Solitary as an oyster.” • “Nobody ever stopped him in the street...” Link: Scrooge has no family, no warmth, no connection. Dickens shows the misery caused by ignoring family and relationships. OR Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5)
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					Quotes: • “He was a second father to Tiny Tim.” • “Merry Christmas!” Link: Scrooge finds happiness through becoming <i>part</i> of a family. Dickens shows that it’s never too late to create family-like bonds. Suggested Answers How Dickens presents the importance of family in the extract: • Dickens shows the Cratchits as joyful, loving, and united despite poverty. • Family members share affection (Mrs Cratchit kissing Martha), showing emotional closeness. • Their excitement over the goose shows how simple things bring happiness when shared with family. • Dickens uses the Cratchits to show that true wealth comes from relationships, not money. • Scrooge begins to realise what he lacks and what he could gain by embracing family.
Lesson 19: The Ghosts	.	-			STEP 1 Identify the question focus Question focus: Power of the ghosts — how Dickens shows the supernatural as strong, controlling, transformative, and morally authoritative. What we already know: Dickens presents the ghosts as: • morally powerful • spiritually authoritative • able to control time and space • able to influence Scrooge emotionally and physically • responsible for his transformation • symbols of moral truths Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show that the ghosts have great power and influence over Scrooge?</i> Synonyms for “powerful”: • commanding • overwhelming • authoritative • dominant • transformative • mighty • supernatural strength

					STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? In this moment Scrooge is: Timid / Reflective Scrooge He is no longer misanthropic — he is submissive and respectful toward the Spirit's power. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract (2–3 quotations + analysis) Quotation 1: "The moment Scrooge's hand was on the lock, a strange voice called him by his name..." This shows: The ghost has supernatural awareness and authority — it commands Scrooge without being seen. This suggests: Its presence is powerful and impossible to ignore. This highlights: Dickens presents the ghosts as forces greater than human control. Quotation 2: "It had undergone a surprising transformation... a perfect grove... a mighty blaze went roaring up the chimney." This shows: The ghost has the power to completely transform reality and space. This suggests: The supernatural can overpower the ordinary world. This highlights: Dickens uses the ghosts to awe the reader and Scrooge, showing their immense influence. Quotation 3: "Scrooge entered timidly... he was not the dogged Scrooge he had been." This shows: The spirit's power reduces Scrooge from stubborn to humble. This suggests: Its presence inspires both fear and respect. This highlights: Dickens uses the ghosts as moral teachers who can change human behaviour. Quotation 4: "You have never seen the like of me before!" This shows: The ghost asserts authority and uniqueness. This suggests: The ghost is a new, greater force with a powerful purpose. This highlights: Dickens presents the ghosts as unforgettable and transformative.
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					STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges to compare (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Fearful Scrooge (Stave 4) Quotes: • “He advanced towards it trembling.” • “I am not the man I was.” Why this connects: The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come terrifies Scrooge, showing massive power over his emotions and future. Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) Quotes: • “Bah! Humbug!” • “You may be an undigested bit of beef.” Why this juxtaposes: At first Scrooge mocks the supernatural. By this extract, he is obedient — showing how powerful the ghosts are to transform him. Suggested Ideas for the Essay How Dickens presents the ghosts as powerful in the extract: • They command Scrooge by name, showing supernatural control. • They completely transform Scrooge’s room into a festive, overwhelming place. • The Ghost appears as a “jolly Giant”, physically dominating the space. • Scrooge becomes timid, showing the Spirit’s authority. • The room is overflowing with abundance — symbolising the ghost’s power to reveal truth and generosity. • The Spirit’s torch and glowing light suggest moral power.
Lesson 20: Atmosphere	-				STEP 1 Identify the Question Focus Question focus: Atmosphere of celebration — how Dickens creates joy, excitement, energy, fun, warmth, and festivity. What we already know about celebration in the novella: • Fezziwig symbolises joy, generosity, and communal celebration. • Christmas is shown as a time of unity, laughter, dancing, singing, food, and warmth. • Celebrations are linked to kindness and human connection. • Scrooge learns <i>through</i> celebration what he has lost by rejecting community.

					Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens show the lively, joyful, festive atmosphere of Christmas?</i> Synonyms for celebration: • festivity • joy • merriment • cheer • high spirits • jubilation • revelry STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? In this moment Scrooge is: Reflective Scrooge He looks back at his past, comparing Fezziwig's joy with his own past behaviour. Sympathetic Scrooge He begins to admire Fezziwig, recognising kindness and happiness. STEP 3 Evidence from the extract (2–3 quotations + analysis) Quotation 1: <i>"There were more dances, and there were forfeits, and more dances..."</i> This shows: Dickens uses repetition to create excitement and nonstop fun. This suggests: The celebration is energetic and lively — almost overwhelming in its joy. This highlights: Dickens contrasts Fezziwig's joy with Scrooge's usual coldness. Quotation 2: <i>"A positive light appeared to issue from Fezziwig's calves."</i> This shows: Fezziwig is radiant, almost magical — a symbol of joy. This suggests: His dancing lights up the room, literally and emotionally. This highlights: Dickens uses humour and exaggeration to celebrate Fezziwig's spirit. Quotation 3: <i>"They shone... like moons."</i> This shows: A simile creating brightness, festivity, and spectacle. This suggests: The party is full of shining energy and wonder. This highlights: Dickens uses imagery to create a warm, glowing atmosphere.
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					Quotation 4: “Cut so deftly... he appeared to wink with his legs.” This shows: Fezziwig is playful, skilled, and full of personality. This suggests: The party is fun, animated, and full of humour. This highlights: Dickens uses comedic detail to build a vivid celebratory mood. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Similar Scrooge: Reflective Scrooge (Stave 2) Quotes: • “The happiness he gives is quite as great as if it cost a fortune.” • Shows emotional appreciation of Fezziwig’s joyful celebration. Link: This moment helps Scrooge realise the value of joy and goodwill. Contrasting Scrooge: Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) Quotes: • “Every idiot who goes about with ‘Merry Christmas’... should be buried with a stake of holly.” • Shows hatred of celebration. Why this juxtaposes: Fezziwig’s celebration highlights how miserable Scrooge once was — emphasising Dickens’s criticism of joyless greed. Suggested Ideas How Dickens creates an atmosphere of celebration in the extract: • Vibrant lists of food, dancing, and games create excitement. • Exaggeration and humour (“winking legs”) create a lively tone. • Fezziwig and his wife are energetic and joyful leaders of the celebration. • Music, dancing, and laughter help the reader feel the party’s atmosphere. • Scrooge is swept up in the celebration, showing its contagious joy.
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Lesson 21: Fred				STEP 1 Identify the Question Focus Question focus: Fred — Scrooge’s nephew, symbol of Christmas spirit, warmth, optimism, and moral goodness. What we already know about Fred: • He represents joy, generosity, and compassion. • Foil to Scrooge (complete opposite). • A mouthpiece for Dickens’s message about <i>kindness, unity, and social responsibility</i>. • Fred forgives, includes, and welcomes Scrooge despite rejection. • He embodies the <i>true meaning of Christmas</i>. Rephrase the question: <i>How does Dickens portray Fred as warm-hearted, generous, and morally good?</i> Synonyms for “presents”: • portrays • depicts • characterises • shows • illustrates STEP 2 Which Scrooge is in the extract? When Fred appears in Stave 1, Scrooge is: Misanthropic Scrooge Cold, dismissive, mocking — this makes Fred look even kinder. STEP 3 Evidence from the Extract (2–3 quotations + analysis) Quotation 1: “a good time: a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time” Shows: Fred values kindness above material wealth. Suggests: He sees Christmas as morally improving and emotionally uplifting. Highlights: Dickens uses Fred’s view to present the <i>true meaning of Christmas</i> — generosity and compassion. Quotation 2: “open their shut-up hearts freely” Shows: Fred believes people should be emotionally open and caring. Suggests: He contrasts with Scrooge, who keeps his heart “shut up”. Highlights: Dickens uses Fred to encourage emotional generosity in Victorian society.
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					Quotation 3: “fellow-passengers to the grave” Shows: Fred believes all humans are equal and should be treated with compassion. Suggests: He rejects social class divisions. Highlights: Dickens promotes social unity — Fred represents Dickens’s own social message. Quotation 4: “it has never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket” Shows: Fred rejects the idea that everything must be profitable. Suggests: He measures life in happiness, not money. Highlights: Dickens uses Fred to criticise materialism and greed. STEP 4 Choose TWO other Scrooges (one similar, one contrasting) Contrasting Scrooge (best choice): Misanthropic Scrooge (Stave 1) Quotes: • “Bah! Humbug!” • “Every idiot who goes about with Merry Christmas...” Why this juxtaposes: Fred’s joy and generosity sharply contrast with Scrooge’s coldness. This makes Fred appear even kinder and more admirable. Similar character behaviour: Benevolent Scrooge (Stave 5) Quotes: • “Merry as a schoolboy!” • “I will honour Christmas in my heart.” Why this works: By the end, Scrooge becomes like Fred — joyful, compassionate, full of Christmas spirit. Fred’s goodness helps guide Scrooge’s transformation. Suggested Answers How Dickens presents Fred in the extract: • Fred is joyful, optimistic, and warm-hearted. • He values kindness, charity, and forgiveness. • He does not care about money — he values emotional and moral happiness.
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					• He sees all people as equal (“fellow-passengers”), making him socially progressive. • Fred’s dialogue is rich in positive adjectives and long, flowing sentences, creating an uplifting tone. • He directly opposes Scrooge’s negativity, acting as the moral centre of the scene.
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