

1. Characters in A Christmas Carol				2. Literary techniques or Methods used by Dickens			
Scrooge	Symbol of Victorian capitalism and avaricious employer, misanthropic, typical selfish middle class businessman. Transformation achieved through his redemption.		The protagonist	1. Literary form	1. Social satire (uses humour, irony and exaggeration to highlight problems in society); 2. social commentary (comments on the issues in society and promotes change by informing the general public about a problem and appealing to people's sense of justice); 3. allegory (story with a political or moral lesson/meaning containing symbolism ; 4. prolepsis (the future is shown as reality- in Stave 4.		
Jacob Marley	Punished after death for his greed, repentant, condemned to wander the earth. Warns Scrooge of the need to change.		Scrooge's dead business partner, returns as a ghost.				
Fezziwig	Symbol of compassionate capitalism. Generous, full of Christmas cheer.		Scrooge's old employer.	2. Symbolism	Fog = Victorian moral blindness ; Marley's chains = past will catch up with you; cold = uncaring attitude of the rich to the poor; Scrooge's counting house = greed of society & unfettered capitalism; Ignorance & Want = ragged children of London & collapse of civilisation		
Belle	Symbol of Scrooge's rejection of humanity causing his isolation		Scrooge's ex fiancée.				
Bob Cratchit	Example of undeserving poor, kind, grateful and hardworking		Scrooge's employee.	3. Irony	OCP repeats back Scrooge's words; Bob toasts Scrooge for meagre dinner; dramatic irony in Stave 4 (we know about Scrooge's death before he does).		
Tiny Tim	Angelic. Evokes sympathy.		Bob Cratchit's sickly son.				
Fred	Symbol of Christmas spirit, enthusiastic, generous, antithesis of Scrooge.		Scrooge's nephew.	4. Contrast	Warm vs cold; light vs dark; greed vs generosity ; alienation vs family; misanthropy vs philanthropy ; Scrooge vs Fezziwig; Scrooge vs Bob; Scrooge vs Fred; GOCP vs GOCYTC; Stave 1 vs Stave 5.		
Ghost of Christmas Past	Represents memory, combination of young and old, sheds light on Scrooge's past.		The first of the three ghosts to visit Scrooge.				
Ghost of Christmas Present	'Jolly giant' who spreads Christmas cheer. Welcoming, a symbol of Christmas. Reveals Ignorance and Want.		The second ghost to visit Scrooge.	5. Stave Structure	Five-stave structure mimics how a Christmas carol is put together- clear reference to joy of Christmas; simple beginning, middle and end structure reveals Scrooge's transformation ; three-ghost structure could allude to typical myths/religious tales .		
Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come	Silent, ominous. A symbol of a bleak future. Shows Scrooge what will happen if he doesn't change. Evokes fear.		The third and final ghost to visit Scrooge.				
3. Themes and Ideas in A Christmas Carol				4. Context of A Christmas Carol		5. Talk like an Expert	
1. Wealth/ Poverty		Wealth not shared fairly; emotional wealth more valuable than financial wealth; the rich should help the poor, not leave them to die (i.e. Malthus). Shown through the contrast between	1. Capitalism	Adam Smith (1776) argued that if you remove rules and taxes from businesses they will flourish & everyone will benefit. This is known as free-market capitalism . The theory is that wealth will trickle down to the poor.		Benevolent	being kind-hearted and good natured towards others.
2. Morality		Children, marginalised people, and the poor are society's responsibility and should be treated with dignity and compassion . The wealthy are encouraged to share and be more compassionate for those less fortunate than themselves.	2. Industrial Revolution	Industrial Revolution . People rush to the city as agriculture becomes mechanized and wages fall significantly. The 1840s were known as the 'Hungry '40s' because of economic recession and crop failure.		Miser	a person who <u>hoards</u> wealth and <u>spends</u> as little money as possible. .
3. Generosity and Greed		The avaricious will be punished (in this life or the next); Victorian employers were avaricious; avarice causes unhappiness; Victorian society built on avarice. Victorian poor more altruistic than the rich; altruism leads to happiness; altruism will save society; charity starts at home.	3. Thomas Malthus	An economist who thought that working-class people reproduce too rapidly & population should be controlled by allowing 'surplus' people to die – if not, food supplies will run out. Charity should be avoided as it would only result in increased numbers of the poor. Dickens held anti-Malthusian beliefs.		Antithesis	a person or a thing that is the direct opposite of something else.
4. Time		Time and logic are intertwined; when logic is continuously disrupted , it helps to dismantle a cold and rational view of society. In discarding logic, we see a reflection of Dickens' criticism of the heartless economic logic that was used to create the New Poor Law .		4. The Poor Law and effect on Dickens		Malevolent	being ill-natured, expressing a desire to do harm to others
5. Family/ Isolation		Togetherness more important than financial wealth; rejection is painful; isolation causes unhappiness; society should behave like a big family.	Altruistic			having a selfless concern for others' well-being	
6. Redemption/ Transformation		Everyone has the potential to transform ; redemption brings joy; readers must examine their consciences and change; society should transform like Scrooge.	Misanthropic			having a strong dislike for people in general, being very unsociable	
7. Christmas Spirit		Christmas spirit brings warmth to the most isolated of places; Christian values of hope & charity should not be forgotten; Christmas spirit is for the whole year; mankind is everyone's ' business '.	Repentance			the action of <u>repenting</u> ; <u>sincere</u> regret or remorse.	
				5. Spirits	Many Victorians were fascinated by ' spiritualism ' – the belief that spirits of the dead can communicate with the living. Public séances were common. Victorians also associated Christmas with ghost stories.		
					Didactic	trying to teach, particularly a moral lesson	