

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Worksheet 1

Work in pairs.

Take it in turn to read the questions out loud in English to the other and then together write the answer in full sentences underneath.

1. At the very beginning, what do the carollers say about Marley?
2. How does Scrooge react to the carollers singing outside his office window?
3. Why is Bob Cratchit so cold at work, and what does he ask Scrooge for?
4. Who comes to visit Scrooge in his office and invites him to Christmas dinner?

5. What do the three gentlewomen want from Scrooge when they come to his office?
6. What does Scrooge see on his front door knocker when he goes home at night?
7. What does Jacob Marley warn Scrooge will happen if he doesn't change his ways?
8. Who does Scrooge see again when the Ghost of Christmas Past takes him to Fezziwig's party?
9. What does the Ghost of Christmas Present tell Scrooge about Tiny Tim's future if nothing changes?

10. At the end of the story, what two things does Scrooge do to show he has changed? (name any two from: cancelling O'Flynn's rent, buying the big turkey for the Cratchits, doubling Bob's wages, going to Fred's for Christmas, giving money to the poor, etc.)

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Worksheet 2

1. Scrooge as a comic tyrant

Discuss how this adaptation presents Scrooge as both *comic* and *cruel* in Act One.

In your answer, refer closely to:

- his language towards Bob Cratchit and the carollers
- the exaggerated physical stage business (water, coughing, coins, etc.)
- the use of humour to make his behaviour both entertaining and disturbing.

2. Social criticism and the poor

How does this version of *A Christmas Carol* use its scenes with the poor to criticise modern society, not just Victorian society?

Refer closely to:

- the scene with the three charitable ladies
- the Cratchit family scenes
- the “Ignorance” dummy character and his language.

3. The role of music and songs

Discuss how music and songs are used in this adaptation not just for atmosphere, but for meaning.

In your answer, analyse at least two songs (for example *Good King Wenceslas*, *In the Bleak Midwinter*, *Humbug*, or the Ghosts’ songs) and explain how the lyrics and staging help us understand Scrooge’s emotional journey.