

'A Christmas Carol'

Literature Paper 1

1 hour 45 minutes

On Literature Paper 1 you have 2 extract to essays,
this can be done in the following options:

Option 1

Extract

Extract

Essay

Essay

Option 2

Essay

Essay

Essay

Extract

Option 3

Extract

Extract

Extract

Essay

YOU HAVE TO USE THE EXTRACT AND IDEAS FROM ELSEWHERE!

You have 50 minutes to complete the extract to essay.
60 minutes with extra time.

In this part of the novella, the Ghost of Christmas Present takes Scrooge to visit Bob Cratchit's house.

Then up rose Mrs Cratchit, Cratchit's wife, dressed out but poorly in a twice-turned gown, but brave in ribbons, which are cheap and make a goodly show for sixpence; and she laid the cloth, assisted by Belinda Cratchit, second of her daughters, also brave in ribbons; while Master Peter Cratchit plunged a fork into the saucepan of potatoes, and getting the corners of his monstrous shirt collar (Bob's private property, conferred upon his son and heir in honour of the day) into his mouth, rejoiced to find himself so gallantly attired, and yearned to show his linen in the fashionable Parks. And now two smaller Cratchits, boy and girl, came tearing in, screaming that outside the baker's they had smelt the goose, and known it for their own; and basking in luxurious thoughts of sage and onion, these young Cratchits danced about the table, and exalted Master Peter Cratchit to the skies, while he (not proud, although his collars nearly choked him) blew the fire, until the slow potatoes bubbling up, knocked loudly at the saucepan-lid to be let out and peeled.

"What has ever got your precious father then?" said Mrs Cratchit. "And your brother, Tiny Tim; And Martha warn't as late last Christmas Day by half-an-hour."

"Here's Martha, mother," said a girl, appearing as she spoke.

"Here's Martha, mother!" cried the two young Cratchits. "Hurrah! There's such a goose, Martha!"

"Why, bless your heart alive, my dear, how late you are!" said Mrs Cratchit, kissing her a dozen times, and taking off her shawl and bonnet for her with officious zeal.

"We'd a deal of work to finish up last night," replied the girl, "and had to clear away this morning, mother."

"Well. Never mind so long as you are come," said Mrs Cratchit. "Sit ye down before the fire, my dear, and have a warm, Lord bless ye."

Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present the importance of family?

Write about:

- how Dickens presents family in this extract
- how Dickens presents family in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Highlight keywords

Annotate question

Read extract

Infer

Brain dump

Organise



A Christmas Carol

| | The GOLD – critical theory | How to embed into your response: |
|-----------|---|---|
| Political |  <p>Dangers of Capitalism and Capitalism without a conscience Capitalism is inherently exploitative and creates massive economic inequality. It commodifies the proletariat and leads to an erosion of human rights yet increases the wealth and prosperity of the bourgeoisie.</p> | Dickens exposes the dangers of Capitalism through the characterisation of Scrooge, who is employed as a symbol of Capitalism without a conscience. |
| |  <p>Anti-Malthusian rhetoric Thomas Malthus stated that population growth would always outpace food production and supply. He suggested that allowing the 'surplus' lower echelons to die through famine would ensure the survival of the wealthier and more educated upper echelons.</p> | Scrooge is employed by Dickens as a condemnation of Malthusian rhetoric. |
| |  <p>Commodification of human life Scrooge views the lower echelons as nothing more than cogs in the Capitalist machine of the Industrial Revolution, exploiting them for his own financial gain, demonstrating a Utilitarian attitude toward the poor.</p> | Dickens personifies poverty through the Cratchit family to criticise the commodification of the lower echelons. |
| Biblical |  <p>Moral and social paralysis Scrooge is a symbolic representation of the ignorance and inaction of society in relation to the dichotomy of the rich and poor. The upper echelons were aware of the suffering of the lower echelons and yet chose inaction in favour of increasing their own wealth.</p> | The ignorance demonstrated by Scrooge toward the dichotomy of the rich and poor of Victorian England exposes the moral and social paralysis of the upper echelons. |
| |  <p>Physiognomy The belief that external appearance is reflective of morality. Dickens uses the physical description of characters to represent their inner morality – hellish imagery aligns Scrooge with evil, whilst other characters are used to represent good.</p> | Dickens exploits the Victorian audience's belief in physiognomy as a method to determine inner morality, in the physical description and presentation of Scrooge. |
| |  <p>Scrooge's Pilgrimage to Redemption The structural progression of the text guides Scrooge on a pilgrimage to redemption through <u>nostalgia</u> of the past, <u>pity</u> of the suffering caused in the present, and through <u>fear</u> of the future. Past, present and future are sympiotically connected and he must live in all three.</p> | Scrooge undertakes a spiritual pilgrimage from sin to redemption, allowing Dickens to demonstrate his transformation from misanthrope to philanthrope. |
| |  <p>The spirits as Divine Intervention from God Each of the four ghosts are employed to facilitate Scrooge's moral transformation, from avaricious misanthrope to munificent philanthrope.</p> | The spirits are employed by Dickens as Divine intervention from God, to alert Scrooge to the immorality of his actions and the suffering caused by his unethical Capitalism / exploitation of the poor. |
| |  <p>Subversion of the Natural Order Scrooge's immoral behaviour and attitude align him with the Devil and, therefore, is ostracised by God. The severity of the fog and the cold symbolises that the natural world opposes Scrooge and is a representation of God's wrath for Scrooge's sin.</p> | Dickens utilises pathetic fallacy to demonstrate the consequence of sin, as Scrooge is ostracised by God |

A Christmas Carol: Stave 1

| Quotation | Can you complete the analysis for these key quotations using the GOLD? |
|--|--|
| <p>“Squeezing , wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner”</p>  | |
| <p>“The cold within him froze his old features... made his eyes red, his thin lips blue”</p> | |
| <p>Scrooge believes anyone who celebrates Christmas should be “boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart”</p>  | |
| <p>Fred: “I have always thought of Christmastime ... as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time”</p>  | |
| <p>“Are there no prisons?”</p>  <p>“If they would rather die ... they had better do it and decrease the surplus population”</p>  | |
| <p>“I wear the chains I forged in life”</p>    <p>“Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business”</p> | |

A Christmas Carol: Stave 2

| Quotation | Analysis |
|---|----------|
| <p>“There was a boy singing a Christmas Carol at my door last night. I should like to have given him something”</p>  | |
| <p>“The happiness he gives is quite as great as if it cost a fortune”</p>  | |
| <p>“Another idol has displaced me...a golden one”</p>  | |

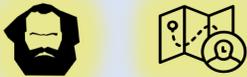
A Christmas Carol: Stave 3

| Quotation | Analysis |
|---|----------|
| <p>“Spirit...tell me if Tiny Tim will live”</p>  | |
| <p>“I see a vacant seat”</p> | |
| <p>“The boy is Ignorance. The girl is Want. Beware of them both...but most of all beware this boy, for on his brow I see that written which is Doom”</p>  | |

A Christmas Carol: Stave 4

| Quotation | Analysis |
|--|----------|
| <p data-bbox="48 229 501 375">"I will honour Christmas in my heart...I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The spirits of all three shall strive within me"</p> <div data-bbox="229 406 448 513"></div> | |

A Christmas Carol: Stave 5

| Quotation | Analysis |
|--|----------|
| <p data-bbox="48 729 439 803">Scrooge was "glowing with his good intentions"</p> <div data-bbox="358 810 444 899"></div> | |
| <p data-bbox="48 944 496 1073">"I am as light as a feather, I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a schoolboy."</p> <div data-bbox="337 1106 465 1127"></div> | |
| <p data-bbox="48 1317 411 1392">"I am about to raise your salary"</p> <div data-bbox="201 1541 448 1618"></div> | |
| <p data-bbox="48 1690 482 1765">"To Tiny Tim, who did not die, he was a second father"</p> <div data-bbox="386 1887 479 1964"></div> | |

The Spirits

| | |
|---|--|
| Marley  | <p>The chain he drew was clasped about his middle. It was long, and wound about him like a tail; and it was made ... of cash-boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, deeds, and heavy purses wrought in steel. His body was transparent: so that Scrooge, observing him, and looking through his waistcoat, could see the two buttons on his coat behind.</p> |
| Christmas Past  | <p>It was a strange figure—like a child; yet not so like a child as like an old man...and being diminished to a child's proportions. Its hair, which hung about its neck and down its back, was white, as if with age; and yet the face had not a wrinkle in it, and the tenderest bloom was on the skin. The arms were very long and muscular; the hands the same, as if its hold were of uncommon strength.</p> |
| Christmas Present  | <p>It was clothed in one simple deep green robe, or mantle, bordered with white fur. This garment hung so loosely on the figure, that its capacious breast was bare...and on its head it wore no other covering than a holly wreath, set here and there with shining icicles. Its dark-brown curls were long and free; free as its genial face, its sparkling eye, its open hand, its cheery voice, its unconstrained demeanour, and its joyful air. Girded round its middle was an antique scabbard: but no sword was in it</p> |
| Christmas Yet to Come  | <p>The Phantom slowly, gravely, silently approached. When it came near him, Scrooge bent down upon his knee; for in the very air through which this Spirit moved it seemed to scatter gloom and mystery. It was shrouded in a deep black garment, which concealed its head, its face, its form, and left nothing of it visible, save one outstretched hand.</p> |

Scrooge's Redemption Arc

| <u>STAVE 1</u> | <u>STAVE 5</u> |
|--|---|
|  <p>"eyes red, thin lips blue"</p> | <p>"glowing with his good intentions"</p>  |
|  <p>"the fog and darkness thickened"</p> | <p>"no fog, no mist" "clear, bright"</p>  |
|  <p>"I wear the chains I forged in life"</p> | <p>"I am as light as a feather"</p>  |
|  <p>"Bah Humbug"</p> | <p>"Merry Christmas"</p>  |
|  <p>"growled"</p> | <p>"delighted smile"</p>  |
|  <p>"one coal"</p> | <p>"Make up the fires"</p>  |
|  <p>"solitary as an oyster"</p> | <p>"I am quite a baby"</p>  |

Vocabulary



| Word | Definition | Synonyms or connection to the novel |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| Agitation | Nervous excitement | |
| Apoplectic | To be overcome with a terrible anger | |
| Apprehensive | Hesitant or fearful | |
| Array | A range or a type of thing | |
| Artifice | A clever device to trick someone | |
| Avarice | Extreme greed for money and wealth | |
| Boisterous | A noisy or energetic crowd or a loud storm | |
| Capitalism without a conscience | Acting in an immoral way to gain wealth at the expense of others | |
| Cesspools | A storage unit for liquid waste – usually toilet waste | |
| Condescension | An attitude of disdainful superiority | |
| Covetous | Envy or desire for money | |
| Demurely | To act in a modest manner | |
| Despoil | To steal violently | |
| Endeavoured | Tried hard to achieve | |
| Excrescence | An unpleasant addition | |
| Extraordinary | Something unusual | |
| Extravagance | A lack of restraint in spending wealth | |
| Fate | A person's destiny | |
| Feign | To pretend to be affected by something | |
| Fluctuated | To irregularly rise and fall | |
| Haggard | To look exhausted | |
| Heresy | A belief that goes against the teachings of the Christian church | |
| Illustrious | Well known or respected | |
| Impropriety | Being inappropriate in behaviour | |
| Intimation | A hint or suggestion | |
| Irrepressible | Uncontrollable | |
| Jovial | Happy, joyful and friendly | |

Vocabulary



| Word | Definition | Synonyms or connection to the novel |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Lament | To weep or cry | |
| Liberality | Generosity | |
| Malady | An illness | |
| Misanthropic | Behaviour that is ungenerous, cruel and distrusting | |
| Miser | A person who hoards their money and is 'tight' | |
| Morality | The sense of right and wrong | |
| Morose | Behaviour that is miserable | |
| Munificence | The quality of being extremely generous | |
| Novella | A short story | |
| Odious | Extremely repulsive | |
| Onslaught | A fierce attack | |
| Opaque | Something that is unclear | |
| Opulence | To show extreme wealth | |
| Parapets | A low protective wall | |
| Pendulous | Loosely hanging down | |
| Penitence | Showing sorrow or regret | |
| Perplexed | Confused | |
| Philanthropist | Charitable and generous behaviour | |
| Pilgrimage | A religious journey | |
| Predicament | A difficult situation | |
| Preposterous | Absurd or ridiculous | |
| Rebuke | Sharp disapproval | |
| Recumbent | Something laying down in a relaxed manner | |
| Redemption | To fix and resolve behaviour or sins | |
| Resolution | A firm choice not to do something | |
| Shroud | A burial wrapping | |
| Slipshod | Careless | |
| Spontaneous | Performed on impulse | |
| Supplication | Earnest begging | |
| Tabula Rasa | A blank slate | |
| Tumultuous | Chaotic and confusing | |
| Uproarious | Provoking a loud sound or laughter | |
| Vestige | A small trace of something | |

A Christmas Carol – Knowledge Organiser

Literature Paper 1

Extract based plus a question



30 marks total AO1 – 12 marks

AO2 – 12 marks AO3 – 6 marks

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Stave 1 | Ebenezer Scrooge is a hard-hearted old miser who hates Christmas, exploits his clerk Bob Cratchit, and mocks those who seek to help the poor. On Christmas Eve, though, he is visited by the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley. Marley warns him that his selfishness will lead him to suffer in the afterlife and adds that Scrooge will be further haunted by three other spirits for the good of his soul. |
| Stave 2 | Scrooge is haunted by the Ghost of Christmas past, who shows him scenes of Christmases in his earlier life. These scenes soften his heart as he remembers his childhood feelings, and they also make him regret both his failures of generosity and the chances for happiness his avarice has cost him. |
| Stave 3 | The Ghost of Christmas Present appears to Scrooge as a jovial giant. He shows Scrooge the way others are celebrating Christmas with true Christmas spirit, even if they have limited financial means. This is especially true of the Cratchits, the family of Scrooge's clerk Bob Cratchit, as well as Scrooge's nephew Fred. The Ghost also reveals to Scrooge the presence of Ignorance and Want, which indict society's treatment of the poor. |
| Stave 4 | The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, silent and mysterious, shows Scrooge scenes following a death in the future. He sees that the dead man died alone, with no one to mourn or miss him. When Scrooge realizes <i>he</i> is the dead man, he begs the Ghost to tell him that the future can be changed if he lives differently. |
| Stave 5 | Scrooge finds himself back in his own room on Christmas day. He is filled with delight and gratitude that he has been given the chance to change his life. He becomes a benefactor to the Cratchits and a generous, well-loved man for the rest of his life, always keeping the spirit of Christmas in his heart. |

AO1 -Themes

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Family | | Dickens suggests that family is the ultimate key to happiness and fulfilment. Dickens links Scrooge's decision to be alone to darkness and the cold whilst he links family and companionship to light and warmth. Dickens implies that a successful life is one that is filled with significant relationships with others. |
| Redemption, change, transformation | | Dickens implies that we all have the ability to change and that we should continually reflect on how our behaviour impacts upon others. Dickens suggests that many unfavourable qualities are born out of ignorance and that, by seeking to find out more about the lives of other, we can transform and become better people. |
| Supernatural | | Dickens uses the supernatural to encourage self-reflection. Dickens also uses the supernatural to emphasise the idea that, through exploring our past behaviours and considering the impact on our future, we can become more compassionate and kinder people. |
| Greed and wealth | | Dickens implies that concentrating solely on accumulating more money only results in emptiness and dissatisfaction. Dickens suggests that true 'wealth' is to have significant relationships with others. |
| Social inequality poverty | | Dickens suggests that the Victorian society ignored the poverty experienced by many. Dickens also highlights the divide between the rich and the poor and exposes the often inescapable cycle of poverty. Dickens portrays the poor as victims of a cruel society. |
| Forgiveness | | Dickens suggests that change, both on an individual and societal level, is only possible through forgiveness. Dickens implies that that to be truly compassionate is to forgive. |
| Christmas and tradition | | Dickens portrays Christmas as being an important time because it is a rare opportunity for kindness and compassion. Dickens also implies that it's a particularly important tradition because it is something that highlights the extravagance of the rich and the desperation of the poor. |
| Time | | Dickens explores the idea that our past has direct implications on our behaviour in the future and that we need to recognise this pattern in order to be better people. Dickens also explores the notion that time is finite and that we should therefore live in the best way we can, all of the time to maximise the time we have. |

Charles Dickens –born in 1812 and spent the first years of his life in Kent, England. At 9, he moved to London. At 12, his father was sent to debtors’ prison. Dickens was sent to work long days in a blacking factory near the prison. He found this period in his life hellish, and it doubtlessly led him to draw readers’ attention to the plight of the poor when he later found success as an author. Many of his works are about social hardships and inequalities.

Class Divides – Despite industrial changes altering society, there were still distinct social classes: nobility, upper class, middle class, and the working class. Life was terrible for the poorest: Lack of money resulted in a negligible food supply. For some working families, money was so tight that they required their children to work in order to survive. Children under 10 were still working underground in mines until 1840

The Victorian Era– The time Queen Victoria sat on the English throne, 1837 -1901. This the **industrial revolution** where great fortunes were made, but was also an extremely harsh time to live, and there was a huge disparity between the lives of the richest and the poorest . The Victorian era was a period of great change. In this time, the population of England doubled – from 16.8 million 1851 to over 30 million in 1901 but the country to struggled to accommodate thus increase and the poor suffered the most.



Health and Medicine –The NHS was not established until 1948, so healthcare was not accessible for everyone, and medicine was nowhere near as advanced today. Many diseases were rife, and childbirth and poverty were very real dangers to people living in the era. A middle-class person may expect to live to 45 at the time, whereas a working-class person would have been lucky to have lived half that time. In A Christmas Carol, the restrictions in healthcare are evident in Tiny Tim’s continued suffering.



Workhouses– A workhouse was a place where a person went if they could not afford to financially support themselves and their families: the most vulnerable in society. Men, women and children (mostly orphans) lived and worked in the workhouses, which were very crowded – making living conditions unhealthy and unpleasant. People slept in dormitories, where disease was easily spread. In A Christmas Carol, Scrooge voices his support for workhouses.



The Poor Law- In 1834 the Poor Law Amendment Act was passed by Parliament. This was designed to reduce the cost of looking after the poor as it stopped money going to poor people except in exceptional circumstances. Now if people wanted help they had to go into a workhouse to get it.The 19th Century consequently saw a growth in the numbers of charities such as The Salvation Army, Dr Barnardo's children's homes to help those living in poverty.



Character & Themes you could be asked about in the exam:

Theme Questions

Poverty and Social Responsibility

1. How does Dickens present attitudes towards the poor in A Christmas Carol?
2. How does Dickens show the importance of helping the poor?
3. How does Dickens present social responsibility in the novella?
4. How does Dickens criticise Victorian society's treatment of the poor?

Redemption and Change

1. How does Dickens present Scrooge's transformation?
2. How does Dickens show that people can change?
3. How does Dickens present the importance of redemption?

Christmas and Celebration

4. How does Dickens present the spirit of Christmas?
5. How does Dickens present family and celebration during Christmas?
6. How does Dickens show the joy and generosity of Christmas?

Family and Relationships

1. How does Dickens present the importance of family?
2. How does Dickens show the difference between loving families and lonely lives?

How does Dickens present Fred's relationship with Scrooge?

The Supernatural

1. How does Dickens present the role of the supernatural?
2. How does Dickens use the Ghosts to teach Scrooge lessons?
3. How does Dickens present the Ghosts as moral guides?

Greed and Wealth

1. How does Dickens present the dangers of greed?
2. How does Dickens criticise selfish attitudes towards money?
3. How does Dickens present the difference between wealth and happiness?

Character Questions

Ebenezer Scrooge

How does Dickens present Scrooge at the beginning of the novella?

How does Dickens present Scrooge's transformation?

How does Dickens make Scrooge a memorable character?

How does Dickens present Scrooge's attitudes towards Christmas?

Bob Cratchit

How does Dickens present Bob Cratchit as a father and employee?

How does Dickens show Bob as a symbol of kindness and patience?

Tiny Tim

How does Dickens present Tiny Tim as a symbol of hope and innocence?

How does Dickens use Tiny Tim to criticise society?

Fred

How does Dickens present Fred as a representation of Christmas spirit?

How does Dickens show Fred as a contrast to Scrooge?

The Ghosts

How does Dickens present the Ghost of Christmas Past?

How does Dickens present the Ghost of Christmas Present?

How does Dickens present the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come?

How do the Ghosts influence Scrooge's change?

Jacob Marley

How does Dickens present Marley as a warning to Scrooge?

How does Dickens present the consequences of a selfish life through Marley?