

Charles Dickens

A Christmas Carol

KEY TO THE EXERCISES AND EXIT TEST

PART ONE

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT CHARLES DICKENS

Page 6 – exercise 1

- a. T
- b. T
- c. F – They went to prison, he became separated from them.
- d. T
- e. F – *Sketches by Boz* was a short story. His first novel was *The Pickwick Papers*.
- f. T
- g. T
- h. F – He was a great success in America.
- i. F – They are still popular today.
- j. T

Page 10 – exercise 1

1. C 2. C 3. B 4. B 5. C

Before you read

Page 11 – exercise 1

a.3 b.5 c.6 d.2 e.1 f.4

Page 12 – exercise 2

1. Bob Cratchit, an office clerk
2. Scrooge, an old businessman
3. Fred, Scrooge's nephew
4. Jacob Marley, a dead businessman

CHAPTER ONE SCROOGE

Page 20 – exercise 1

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

- a. F – Scrooge went to Marley's funeral
- b. T
- c. F – Scrooge was a 'mean man' who never spent any money.
- d. F – He was a solitary man whom no-one spoke to.
- e. F – Bob Cratchit and Fred were poor.
- f. T
- g. T
- h. T
- i. F – He didn't give them any money.
- j. F – He died on Christmas Eve (December the 24th)
- k. T
- l. T

Page 21 – exercise 2

1. was sitting
2. was coming
3. was burning
4. was copying
5. went
6. tried
7. was watching
8. opened
9. came

Page 22 – exercise 3

a.3 b.5 c.1 d.2 e.4

Page 22 – exercise 4

1. there were people
2. the office door
3. the company's name
4. hard voice
5. didn't care / liked it
6. three o'clock
7. windows and the doors
8. a clerk
9. smaller than Scrooge's
10. warm his hands

Page 23 – exercise 5

f, c, b, e.

Page 23 – exercise 6

Open answer.

Page 24 – exercise 1

1. D 2. C 3. C 4. A 5. D 6. B 7. C
8. A 9. D 10. B 11. B 12. C

CHAPTER TWO MARLEY'S GHOST

Page 32 – exercise 1

- a. He was putting the key in Marley's door.
- b. He was looking for Marley.
- c. In the fire.

- d. Because the bell began to move.
- e. 'It' was the sound of chains coming up the stairs.
- f. He knew the Ghost was Marley's because it had the same face, clothes and boots.
- g. He made the chain when he was alive.
- h. He cannot stop because when he was alive he was locked in a room making money and his spirit stayed inside.
- i. He wanted to tell Scrooge about the coming of the Ghosts.
- j. He could hear a great noise of crying outside.
- k. It wanted to help a poor woman and her child out in the cold.
- l. He stopped saying humbug because he knew that the Ghosts were real.

Page 33 – exercise 2

a. 6 b. 4 c. 1 d. 3 e. 9 f. 7 g. 5
h. 10 i. 2 j. 8

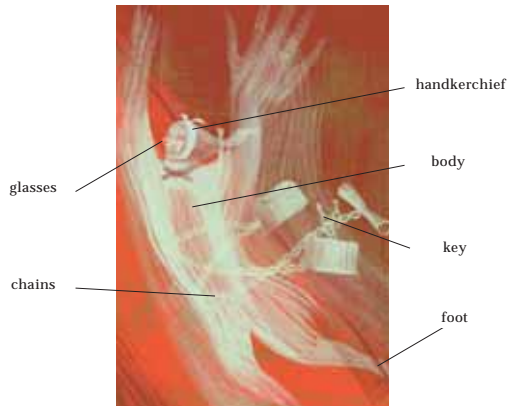
Page 34 – exercise 3

- a. went up
- b. came into
- c. Sit down
- d. looked at
- e. stayed away from
- f. took off
- g. fell out of
- h. went to

Page 35 – exercise 4

1. How 2. what 3. would 4. during
5. was 6. than 7. had 8. becoming
9. went 10. keep 11. when
12. better



Page 36 – exercise 5

- body
- long
- cash-boxes, keys, locks, account books
- cold, dead
- handkerchief, chin
- were on his nose

Page 37 – exercise 6

A 7 B 4 C 8 D 3 E 6 F 5
G 2 H 1

Page 37 – exercise 7

a. B b. A c. A d. A e. B f. B

Page 38 – exercise 8

g. c, i, a, e, b, d, h, f, j

Page 40 – exercise 1

SOME CHRISTMAS GHOSTS

- In the sixteenth century, every Christmas Day, at Calgarth Hall in the Lake District. Myles Phillipson, Kraster Cook & his wife Dorothy.
- Sandringham in Norfolk, every Christmas Eve, in the servants' rooms. Ghost throws Christmas cards into the air and pulls sheets

from the beds.

- Popjoys, next to the Theatre Royal in Bath. Just before Christmas 1975. A lady in old-fashioned clothes.

Page 42 – exercise 1

- two o'clock
- struck twelve
- a dream
- opened the curtains
- an old man
- was wearing white
- the Ghost of
- Your past
- to help him
- walk with me

CHAPTER THREE THE FIRST SPIRIT

Page 52 – exercise 1

a. 11 b. 17 c. 7 d. 1 e. 13 f. 18
g. 2 h. 12 i. 15 j. 5 k. 10 l. 3
m. 8 n. 4 o. 9 p. 16 q. 14 r. 6

Page 53 – exercise 2

- Yes, I have a sister.
- Fanny.
- No she was younger than me.
- Yes, she was.
- No, I wasn't.
- I thought that the school was horrible.
- In an office in the city. My boss was called Mr Fezziwig.
- He was a fat, happy man with a red face.
- Yes, her name was Belle.
- She got married.

Page 54 – exercise 3

1. F 2. B 3. G 4. I 5. C 6. D 7. H

Page 55 – exercise 4

- if it had been
- both a child
- isn't anyone
- a long time before
- which had
- will not fall if
- so sad that he could
- wasn't as old as
- you to show
- so he got into bed

The Christmas Story**Page 59 – exercise 1**

- F – There was a mid-winter festival after the shortest day of the year.
- F – Christmas combines a pagan and Christian festival.
- T
- F – Father Christmas is an American idea.
- T
- F – They didn't appear at the same time.
- F – Boxing Day was not a holiday.
- T
- F – A Christmas Box is any type of present.
- F – Boxing Day originated when priests gave the contents of money boxes to the poor.

Before you read**Page 61 – exercise 1**

1. B 2. C 3. A 4. B 5. A 6. A 7. B

CHAPTER FOUR THE SECOND SPIRIT

Page 72 – exercise 1

Summary

A. 3 B. 8 C. 2 D. 6 E. 1 F. 9 G. 7
H. 5 I. Extra Title J. 4

Page 73 – exercise 2

- Fred's wife said that nobody liked Scrooge.
- The Spirit told Scrooge to touch his clothes.
- The Spirit said that he didn't have much time.
- Bob asked his wife to drink to Scrooge.
- Fred's wife asked if it was a horse.
- Mrs Cratchit asked her husband what he was saying.
- Scrooge asked the Spirit if Tiny Tim would see another Christmas.
- The Ghost told Scrooge to look at him.

Page 73 – exercise 3

- 'Help me prepare the table,' said Mrs Cratchit.
- 'Its Christmas Day,' said Bob Cratchit.
- 'Is your life short?' Scrooge asked the Spirit.
- 'I will drink to Scrooge because it is Christmas,' said Mrs Cratchit.
- 'Do you live in the city?' said Fred's wife to the animal.
- 'Look down on the ground,' said the Spirit to Scrooge.
- 'Put the plates on the table,' said Mrs Cratchit to Belinda.
- 'There are too many people in the world,' said Scrooge.

Page 74 – exercise 4

- Bob Cratchit carried Tiny Tim on his shoulder because he was a cripple.
- Martha put hot plates on the table.
- All the children shouted 'Hurray' because they didn't often eat goose.
- Scrooge, because the Spirit said that Tiny Tim will die.

5. Bob Cratchit because he wanted his wife to drink a toast to Scrooge.
6. Fred's wife because they were playing a game of twenty questions.
7. The Ghost, because he was to die at midnight.
8. Scrooge, because he saw the two children who represented humanity, dying.

Page 75 – exercise 5

- a. Have you ever met any of my brothers?
- b. Bob Cratchit has never earned much money.
- c. Tiny Tim has never walked without a crutch.
- d. Has Fred ever eaten turkey?
- e. Have you ever had a white Christmas?
- f. Has Scrooge ever laughed in his life?
- g. Has Fred's wife ever liked Scrooge?
- h. Have the Cratchit children ever played twenty questions?

Page 76 – exercise 1

- a. F b. F c. T d. T e. F f. T g. T
h. T i. F j. F

CHAPTER FIVE

THE LAST OF THE SPIRITS

Page 86 – exercise 1

1. D 2. A 3. B 4. A 5. D 6. B 7. C
8. C 9. D 10. B

Page 88 – exercise 2

- a. 4 Who / Scrooge.
- b. 5 When / Seven years ago.
- c. 1 Why / Because Tiny Tim was dead.
- d. 6 Where / In a poor part of the city.
- e. 3 What / His grave.

- f. 2 How / Very frightened.

Page 88 – exercise 3

1. will
2. change
3. will be
4. won't
5. won't say
6. will give
7. will
8. will be
9. won't be
10. will
11. won't say
12. will
13. won't forget
14. won't
15. will live

Page 89 – exercise 4

1. drunk 2. dangerous 3. criminals
4. dirtiest 5. haired 6. possessions
7. cleaner 8. selfish 9. generosity
10. profitable

London in Dickens's time**Page 93 – exercise 1**

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. a 6. c 7. b
8. b

Internet Project**Page 94**

Ask both groups of students to use a reliable search engine such as www.google.co.uk and enter Seven Dials, Monmouth Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, Charing Cross Road or Covent Garden. <http://www.thisislondon.com/homes/news/articles/1909807?source=Evening%20Standard> a recent article published in the London Evening Standard that discusses property, shops and history in the Seven Dials area.

<http://www.timeout.com/london/> offers comprehensive information about where to stay and to eat and drink and where to visit. Enter Covent Garden in the search. This site will also be of use in compiling the itinerary at the end of the exercise. <http://www.londontouristboard.com/> another easily searchable site, again of use for compiling an itinerary. For those searching for images and information about life in the area in Dickens's time, try: <http://www.dickens-and-london.com> and select Covent Garden from the bottom of the page for a Dickens-related history of the area and a guide to walks.

Page 95 – exercise 1

1. had 2. out 3. live 4. eyes 5. put
6. yet 7. at 8. What 9. light 10. an
11. all 12. around 13. door 14. saw
15. and 16. rang 17. opened 18. out
19. air 20. the

CHAPTER SIX

'A MERRY CHRISTMAS
MR SCROOGE!'**Page 102 – exercise 1**

- a. 5 b. 2 c. 9 d. 1 e. 7 f. 4 g. 3
h. 10 i. 6 j. 8

Page 102 – exercise 2

- a. was bright and sunny.
- b. Scrooge shouted at him and asked him to buy a turkey for him.
- c. answered 'A Merry Christmas' to all the people he met.
- d. forgave him for the previous day and to do him a favour.
- e. was in the dining room.
- f. went into his room and started working fast.

- g. Scrooge told him he planned to give him a bigger salary.
- h. he had changed.

Page 103 – exercise 3

1. F 2. A 3. E 4. B 5. C 6. D 7. B
8. E 9. F 10. A 11. C 12. B 13. B
14. A

Page 104 – exercise 4

- a. 6 b. 8 c. 5 d. 3 e. 2 f. 7 g. 1 h. 4

Page 105 – exercise 5

- a. wasn't he?
- b. will you?
- c. haven't they?
- d. didn't they?
- e. isn't it?
- f. did he?

Page 105 – exercise 6

First spirit, young, old, long white hair, wearing white clothes with summer flowers on them. Carrying a piece of green holly.
Second spirit, young and happy, a giant, smiling with kind gentle eyes.
Third spirit, looked frightening, wearing long, black clothes and a black hood.

Page 106 – exercise 7

1. Eh
2. It's Christmas Day.
3. Of course!
4. You mean the one as big as me?
5. No. It's still there.
6. A Merry Christmas to you.
7. Yes. That's my name and perhaps you don't like me (...) listen.
8. Of course. Can you do me that favour?
9. Don't say anything. Come and see me tomorrow. I'll give it to you then. All right?

1 Context

- What is a carol?
- Who wrote *A Christmas Carol*?
- When and where was he born?
- What do you remember of his life?
- What sort of novel is *A Christmas Carol*? A comic novel, a sentimental novel, a social novel?
- What other works of his do you remember?

SCORE / 5**2 Comprehension**

- What do you remember about the main character, his job, his personality?
- At what point of the story does the narration of events start?
- What time of year is it?
- What is Scrooge's attitude to the festivities and why does he behave so?
- Who first appears to him and what does he pre-announce?

SCORE / 5**3 Interpretation****Explain:**

- who the three visions are and what they look like. Try to interpret why they are described so.

- if Scrooge is popular with people and why / why not.
- which character/s may be considered Scrooge's counterpart/s.
- why Dickens chose Christmas as the narration time of the story.
- if you consider the story old fashioned, modern, boring, interesting and why.

SCORE / 5**4 Memory**

Who said:

- 'A merry Christmas, uncle!'
- 'Bah! Humbug!'
- 'I am here tonight to tell you something. There is still hope for you, Ebenezer.'
- 'Dear, dear brother... I've come to bring you home!'
- 'It's Christmas Eve, boys! We must celebrate! Let's stop work and close the office.'
- 'You love something more than me, Ebenezer.'
- 'Drink to that hard old miser! What are you saying, Robert Cratchit?'
- 'When he was alive he frightened people and they hated him. So we get the profits now that he's dead.'
- 'A merry Christmas, Bob! This will be your happiest Christmas! Yes, I'm going to give you a lot more money and I'm going to help your poor family.'

SCORE / 5

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Context

- A traditional Christmas song.
 - Charles Dickens.
 - In Portsea, in 1812.
 - He moved to London at the age of ten, he went to work in a factory when he was 12 and later his parents were imprisoned for outstanding debts. Charles became a newspaper reporter and then later a writer.
 - A social novel.
 - Oliver Twist, Nicholas Nickleby, David Copperfield, Hard Times, Great Expectations, Sketches by Boz, The Pickwick Papers.*

Comprehension

- Scrooge was a miser, a solitary man and a businessman.
 - On Christmas Eve.
 - Christmas time.
 - He finds Christmas a 'humbug'.
 - The ghost of his ex-partner, Marley, who tells him he will be visited by three ghosts.

Interpretation

- The ghosts of Christmas Past (small like a child but also like an old man, wearing white clothes with summer flowers on them), Christmas Present (a giant holding a torch, smiling with gentle eyes), Christmas Yet to Come (wearing long, black clothes and a black hood.)

- Scrooge is very unpopular as he is mean and unkind.
- Bob Cratchit, Scrooge's clerk who is poor, yet kind.
- Christmas is the time of year traditionally associated with acts of kindness, of the importance of family and is rich in images of the cold, of snow and of food.
- The story can be considered as forward thinking and is as appropriate today as when it was written. The same basic human values remain the same.

Memory

- Fred, Scrooge's nephew.
 - Scrooge.
 - Jacob Marley's ghost.
 - Fanny, Scrooge's sister.
 - Fezziwig, Scrooge's first employer.
 - Belle, Scrooge's fiancée.
 - Mrs Cratchit.
 - Old Joe.
 - Scrooge.