A Christmas Carol

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

Before you read
Page 11 - exercise 1
a.3 b.5 c.6 d.2 e.1 f.4

CHAPTER ONE
SCROOGE

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

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. F - He didn’t give them any money.  i. F - He died on Christmas Eve (December the 24th)

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

CHAPTER TWO
MARLEY’S GHOST

Page 28 - exercise 1
a. He was putting the key in Marley’s door.  b. He was looking for Marley.  c. In the fire.

Page 29 - exercise 2
Page 36 – exercise 5
a. body
b. long
c. cash-boxes, keys, locks, account
books
d. cold, dead
e. handkerchief, chin
f. 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
Page 38 – exercise 8
g. c. i. a. e. b. d. h. f. j
Page 40 – exercise 1
Some Christmas Ghosts
1. In the sixteenth century, every Christmas Day, at Calgarth Hall in the Lake District. Myles Phillipson, Kraster Cook & his wife Dorothy.
2. Sandringham in Norfolk, every Christmas Eve, in the servants' rooms. Ghost throws Christmas cards into the air and pulls sheets from the beds.
Page 42 – exercise 1
1. two o'clock
2. struck twelve
3. a dream
4. opened the curtains
5. an old man
6. was wearing white
7. the Ghost of
8. Your past
9. to help him
10. so he got into bed

CHAPTER THREE
THE FIRST SPIRIT
Page 52 – exercise 1
a. 11 b. 17 c. 7 d. 1 e. 13 f. 18
11. 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
1. Yes, I have a sister.
2. Fanny.
3. No she was younger than me.
4. Yes, she was.
5. No, I wasn't.
6. I thought that the school was horrible.
7. In an office in the city. My boss was called Mr Fezziwig.
8. He was a fat, happy man with a red face.
9. Yes, her name was Belle.
10. She got married.
Page 54 – exercise 3
Page 55 – exercise 4
1. if it had been
2. both a child
3. isn't anyone
4. a long time before
5. which had
6. will not fall if
7. so sad that he could
8. wasn't as old as
9. you to show
10. so he got into bed
The Christmas Story
Page 59 – exercise 1
a. F - There was a mid-winter festival after the shortest day of the year.
   b. F - Christmas combines a pagan and Christian festival.
   c. T
   d. F - Father Christmas is an American idea.
   e. T
   f. F - They didn't appear at the same time.
   g. F - Boxing Day was not a holiday.
   h. T
   i. F - A Christmas Box is any type of present.
   j. F - Boxing Day originated when priests gave the contents of money boxes to the poor.

Before you read
Page 61 – exercise 1

CHAPTER FOUR
THE SECOND SPIRIT
Page 72 – exercise 1
A. 3 B. 8 C. 2 D. 6 E. 1 F. 9 G. 7
H. 5 I. ExtraTitle J. 4
Summary
Page 73 – exercise 2
a. Fred's wife said that nobody liked Scrooge.
b. The Spirit told Scrooge to touch his clothes.
c. The Spirit said that he didn't have much time.
d. Bob asked his wife to drink to Scrooge.
e. Fred's wife asked if it was a horse.
f. Mrs Cratchit asked her husband what he was saying.
g. Scrooge asked the Spirit if Tiny Tim would see another Christmas.
h. The Ghost told Scrooge to look at him.
Page 73 – exercise 3
a. 'Help me prepare the table,' said Mrs Cratchit.
b. 'It's Christmas Day,' said Bob Cratchit.
c. 'Is your life short?' Scrooge asked the Spirit.
d. 'I will drink to Scrooge because it is Christmas,' said Mrs Cratchit.
e. 'Do you live in the city?' said Fred's wife to the animal.
f. 'Look down on the ground,' said the Spirit to Scrooge.
g. 'Put the plates on the table,' said Mrs Cratchit to Belinda.
h. 'There are too many people in the world,' said Scrooge.
Page 74 – exercise 4
1. Bob Cratchit carried Tiny Tim on his shoulder because he was a cripple.
2. Martha put hot plates on the table.
3. All the children shouted 'Hurray' because they didn't often eat goose.
4. 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 to the two children who represented humanity, dying.

**Page 87 - exercise 3**

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.

**Page 89 - exercise 4**


**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](http://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 Standard 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**


**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.

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**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?
**Context**

1. a. What is a carol?
   b. Who wrote A Christmas Carol?
   c. When and where was he born?
   d. What do you remember of his life?
   e. What sort of novel is A Christmas Carol?
      A comic novel, a sentimental novel, a social novel?
   f. What other works of his do you remember?

**Comprehension**

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

**Interpretation**

3. a. 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.)

**Memory**

4. a. Fred, Scrooge’s nephew.
   b. Scrooge.
   c. Jacob Marley’s ghost.
   d. Fanny, Scrooge’s sister.
   e. Fezziwig, Scrooge’s first employer.
   f. Belle, Scrooge’s fiancée.
   g. Mrs Cratchit.
   h. Old Joe.
   i. Scrooge.