

Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

Questions for Stave 1

1. Show how Scrooge responds to the following including specific details:
 - a. His nephew's invitation
 - b. A gentleman's request for charity
 - c. A young boy caroler
2. **SHOW** Jacob Marley's ghost explaining why he must travel "far and wide" as well as how he got his chain.
3. According to Marley's ghost, why is he visiting Scrooge? Whom does he tell Scrooge to expect throughout the night?
4. Show how Dickens develop the character of Scrooge through the following:
 - a. Physical description (include 5 details)
 - b. List **5 adjectives** that show Scrooge's personality.
 - c. Describe Scrooge's behavior towards his nephew, a charity seeker, and a caroler?
 - d. Scrooge initially thinks that Marley isn't real. What does he think the ghost is instead and why? What does this show about his thinking?
 - e. What do Marley's words, "You cannot hope to shun the path I tread" reveal about Scrooge? (631).



Questions about Stave 2

1. **SHOW** what makes the Ghost of Christmas Past unusually unique in appearance.
2. Briefly outline **5 of the Christmas experiences** from Scrooge's past:
 - a. As a young boy in a familiar, beloved neighborhood
 - b. As a young school age boy
 - c. Older school house boy rescued by sister
 - d. As a warehouse apprentice
 - e. As a man in the prime of his life
3. What regrets do each of the **5 Christmas memories** bring to Scrooge?
 - a. Young boy
 - b. School age boy
 - c. Older school age boy with sister
 - d. Warehouse apprentice
 - e. Man in prime of his life
4. Explain the **significance of the inextinguishable light** of the Ghost of Christmas Past as well as the contrast between dark and light.

Questions for Stave 3

1. Describe the **physical characteristics** of the Ghost of Christmas Present explaining what he carries in his hand as well as what group of people he feels most sympathy.
2. **List 3** of the **physical places** that the Ghost and Scrooge visit after leaving the Cratchits and before arriving at Scrooge's nephew's house as well as what he witnesses at each of these 3 places.
3. Identify the **names of the 2 children** discovered beneath the Ghost's robe listing **ten words Dickens uses to describe them**.
4. Identify 2 specific times when the Ghost quotes Scrooge and why he does so.

Questions for Stave 4

1. **SHOW** the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come emphasizing what part of his behavior frightens Scrooge.
2. List and describe the people at the junk dealer's shop, what they are trying to sell, and how their actions impact Scrooge.
3. Explain what clues allow readers to identify the identity of the "dead business men" before Scrooge does. Why did Dickens include this dramatic irony? (Think of the effect)
4. What is the final sign that the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come gives to Scrooge. What does the sign represent?

Questions for Stave 5

1. When, where, and how does Scrooge encounter the portly gentleman who had visited him requesting charity?
2. What **4 wonderful things** does Scrooge enjoy at his nephew's house?
3. What joke does Scrooge play on Bob Cratchit, and how does he try to compensate him for his past treatment?
4. Compare and contrast Scrooge with his former self and his newer self.