

### Plot Summary

1	Stave 1	Scrooge is introduced; he refuses to warm the office up for Bob Cratchit; he refuses to make a charity donation; refuses to eat Christmas dinner with Fred; is irritated by Christmas as it is interrupting his business; sees Marley's ghost who warns him he will be visited by three spirits to make him change his miserly ways.
2	Stave 2	The Ghost of Christmas Past takes Scrooge back in time to show him: his village; him alone at school; his sister collecting him from school; a party at Fezziwig's; Belle breaking off their engagement and Belle with her husband. Unable to take any more, Scrooge begs the spirit to take him back home. When he is back home, he falls asleep almost instantly.
3	Stave 3	The Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge how the Cratchit family celebrate Christmas; Scrooge becomes worried about Tiny Tim not surviving in the future. The spirit then takes Scrooge to see how others celebrate Christmas including Fred's Christmas party. The spirit begins to age and under its robe Scrooge sees two children: Ignorance and Want.
4	Stave 4	The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come arrives and Scrooge is terrified of him. It shows Scrooge a group of businessmen discussing someone's death. He is taken to a pawn shop where the possessions of the dead man are being sold. He is next taken to the Cratchit household where the family are grieving for Tiny Tim. Scrooge is then taken to a graveyard and sees his name on a gravestone. He begs the spirit and says he will change his ways.
5	Stave 5	Scrooge wakes up in his own bed and is now transformed! He sends a prize Turkey to the Cratchit family and even promises to give a huge charity donation to the poor. Scrooge then goes to Fred's to attend the party and is welcomed in. He also gives Bob Cratchit a raise and becomes a second father to Tiny Tim who does not die.

### Characters

1	Scrooge	The protagonist, a mean old loner who hates Christmas.	6	Bob Cratchit	Scrooge's hardworking and unpaid clerk.
2	Marley	Scrooge's deceased business partner who appears as a ghost to warn Scrooge to change his ways.	7	Tiny Tim	Bob Cratchit's ill and vulnerable son.
3	Ghost of Christmas Past	A shape changing spirit that represents memory and has light/a flame at the top of its head.	8	Fred	Scrooge's patient, jovial nephew. The son of his beloved sister, Fan.
4	Ghost of Christmas Present	A jolly spirit (resembles Father Christmas) that represents generosity and Christmas spirit.	9	Fezziwig	Scrooge's generous former employer.
5	Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come	A silent, sinister spirit in a black, hooded cloak who represents death.	10	Belle	Scrooge's former fiancée who breaks off their engagement because he valued money more than their relationship.

### Themes

1	Greed and selfishness	Characters such as Scrooge represent the middle classes who sought to hoard rather than share their wealth.
2	Poverty	Scrooge despises the poor and thinks they are lazy at first. At the end, he realizes he can share his wealth with the poor.
3	Transformation	The spirits show Scrooge scenes that prompt his transformation. At the end of the novella, Scrooge's transformation into a kinder human being is complete.
4	Christmas	Scrooge learns the true meaning of Christmas is to spend time with your family and loved ones.
5	Social responsibility	Ignorance and Want remind Scrooge that turning a blind eye to the plight of the poor creates desperate people that turn to crime to support themselves.

### Context

1	Charles Dickens	Born in 1812 to a middle class family. His dad was imprisoned for debt leading to poverty for the family. Dickens began working difficult jobs at a young age.
2	Poverty	In 1834, the Poor Amendment reduced the amount of help available to the poor, forcing them to seek help from workhouses. Conditions were incredibly harsh in the Victorian era.
3	Christmas	Christmas was fairly a low key celebration. During Queen Victoria's reign, workers were given two days holiday for Christmas. Turkey was only eaten by the rich, goose was a cheaper option.

### Key Vocabulary

1	Simile	Comparing two things using 'like' or 'as', e.g. "hard and sharp as a flint"
2	Motif	Repeated image or symbol, e.g. light being used several times in the novella
4	Allegory	Characters/events represent ideas about religion, morals or politics.
5	Novella	A short novel or long short story.
6	Resolution	The Point where conflict is solved, e.g. Scrooge's redemption.
7	Redemption	Being saved from sin, error or evil, e.g. Scrooge realising he needs to change his miserly ways and then does in stave 5.