

A Christmas Carol

Stave I Activities

1. Scrooge's Character Development

As you read through Stave I, note any words, dialogue and quotes that communicate important information about Scrooge, his appearance, who he is, and what he stands for. List at least 5 quotes below:

Page No.	Quote	Meaning

2. Vocabulary Development

Identify THREE words that are unfamiliar to you in Stave I. You must complete a semantic map for these words to visually communicate their meaning. This means, you must:

- Define the word;
- Find the root of the word (e.g. read, reader, readership);
- Find a graphic representation of the word; and,
- Put all of this in a small poster representation of the word.

3. Understanding the Text

Answer the following questions in your books or on your devices, you work in pairs or independently.

- What was the relationship between Marley and Scrooge? Why does Dickens repeat "sole" six times in a single sentence in the second paragraph of the text?

- b) What is meant by the phrase “he was an excellent man of business on the very day of the funeral”?
- c) What is the significance of mentioning the size of Scrooge’s fire in comparison to the clerk’s fire in paragraph 10? What does this detail reveal about Scrooge?
- d) What is Scrooge’s nephew’s reason for considering it a merry Christmas? What did the two men who entered Scrooge’s office after his nephew left want? How does Scrooge respond?
- e) What does the phrase, “I can’t afford to make idle people merry” reveal about Scrooge?
- f) Summarize what Marley’s ghost tells Scrooge about the afterlife. Scrooge responds, “But you were always a good man of business, Jacob.” What does this reveal about what Scrooge values? How does that contradict what the ghost indicates was his real business?
- g) “‘Without their visits,’ said [Marley’s] Ghost, ‘you cannot hope to shun the path I tread.’” What is meant by this statement?

4. Relating to the Text

Complete the following table to help you understand the text in more detail.

Words, phrases and images used to describe the time and place of the story	Setting associated with this these words	Feelings associated with the setting
<p>What emotions or feelings do you normally have about Christmas?</p> <p>How are Scrooge's feelings different?</p> <p>What might be the author's purpose for emphasizing a setting and character that are so "cold" and hostile at the beginning of the story?</p>		