
Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 1 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract the narrator is introducing us to the character of Scrooge.

Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner! Hard and sharp as flint, from which no steel had ever struck out generous fire; secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster. The cold within him froze his old features, nipped his pointed nose, shrivelled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and spoke out shrewdly in his grating voice. A frosty rime was on his head, and on his eyebrows, and his wiry chin. He carried his own low temperature always about with him; he iced his office in the dog-days; and didn't thaw it one degree at Christmas.

External heat and cold had little influence on Scrooge. No warmth could warm, no wintry weather chill him. No wind that blew was bitterer than he, no falling snow was more intent upon its purpose, no pelting rain less open to entreaty. Foul weather didn't know where to have him. The heaviest rain, and snow, and hail, and sleet, could boast of the advantage over him in only one respect. They often "came down" handsomely, and Scrooge never did. of the funeral, and solemnised it with an undoubted bargain.

Nobody ever stopped him in the street to say, with gladsome looks, "My dear Scrooge, how are you? When will you come to see me?" No beggars implored him to bestow a trifle, no children asked him what it was o'clock, no man or woman ever once in all his life inquired the way to such and such a place, of Scrooge. Even the blind men's dogs appeared to know him; and when they saw him coming on, would tug their owners into doorways and up courts; and then would wag their tails as though they said, "No eye at all is better than an evil eye, dark master!"

0 8

Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present other people's views towards Scrooge?

Write about:

- how Dickens presents views of Scrooge in this extract
- how Dickens presents views of Scrooge in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 1 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract Fred is greeting his Uncle Scrooge at work.

“A merry Christmas, uncle! God save you!” cried a cheerful voice. It was the voice of Scrooge’s nephew, who came upon him so quickly that this was the first intimation he had of his approach.

5 “Bah!” said Scrooge, “Humbug!”

 He had so heated himself with rapid walking in the fog and frost, this nephew of Scrooge’s, that he was all in a glow; his face was ruddy and handsome; his eyes sparkled, and his breath smoked again. “Christmas a humbug, uncle!” said Scrooge’s nephew.

10 “You don’t mean that, I am sure?”

 “I do,” said Scrooge. “Merry Christmas! What right have you to be merry? What reason have you to be merry? You’re poor enough.”

15 “Come, then,” returned the nephew gaily. “What right have you to be dismal? What reason have you to be morose? You’re rich enough.”

 Scrooge having no better answer ready on the spur of the moment, said, “Bah!” again; and followed it up with “Humbug.”

20 “Don’t be cross, uncle!” said the nephew.

 “What else can I be,” returned the uncle, “when I live in such a world of fools as this? Merry Christmas! Out upon merry Christmas! What’s Christmas time to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older, but not an hour richer; a time for balancing your books and having every item

25 in ’em through a round dozen of months presented dead against you? If I could work my will,” said Scrooge indignantly, “every idiot who goes about with ‘Merry Christmas’ on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart. He should!”

0 8

Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present attitudes towards Christmas?

Write about:

- how Dickens presents attitudes towards Christmas in this extract
- how Dickens presents attitudes towards Christmas in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 1 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract the narrator describes the counting house where Scrooge and Bob work.

Once upon a time—of all the good days in the year, on Christmas Eve—old Scrooge sat busy in his counting-house. It was cold, bleak, biting weather: foggy withal: and he could hear the people in the court outside, go wheezing up and down, beating their hands upon their breasts, and stamping their feet upon the pavement stones to warm them. The city clocks had only just gone three, but it was quite dark already—it had not been light all day—and candles were flaring in the windows of the neighbouring offices, like ruddy smears upon the palpable brown air. The fog came pouring in at every chink and keyhole, and was so dense without, that although the court was of the narrowest, the houses opposite were mere phantoms. To see the dingy cloud come drooping down, obscuring everything, one might have thought that Nature lived hard by, and was brewing on a large scale.

The door of Scrooge's counting-house was open that he might keep his eye upon his clerk, who in a dismal little cell beyond, a sort of tank, was copying letters. Scrooge had a very small fire, but the clerk's fire was so very much smaller that it looked like one coal. But he couldn't replenish it, for Scrooge kept the coal-box in his own room; and so surely as the clerk came in with the shovel, the master predicted that it would be necessary for them to part. Wherefore the clerk put on his white comforter, and tried to warm himself at the candle; in which effort, not being a man of a strong imagination, he failed.!"

0 8

Starting with this extract, write about how Dickens present class divide throughout the novella.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents divide in classes in this extract
- how Dickens presents different classes in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 1 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Marley has beckoned Scrooge to approach his window, having finished their discussion.

Not so much in obedience, as in surprise and fear: for on the raising of the hand, he became sensible of confused noises in the air; incoherent sounds of lamentation and regret; wailings
5 inexpressibly sorrowful and self-accusatory. The spectre, after listening for a moment, joined in the mournful dirge; and floated out upon the bleak, dark night.

Scrooge followed to the window: desperate in his curiosity. He looked out.

10 The air was filled with phantoms, wandering hither and thither in restless haste, and moaning as they went. Every one of them wore chains like Marley's Ghost; some few (they might be guilty governments) were linked together; none were free. Many had been personally known to Scrooge in their lives. He had been quite
15 familiar with one old ghost, in a white waistcoat, with a monstrous iron safe attached to its ankle, who cried piteously at being unable to assist a wretched woman with an infant, whom it saw below, upon a doorstep. The misery with them all was, clearly, that they sought to interfere, for good, in human matters, and had lost the power for ever.

20 Whether these creatures faded into mist, or mist enshrouded them, he could not tell. But they and their spirit voices faded together; and the night became as it had been when he walked home.

0 8

Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents suffering in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents suffering in this extract
- how Dickens presents suffering in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 2 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, the Ghost of Christmas Past explains why he is visiting Scrooge.

Perhaps, Scrooge could not have told anybody why, if anybody could have asked him; but he had a special desire to see the Spirit in his cap; and begged him to be covered.

5 “What!” exclaimed the Ghost, “would you so soon put out, with worldly hands, the light I give? Is it not enough that you are one of those whose passions made this cap, and force me through whole trains of years to wear it low upon my brow!”

10 Scrooge reverently disclaimed all intention to offend or any knowledge of having wilfully “bonneted” the Spirit at any period of his life. He then made bold to inquire what business brought him there.

 “Your welfare!” said the Ghost.

15 Scrooge expressed himself much obliged, but could not help thinking that a night of unbroken rest would have been more conducive to that end. The Spirit must have heard him thinking, for it said immediately:

 “Your reclamation, then. Take heed!”

 It put out its strong hand as it spoke, and clasped him gently by the arm.

20 “Rise! and walk with me!”

0 8

Starting with this extract, write about how Dickens presents redemption in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens redemption in this extract
- how Dickens presents redemption in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 2 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Past see Scrooge's younger self in school.

Nor was it more retentive of its ancient state, within; for entering the dreary hall, and glancing through the open doors of many rooms, they found them poorly furnished, cold, and vast. There was an earthy savour in the air, a chilly bareness in the place, which associated itself somehow with too much getting up by candle-light, and not too much to eat.

5

They went, the Ghost and Scrooge, across the hall, to a door at the back of the house. It opened before them, and disclosed a long, bare, melancholy room, made barer still by lines of plain deal forms and desks. At one of these a lonely boy was reading near a feeble fire; and Scrooge sat down upon a form, and wept to see his poor forgotten self as he used to be.

10

Not a latent echo in the house, not a squeak and scuffle from the mice behind the panelling, not a drip from the half-thawed waterspout in the dull yard behind, not a sigh among the leafless boughs of one despondent poplar, not the idle swinging of an empty store-house door, no, not a clicking in the fire, but fell upon the heart of Scrooge with a softening influence, and gave a freer passage to his tears.

15

0 8

Starting with this extract, explore how Scrooge presents loneliness in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents loneliness in this extract.
- how Dickens presents loneliness in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 2 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Mr Fezziwig's Christmas party is being described.

In came a fiddler with a music-book, and went up to the lofty desk, and made an orchestra of it, and tuned like fifty stomach-aches. In came Mrs. Fezziwig, one vast substantial smile. In came the three Miss Fezziwigs, beaming and lovable. In came the six
5 young followers whose hearts they broke. In came all the young men and women employed in the business. In came the housemaid, with her cousin, the baker. In came the cook, with her brother's particular friend, the milkman. In came the boy from over the way, who was suspected of not having board enough from his master;
10 trying to hide himself behind the girl from next door but one, who was proved to have had her ears pulled by her mistress. In they all came, one after another; some shyly, some boldly, some gracefully, some awkwardly, some pushing, some pulling; in they all came, anyhow and everyhow. Away they all went, twenty couple at once;
15 hands half round and back gain the other way; down the middle and up again; round and round in various stages of affectionate grouping; old top couple always turning up in the wrong place; new top couple starting off again, as soon as they got there; all top couples at last, and not a bottom one to help them! When this result
20 was brought about, old Fezziwig, clapping his hands to stop the dance, cried out, "Well done!" and the fiddler plunged his hot face into a pot of porter, especially provided for that purpose. But scorning rest, upon his reappearance, he instantly began again,
25 though there were no dancers yet, as if the other fiddler had been carried home, exhausted, on a shutter, and he were a bran-new man resolved to beat him out of sight, or perish.

0 8

Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents Christmas in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents Christmas in this extract.
- how Dickens presents Christmas in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 3 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge witnesses the Ghost of Christmas Present sprinkling something from his torch onto the food of the poor.

“Is there a peculiar flavour in what you sprinkle from your torch?” asked Scrooge.
“There is. My own.”
“Would it apply to any kind of dinner on this day?” asked
5 Scrooge.
“To any kindly given. To a poor one most.”
“Why to a poor one most?” asked Scrooge.
“Because it needs it most.”
“Spirit,” said Scrooge, after a moment’s thought, “I wonder
10 you, of all the beings in the many worlds about us, should desire to cramp these people’s opportunities of innocent enjoyment.”
“I!” cried the Spirit.
“You would deprive them of their means of dining every seventh day, often the only day on which they can be said to dine at
15 all,” said Scrooge. “Wouldn’t you?”
“I!” cried the Spirit.
“You seek to close these places on the Seventh Day?” said Scrooge. “And it comes to the same thing.”
“I seek!” exclaimed the Spirit.
20 “Forgive me if I am wrong. It has been done in your name, or at least in that of your family,” said Scrooge.
“There are some upon this earth of yours,” returned the Spirit, “who lay claim to know us, and who do their deeds of passion, pride, ill-will, hatred, envy, bigotry, and selfishness in our name, who are
25 as strange to us and all our kith and kin, as if they had never lived. Remember that, and charge their doings on themselves, not us.”

0 8

Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents charity and the needs of the poor in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents charity and the needs of the poor in this extract.
- how Dickens presents charity and the needs of the poor in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 3 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Bob and Tiny Tim have returned home from church on Christmas Day.

“And how did little Tim behave?” asked Mrs. Cratchit, when she had rallied Bob on his credulity, and Bob had hugged his daughter to his heart’s content.

5 “As good as gold,” said Bob, “and better. Somehow he gets thoughtful, sitting by himself so much, and thinks the strangest things you ever heard. He told me, coming home, that he hoped the people saw him in the church, because he was a cripple, and it might be pleasant to them to remember upon Christmas Day, who made lame beggars walk, and blind men see.”

10 Bob’s voice was tremulous when he told them this, and trembled more when he said that Tiny Tim was growing strong and hearty. His active little crutch was heard upon the floor, and back came Tiny Tim before another word was spoken, escorted by his brother and sister to his stool before the fire; and while Bob, turning up his cuffs—as if, poor fellow, they were capable of being made

15 more shabby—compounded some hot mixture in a jug with gin and lemons, and stirred it round and round and put it on the hob to simmer; Master Peter, and the two ubiquitous young Cratchits went to fetch the goose, with which they soon returned in high

20 procession.

0 8

Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents weakness and vulnerability in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents weakness and vulnerability in this extract.
- how Dickens presents weakness and vulnerability in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 3 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Present have just seen the Cratchits wish each other a Merry Christmas.

“Spirit,” said Scrooge, with an interest he had never felt before, “tell me if Tiny Tim will live.”

5 “I see a vacant seat,” replied the Ghost, “in the poor chimneycorner, and a crutch without an owner, carefully preserved. If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future, the child will die.”

“No, no,” said Scrooge. “Oh, no, kind Spirit! say he will be spared.”

10 “If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future, none other of my race,” returned the Ghost, “will find him here. What then? If he be like to die, he had better do it, and decrease the surplus population.”

Scrooge hung his head to hear his own words quoted by the Spirit, and was overcome with penitence and grief.

15 “Man,” said the Ghost, “if man you be in heart, not adamant, forbear that wicked cant until you have discovered What the surplus is, and Where it is. Will you decide what men shall live, what men shall die? It may be, that in the sight of Heaven, you are more worthless and less fit to live than millions like this poor man’s child. Oh God! to hear the Insect on the leaf pronouncing on the too much

20 life among his hungry brothers in the dust!”

0 8

‘Tiny Tim has the biggest effect on changing Scrooge’s character’

Starting with this extract, explore how far you agree with this statement.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents a changed Scrooge in this extract
- how Dickens presents Scrooge in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 3 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Present have left the Cratchits and are walking around London.

By this time it was getting dark, and snowing pretty heavily; and as Scrooge and the Spirit went along the streets, the brightness of the roaring fires in kitchens, parlours, and all sorts of rooms, was wonderful. Here, the flickering of the blaze showed preparations for a cosy dinner, with hot plates baking through and through before the fire, and deep red curtains, ready to be drawn to shut out cold and darkness. There all the children of the house were running out into the snow to meet their married sisters, brothers, cousins, uncles, aunts, and be the first to greet them. Here, again, were shadows on the window-blind of guests assembling; and there a group of handsome girls, all hooded and fur-booted, and all chattering at once, tripped lightly off to some near neighbour's house; where, woe upon the single man who saw them enter—artful witches, well they knew it—in a glow!

But, if you had judged from the numbers of people on their way to friendly gatherings, you might have thought that no one was at home to give them welcome when they got there, instead of every house expecting company, and piling up its fires half-chimney high. Blessings on it, how the Ghost exulted! How it bared its breadth of breast, and opened its capacious palm, and floated on, outpouring, with a generous hand, its bright and harmless mirth on everything within its reach! The very lamplighter, who ran on before, dotting the dusky street with specks of light, and who was dressed to spend the evening somewhere, laughed out loudly as the Spirit passed, though little kened the lamplighter that he had any company but Christmas!

0 8

Starting with this extract, write about how Dickens presents community and togetherness in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents community and togetherness in this extract
- how Dickens presents community and togetherness in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 4 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come has just appeared before Scrooge.

THE Phantom slowly, gravely, silently approached. When it came near him, Scrooge bent down upon his knee; for in the very air through which this Spirit moved it seemed to scatter gloom and mystery.

5 It was shrouded in a deep black garment, which concealed its head, its face, its form, and left nothing of it visible save one outstretched hand. But for this it would have been difficult to detach its figure from the night, and separate it from the darkness by which it was surrounded.

10 He felt that it was tall and stately when it came beside him, and that its mysterious presence filled him with a solemn dread. He knew no more, for the Spirit neither spoke nor moved.

 “I am in the presence of the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come?” said Scrooge.

15 The Spirit answered not, but pointed onward with its hand.

0 8

‘The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come is the most threatening of all the ghosts.’

Starting with this extract, explore how far you agree with this statement.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come in this extract
- how Dickens presents the ghosts in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 4 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge's reaction to the Ghost of Christmas yet to Come is being described.

Although well used to ghostly company by this time, Scrooge feared the silent shape so much that his legs trembled beneath him, and he found that he could hardly stand when he prepared to follow it.

The Spirit paused a moment, as observing his condition, and giving him time to recover.

5 But Scrooge was all the worse for this. It thrilled him with a vague uncertain horror, to know that behind the dusky shroud, there were ghostly eyes intently fixed upon him, while he, though he stretched his own to the utmost, could see nothing but a spectral hand and one great heap of black.

10 "Ghost of the Future!" he exclaimed, "I fear you more than any spectre I have seen. But as I know your purpose is to do me good, and as I hope to live to be another man from what I was, I am prepared to bear you company, and do it with a thankful heart. Will you not speak to me?"

15 It gave him no reply. The hand was pointed straight before them.

"Lead on!" said Scrooge. "Lead on! The night is waning fast, and it is precious time to me, I know. Lead on, Spirit!"

0 8

Starting with this extract, write about how fear is presented in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents fear in this extract
- how Dickens presents fear in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 4 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, the charwoman is showing Old Joe what she has stolen from her employer and is negotiating a price.

“What do you call this?” said Joe. “Bed-curtains!”
“Ah!” returned the woman, laughing and leaning forward on her crossed arms. “Bed-curtains!”
“You don’t mean to say you took ’em down, rings and all, with him lying there?” said Joe.
5 “Yes I do,” replied the woman. “Why not?”
“You were born to make your fortune,” said Joe, “and you’ll certainly do it.”
“I certainly shan’t hold my hand, when I can get anything in it by reaching it out, for the sake of such a man as He was, I promise you, Joe,” returned the woman coolly. “Don’t drop that oil upon the blankets, now.”
10 “His blankets?” asked Joe.
“Whose else’s do you think?” replied the woman. “He isn’t likely to take cold without ’em, I dare say.”
15 “I hope he didn’t die of anything catching? Eh?” said old Joe, stopping in his work, and looking up.
“Don’t you be afraid of that,” returned the woman. “I an’t so fond of his company that I’d loiter about him for such things, if he did. Ah! you may look through that shirt till your eyes ache; but you won’t find a hole in it, nor a threadbare place. It’s the best he had, and a fine one too. They’d have wasted it, if it hadn’t been for me.”
20 “What do you call wasting of it?” asked old Joe.
“Putting it on him to be buried in, to be sure,” replied the woman with a laugh. “Somebody was fool enough to do it, but I took it off again. If calico an’t good enough for such a purpose, it isn’t good enough for anything. It’s quite as becoming to the body. He can’t look uglier than he did in that one.”
25

0 8

Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents poverty in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how poverty are presented in this extract
- how Dickens presents poverty in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 4 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge has asked to see some positive emotion attached with death and has been brought to the house of an unknown woman.

5 At length the long-expected knock was heard. She hurried to the door, and met her husband; a man whose face was careworn and depressed, though he was young. There was a remarkable expression in it now; a kind of serious delight of which he felt ashamed, and which he struggled to repress.

10 He sat down to the dinner that had been hoarding for him by the fire; and when she asked him faintly what news (which was not until after a long silence), he appeared embarrassed how to answer. “Is it good?” she said, “or bad?”—to help him.

15 “Bad,” he answered. “We are quite ruined?” “No. There is hope yet, Caroline.” “If he relents,” she said, amazed, “there is! Nothing is past hope, if such a miracle has happened.”

 “He is past relenting,” said her husband. “He is dead.” She was a mild and patient creature if her face spoke truth; but she was thankful in her soul to hear it, and she said so, with clasped hands. She prayed forgiveness the next moment, and was sorry; but the first was the emotion of her heart.

0 8

Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents how people react to death in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how individuals react to death in this extract
- how individuals react to death in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 4 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come have just arrived at a graveyard.

The Spirit stood among the graves, and pointed down to One. He advanced towards it trembling. The Phantom was exactly as it had been, but he dreaded that he saw new meaning in its solemn shape.

5 “Before I draw nearer to that stone to which you point,” said Scrooge, “answer me one question. Are these the shadows of the things that Will be, or are they shadows of things that May be, only?”

10 Still the Ghost pointed downward to the grave by which it stood.

 “Men’s courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead,” said Scrooge. “But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me!”

15 The Spirit was immovable as ever.

 Scrooge crept towards it, trembling as he went; and following the finger, read upon the stone of the neglected grave his own name, EBENEZER SCROOGE

0 8

Starting with this extract, write about the messages Dickens conveys in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- the messages presented in this extract.
- the messages presented in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 4 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge has just woken up on Christmas morning and realised his whole life is before him.

“I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future!” Scrooge repeated, as he scrambled out of bed. “The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. Oh Jacob Marley! Heaven, and the Christmas Time be praised for this! I say it on my knees, old Jacob, on my knees!”

5 He was so fluttered and so glowing with his good intentions, that his broken voice would scarcely answer to his call. He had been sobbing violently in his conflict with the Spirit, and his face was wet with tears.

10 “They are not torn down,” cried Scrooge, folding one of his bedcurtains in his arms, “they are not torn down, rings and all. They are here—I am here—the shadows of the things that would have been, may be dispelled. They will be. I know they will!”

His hands were busy with his garments all this time; turning them inside out, putting them on upside down, tearing them,

15 mislaying them, making them parties to every kind of extravagance.

“I don’t know what to do!” cried Scrooge, laughing and crying in the same breath; and making a perfect Laocoön of himself with his stockings. “I am as light as a feather, I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a schoolboy. I am as giddy as a drunken man. A

20 merry Christmas to everybody! A happy New Year to all the world. Hallo here! Whoop! Hallo!”

0 8

Starting with this extract, write about how Dickens presents positive emotions throughout *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how Dickens presents positive emotions in this extract.
- how Dickens presents positive emotions in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 5 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge has just encountered the charitable gentlemen he has met the day before.

“My dear sir,” said Scrooge, quickening his pace, and taking the old gentleman by both his hands. “How do you do? I hope you succeeded yesterday. It was very kind of you. A merry Christmas to you, sir!”

5 “Mr. Scrooge?”

 “Yes,” said Scrooge. “That is my name, and I fear it may not be pleasant to you. Allow me to ask your pardon. And will you have the goodness”—here Scrooge whispered in his ear.

10 “Lord bless me!” cried the gentleman, as if his breath were taken away. “My dear Mr. Scrooge, are you serious?”

 “If you please,” said Scrooge. “Not a farthing less. A great many back-payments are included in it, I assure you. Will you do me that favour?”

15 “My dear sir,” said the other, shaking hands with him. “I don’t know what to say to such munifi—”

 “Don’t say anything, please,” retorted Scrooge. “Come and see me. Will you come and see me?”

 “I will!” cried the old gentleman. And it was clear he meant to do it.

20 “Thank’ee,” said Scrooge. “I am much obliged to you. I thank you fifty times. Bless you!”

0 8

‘This part of *A Christmas Carol* is the best for showing just how much Scrooge has changed since the beginning of the story.’

Starting with this extract, explore to what extent you agree with the statement.

Write about:

- how Scrooge is shown to have changed in this extract
- how Scrooge changes in the novel as a whole.

[30 marks]

Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol*

Read the following extract from Stave 5 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract, Scrooge has arrived at the house of Fred, his nephew.

He passed the door a dozen times, before he had the courage to go up and knock. But he made a dash, and did it:
“Is your master at home, my dear?” said Scrooge to the girl.
Nice girl! Very.
5 “Yes, sir.”
“Where is he, my love?” said Scrooge.
“He’s in the dining-room, sir, along with mistress. I’ll show you up-stairs, if you please.”
10 “Thank’ee. He knows me,” said Scrooge, with his hand already on the dining-room lock. “I’ll go in here, my dear.”
He turned it gently, and sidled his face in, round the door. They were looking at the table (which was spread out in great array); for these young housekeepers are always nervous on such points, and like to see that everything is right.
15 “Fred!” said Scrooge.
Dear heart alive, how his niece by marriage started! Scrooge had forgotten, for the moment, about her sitting in the corner with the footstool, or he wouldn’t have done it, on any account.
“Why bless my soul!” cried Fred, “who’s that?”
20 “It’s I. Your uncle Scrooge. I have come to dinner. Will you let me in, Fred?”
Let him in! It is a mercy he didn’t shake his arm off. He was at home in five minutes. Nothing could be heartier.

0 8

Starting with this extract, write about the importance of family and social interaction in *A Christmas Carol*.

Write about:

- how family and social interaction is shown in this extract
- how family and social interaction is shown in the novel as a whole.