**Charles Dickens: *A Christmas Carol***

Read this extract from Stave Five of the novella then answer the question that follows. In this extract, Scrooge has left his house to experience Christmas morning.

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| He had not gone far, when coming on towards him, he beheld the portly gentleman, who had walked into his counting-house the day before, and said, ‘Scrooge and Marley’s, I believe?’ It sent a pang across his heart to think how this old gentleman would look upon him when they met; but he knew what path lay straight before him, and he took it.  ‘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!’  ‘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.  ‘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?’  ‘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.  ‘Thank ‘ee,’ said Scrooge. ‘I am much obliged to you. I thank you fifty times. Bless you!’  He went to church, and walked about the streets, and watched the people hurrying to and fro, and patted children on the head, and questioned beggars, and looked down into the kitchens of houses, and up to the windows; and found that everything could yield him pleasure. He had never dreamed that any walk — that anything — could give him so much happiness. In the afternoon he turned his steps towards his nephew’s house. |

Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present the themes of generosity and goodwill?

Write about:

* how Dickens presents generosity and goodwill in this extract
* how Dickens presents generosity and goodwill in the novel as a whole.

**[30 marks]**