

GCSE English Literature Paper One Knowledge Organiser- A Christmas Carol	
<b>Assessment:</b> One question on theme and/or character. Extract as starting point.	
<b>Key question focuses:</b> Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, Fred, Ghosts: Jacob Marley, Spirit of Christmas Past, Spirit of Christmas Present, Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come, Fezziwig, Belle, Tiny Tim, Poverty, Family, Love, Spirits as agents of change, Christmas, Redemption	
"But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grind- stone, Scrooge! A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner!" <i>Listing to show Scrooge's meanness (1)</i>	"As secret and solitary and self-contained as an oyster." <i>Simile to illustrate Scrooge's hard exterior but chance to be opened up? (1)</i>
"A poor excuse for picking a man's pocket every twenty-fifth of December!" <i>Scrooge and Christmas (1)</i>	"should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart." <i>Scrooge and Christmas (1)</i>
"Are there no prisons?" <i>Scrooge's attitude to the poor – repeated in Stave 3 (1)</i>	"a dismal little cell" – <i>like a prison: clear evidence of how Scrooge treats Bob Cratchit (1)</i>
"The spectre's voice disturbed the very marrow of his bones" <i>Impact of the ghosts on Scrooge (1)</i>	"If they would rather die, they had better do it and decrease the surplus population." <i>Scrooge's beliefs about population (1)</i>
"Mankind was my business" <i>Pun on business – Marley's message (1)</i>	"There's more of gravy than of grave about you" <i>Use of humour to show Scrooge's reluctance (1)</i>
"you have yet a chance and hope of escaping my fate" <i>Scrooge's chance of redemption (1)</i>	"I wear the chain I forged in life" <i>symbolism of Marley's chains – held down by capital (1)</i>
"sprang a bright, clear jet of light" <i>Ghost of Christmas Past's light symbolises his message – Scrooge does not want to look (2)</i>	"There was a boy singing a Christmas carol at my door last night. I should like to have given him something." <i>Scrooge begins to change (2)</i>
"I have come to bring you home dear brother." <i>Fan's generosity – like Fred (2)</i>	"No more work to-night. Christmas Eve." <i>Contrast of Fezziwig as a generous employer (2)</i>
"I should like to be able to say a word or two to my clerk just now, that's all." <i>Scrooge begins to change as an employer (2)</i>	"Another idol has displaced me...a golden one" "May you be happy in the life you have chosen" <i>Scrooge loses Belle because of his obsession with wealth and money. (2)</i>
"When he thought that such another creature, quite as graceful and full of promise might have called him father...his sight grew dim." <i>Scrooge realises he is sad to have never had a family. (2)</i>	"Take me back. Haunt me no longer" <i>The past is painful to Scrooge. (2)</i>
"Twice turned gown, but brave in ribbons." <i>Mrs Cratchit is poor but skilful and positive (3)</i>	"A jolly giant. Glorious to see". <i>Ghost of Christmas Present represents generosity. (3)</i>
"I see a vacant seat... If these shadows remain unaltered by the future...he be like to die" <i>Scrooge needs to change to save the lives of boys like Tiny Tim. (3)</i>	"There never was such a goose...Eked out by apple sauce and mashed potato." <i>The Cratchit family do the best with what they have. (3)</i>
"A monstrous desolation"/"A cheerful company" <i>Present shows how Christmas is kept by people even in very lonely places. (3)</i>	"They were not a handsome family but they were happy." <i>Despite having very little, the Cratchit family manage to stay positive. (3)</i>
"Yellow, meagre, ragged, scowling, wolfish children." <i>Listing to show the pain of children (Ignorance/Want) in Victorian England. (3)</i>	"I see that written which is doom." <i>The Ghost of Christmas Present warns what will happen to society if it does not end ignorance. (3)</i>
"The Phantom slowly, gravely, silently approached...a spectral hand... one great heap of black" <i>Yet to Come represents Death (4)</i>	"It is likely to be a very cheap funeral" "I don't mind going if lunch is provided." <i>The men of the City do not like Scrooge. (4)</i>
"plundered, bereft, unwatched, unwept, uncared for" – <i>Scrooge's corpse is abandoned and he has no-one to care for him. (4)</i>	"The whole quarter reeked with crime, filth and misery" – <i>Joe's shop is in a poor and unhappy part of town</i>
"to profit us when he was dead" – <i>Scrooge's life is only used of to profit others after death (4)</i>	"We shall none of us forget poor Tiny Tim." – <i>In a version of the future, Tim has died. (4)</i>

<p>"Such a miracle has happened", "and it was a happier house for this man's death" <i>One family will not be evicted because Scrooge has died.</i> (4)</p>	<p>"I will not shut out the lessons that they teach" <i>Scrooge resolves to listen to the teachings of the ghosts</i> (4)</p>
<p>"I am as happy as an angel, I am as merry as a school-boy..." <i>Similes that echo Stave 1 and show Scrooge's change</i> (5)</p>	<p>"A great many back-payments are included in it, I assure you" <i>In an echo of Stave 1, Scrooge now donates to charity.</i> (5)</p>
<p>"He shan't know who sends it. It's twice the size of Tiny Tim" <i>Scrooge shows his new generosity</i> (5)</p>	<p>"Scrooge was better than his word. He did it all, and infinitely more; and to Tiny Tim, who did NOT die, he was a second father. God bless us every one!" <i>Scrooge is reformed.</i> (5)</p>

Key Methods	Key Context/History
<p><b>Parallel Episodes</b>  Humour, wordplay and puns  Satire and Irony  Symbols (e.g. appearance of the spirits)  Allegory (figures represent abstract ideas)  Parable (where a story has a moral lesson)  Listing  Pathetic Fallacy and Imagery of warmth and cold  Similes, Metaphors and Personification  Tension, suspense and elements of The Gothic (Stave 1 Marley's arrival, Stave 4 Phantom/graveyard)  Fairy tale and magic (Once Upon A Time)</p>	<p>Dickens' family debtor's prison/Dickens' job in factory  Those out of work could beg, go to prison or workhouse (miserable conditions, very strict rules, over-worked, families separated).  Huge growth in cities due to industrial revolution-over-crowding/ slums.  Collapse of traditions and community sentiment eg. focus is on profit - decline in employers offering days off.  Dickens plans a pamphlet on poverty but realises a novel would have more impact.  Dickens as a reformer (rather a revolutionary like Marx)  Malthus and population growth  Christianity: Prodigal Son and Damascene Conversions</p>