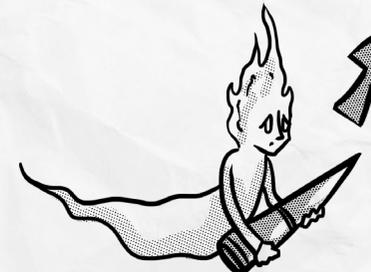
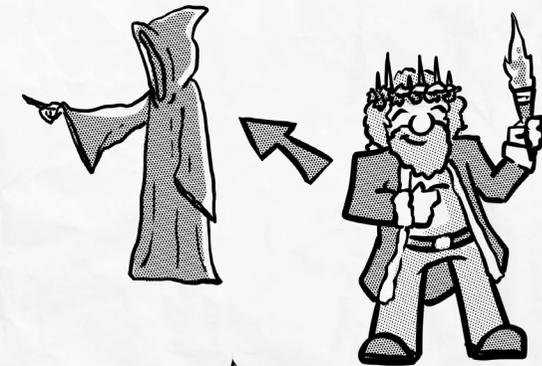
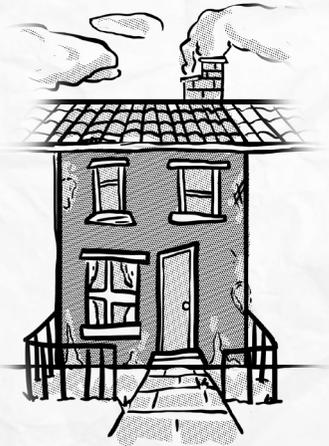
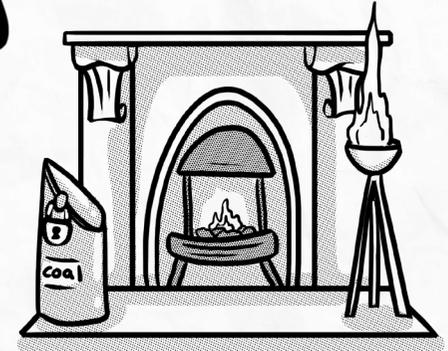


# GCSE A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens



## Characterisation

Select four key points about Scrooge's description in Stave One – explore how these reflect his character at the start of the story.

How does Dickens build *sympathy* for Scrooge in Stave Two?

How is Fred presented as a character the readers should like and respect?

'*The poor characters in the story are presented in a very real way*' – do you agree? Find evidence to agree or disagree with this statement.

## Genre

Why do you think Dickens used ghosts to help tell a *moral tale*?

Is A Christmas Carol still relevant in the modern day? Does it still have a purpose?

## Dickens' Methods

Why does Dickens use a *cyclical structure* for A Christmas Carol?

Where does Dickens use *pathetic fallacy* and what is the effect of this on the reader?

How is *fire and light* used as a symbol in the story? Find four examples and explain them.

'*wound about him like a tail*' - what is significant about this simile?

Dickens uses lots of lists when describing characters and settings - why?

## Character Relationships

Do Scrooge's reactions to the different ghosts change? How and why?

How does Scrooge's greed affect other characters in the story?

## The Ghosts

Why is Marley's appearance significant when he visits Scrooge?

Which ghost do you think has the biggest impact on Scrooge? Why?

'*from the crown of its head there sprung a bright clear jet of light*' - why is this significant for the Ghost of Christmas Past?

'*The Phantom slowly, gravely, silently approached*'.  
Why does the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come not talk?

## Social Responsibility

Which characters demonstrate social responsibility throughout the story?  
How do they do this?

In what ways does Dickens present poverty and its consequences to Scrooge and to the reader?

Select three key events that show Scrooge's changing view of responsibility.

Other than the wealthy, do any other parts of society get blamed for poverty?

Scrooge's visit to the Cratchit house is the key moment that makes Scrooge take responsibility – explore and explain.

Why does the Ghost of Christmas Present show '*Want*' and '*Ignorance*' as the two main dangers to man?

## Family

How does Scrooge's past affect his *relationships* with his family in the present?

How is family shown to be a key source of strength and support?