

Comprehension: A Christmas Carol

In the bustling city of London, during the Victorian era, there lived a man named Ebenezer Scrooge. Scrooge was a miserly, old moneylender known for his greedy nature and disdain for Christmas. He dismissed the festive season as "humbug" and was notorious for his cold-heartedness toward everyone, including his loyal clerk, Bob Cratchit, who endured Scrooge's penny-pinching ways to provide for his family.

On Christmas Eve, after rejecting his nephew Fred's invitation to Christmas dinner and harshly turning away charity collectors, Scrooge returned to his gloomy home. As he prepared for bed, he was visited by the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley, who had died seven years earlier. Bound in heavy chains as punishment for his own greed and selfishness, Marley warned Scrooge that he faced a similar fate. Marley informed Scrooge that he would be visited by three spirits that night, each offering a chance for redemption.

The first spirit, the Ghost of Christmas Past, appeared as a gentle figure glowing with light. This spirit took Scrooge on a journey through his earlier years, showing him scenes from his childhood, youth, and early adulthood. Scrooge witnessed his own transformation from a happy, hopeful young man to a bitter miser, particularly after his fiancée, Belle, left him due to his growing obsession with money.

Next, the Ghost of Christmas Present arrived, a jolly giant clad in a green robe. This spirit revealed to Scrooge the joy and warmth of Christmas Day as celebrated by others. They visited the modest home of Bob Cratchit, where Scrooge was touched by the love and happiness shared among the Cratchit family despite their poverty. Scrooge was particularly moved by the sight of Bob's ill son, Tiny Tim, whose cheerful spirit shone brightly despite his frail health. The spirit also showed Scrooge various other scenes of people celebrating Christmas with kindness and generosity, highlighting the stark contrast to Scrooge's lonely existence.

Finally, the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, a dark and foreboding figure, appeared. This spirit presented a vision of Scrooge's own death, unloved and unmourned. Scrooge saw how



"No, spirit! Oh, no, no!"

people were relieved at his passing and how his possessions were stolen by unscrupulous individuals. The spirit also showed the Cratchit family mourning the loss of Tiny Tim, whose death was partly due to their inability to afford proper care.

Horrified by these visions, Scrooge begged the spirit for a chance to change his ways. He vowed to embrace the spirit of Christmas and to live a life of compassion and generosity.

Upon awakening on Christmas morning, Scrooge found himself transformed. He joyfully embraced the day, generously donating to charity, surprising Bob Cratchit with a raise, and becoming a beloved figure in his community. Scrooge's newfound kindness and festive spirit brought joy and warmth to all around him, proving that it is never too late to change and that the true spirit of Christmas lies in giving and loving.

1. Why does Scrooge initially reject Fred's invitation to Christmas dinner?
 - a) He dislikes Fred
 - b) He believes Christmas is a waste of time
 - c) He is too busy with work
 - d) He doesn't like Fred's wife

2. What does Marley's chain symbolise?
 - a) His wealth
 - b) His past generosity
 - c) The burden of his greed and selfishness
 - d) His relationship with Scrooge

3. How does Scrooge's attitude towards money affect his relationships?
 - a) It makes him popular
 - b) It isolates him from others
 - c) It makes him charitable
 - d) It strengthens his family ties

4. Why is Scrooge moved by the Cratchit family's Christmas celebration?
 - a) They are wealthy
 - b) They have more food than him
 - c) They are happy despite being poor
 - d) They live in a large house

5. What does the Ghost of Christmas Present symbolise?
 - a) The future
 - b) The present joy and generosity of Christmas

- c) The past mistakes of Scrooge
 - d) The wealth of Scrooge
6. Why is Scrooge particularly affected by Tiny Tim?
- a) Tim is wealthy
 - b) Tim reminds Scrooge of his childhood
 - c) Tim's cheerful spirit despite his illness
 - d) Tim is related to Scrooge
7. What lesson does the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come teach Scrooge?
- a) That his current path leads to a lonely and unloved death
 - b) That he should work harder
 - c) That he should save more money
 - d) That he will become very wealthy
8. How does seeing his own grave affect Scrooge?
- a) He feels proud of his accomplishments
 - b) He realises the importance of money
 - c) He is terrified and regrets his life's choices
 - d) He wants to build a bigger tombstone
9. What is the significance of the Cratchit family mourning Tiny Tim?
- a) It shows their unkind nature
 - b) It highlights the impact of Scrooge's greed on others
 - c) It shows they are wealthy
 - d) It shows they are happy
10. How does Scrooge's transformation begin?
- a) By donating money
 - b) By attending church
 - c) By reflecting on his past, present, and future
 - d) By ignoring the spirits
11. Why is Scrooge's transformation believable?
- a) He has always been kind-hearted
 - b) The spirits' visions deeply scare him into changing
 - c) He wants to impress Fred
 - d) He wants to win a prize

12. What does Scrooge's change in behaviour on Christmas morning symbolise?
- a) His desire for more money
 - b) His commitment to live a better, kinder life
 - c) His fear of the future
 - d) His dislike of Christmas
13. Why does Scrooge raise Bob Cratchit's salary?
- a) To mock him
 - b) To ensure Bob will work harder
 - c) To help Bob's struggling family
 - d) To buy Bob's silence
14. How do Scrooge's neighbours react to his transformation?
- a) They are confused and suspicious
 - b) They are indifferent
 - c) They are delighted and welcoming
 - d) They are scared
15. What does the warmth and joy of the Cratchit family represent?
- a) Wealth
 - b) Genuine love and happiness despite financial struggles
 - c) Superficial joy
 - d) Indifference to their situation
16. How does Fred's invitation to Christmas dinner contrast with Scrooge's attitude?
- a) Fred's invitation is insincere
 - b) Fred's invitation reflects generosity and family spirit
 - c) Fred's invitation is obligatory
 - d) Fred's invitation is to mock Scrooge
17. What does Scrooge's lonely death in the future signify?
- a) The ultimate consequence of his isolation and greed
 - b) The inevitability of death
 - c) The success of his business
 - d) The respect he earned
18. Why is Marley's ghost condemned to wander the earth?

- a) For his kindness
- b) For his generosity
- c) For his greed and selfishness in life
- d) For his bravery

19. How does the vision of Tiny Tim's death impact Scrooge's decisions?

- a) It makes him more resentful
- b) It drives him to ignore the Cratchits
- c) It motivates him to change and help the Cratchit family
- d) It has no impact

20. What does the change in weather symbolise as Scrooge transforms?

- a) The continuation of winter
- b) The warmth and light of a new beginning
- c) A deeper cold
- d) No change

21. Why is the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come silent?

- a) To signify the unknown and the fear of the future
- b) Because it has no voice
- c) To show it's not important
- d) To give Scrooge time to think

22. How does Scrooge's interaction with charity collectors change by the end?

- a) He continues to dismiss them
- b) He donates generously and supports their cause
- c) He criticises their work
- d) He ignores them

23. Why is Scrooge's willingness to join Fred's Christmas dinner significant?

- a) It shows he is hungry
- b) It represents his acceptance of family and joy
- c) It is a social obligation
- d) He wants to boast about his wealth

24. How does Scrooge's relationship with Bob Cratchit change?

- a) It becomes more respectful and supportive
- b) It remains the same

- c) It becomes more demanding
- d) It becomes more distant

25. What does the word "miserly" mean in the context of Scrooge's character?

- a) Generous
- b) Wealthy
- c) Stingy
- d) Happy
- e) No meaning

26. What does the word "transformation" mean in the context of Scrooge's character?

- a) His unchanged behaviour
- b) A significant change in character and behaviour
- c) Becoming worse
- d) Becoming wealthier
- e) No change

27. Which of the following sentences is grammatically correct?

- a) Scrooge's transformation was quick and unexpectedly.
- b) Scrooge's transformation was quick and unexpected.
- c) Scrooge's transformation was quick but unexpected.
- d) Scrooge's transformation was quickly and unexpected.
- e) Scrooge's transformation was quick and unexpected

28. Identify the grammatically correct sentence.

- a) Scrooge feels lonely, so he tries to change.
- b) Scrooge felt lonely, so he try to change.
- c) Scrooge feel lonely, so he try to change.
- d) Scrooge feels lonely, so he trying to change.
- e) Scrooge feels lonely, so he tries to change

Answers Christmas Carol

1. b
2. c
3. b
4. c
5. b
6. c
7. a
8. c
9. b
10. c
11. b
12. b
13. c
14. c
15. b
16. b
17. a
18. c
19. c
20. b
21. a
22. b
23. b
24. a
25. c
26. b
27. b
28. a