

Entry Tasks

A Christmas Carol

Name: _____

Entry Task 1

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from the biography *The Life of Charles Dickens: Champion of the Poor*. Choose the quote that most effectively describes his purpose for writing. Put the quote in your own words by paraphrasing.

- A. *“Charles Dickens used his books to expose important social issues . . . His writing made readers think about how society treated its most vulnerable members”* (paragraph 7).
- B. *“A Christmas Carol has been read and performed for generations, reminding people of the importance of compassion and caring for those in need”* (paragraph 8).

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 2

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from the article “The Time Traveler Archetype.” Choose the quote that most effectively describes the time traveler archetype. Put the quote in your own words by paraphrasing.

- A. *“Time traveler stories inspire us to be brave, curious, and seek the truth”* (paragraph 7).
- B. *“Characters like Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol . . . are brilliant examples of traveling through space and time to change the past, save lives, discover one’s own identity, and experience the past firsthand”* (paragraph 9).

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 3

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from pp. 1–9. Choose the quote that most effectively describes the protagonist. Put the quote in your own words by paraphrasing.

- A. *“Oh! But he was tight-fisted, hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner! Hard and sharp as flint . . .”* (p. 2).
- B. *“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, nor wintry weather chill him”* (pp. 2–3).

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 4

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from pp. 9–15. Choose the quote that most effectively describes the setting and contributes to the mood of the story. Put the quote in your own words by paraphrasing.

- A. *“. . . the fog and darkness thickened so, that people ran about with flaring links, proffering their services to go before horses in carriages, and conduct them on their way . . . The cold became intense . . . Foggier yet, and colder! Piercing, searching, biting cold”* (pp. 9–10).
- B. *“The fog and frost so hung about the black old gateway of the house, that it seemed as if the Genius of the Weather sat in mournful meditation on the threshold”* (p. 12).

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 5

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from chapter 1. Choose the quote that most effectively describes Ebenezer Scrooge's attitude toward others. Put the quote in your own words by paraphrasing.

- A. *" . . . to edge his way along the crowded paths of life, warning all human sympathy to keep its distance, was what the knowing ones called 'nuts'"* (p. 3).
- B. *"I wish to be left alone . . . I don't make merry at Christmas, and I can't afford to make idle people merry"* (p. 9).

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 6

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from chapter 1. Choose the quote that most effectively describes Ebenezer Scrooge's curiosity, which is a characteristic of the time traveler archetype. Put the quote in your own words by paraphrasing.

- A. *" . . . [Scrooge] became sensible of confused noises in the air; incoherent sounds of lamentation and regret . . . Scrooge followed to the window: desperate in curiosity"* (p. 23).
- B. *"Scrooge closed the window, and examined the door by which the Ghost had entered. It was double-locked, as he had locked it with his own hands, and the bolts were undisturbed. He tried to say 'Humbug!' but stopped at the first syllable"* (p. 24).

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 7

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from chapter 1. Choose the quote that most effectively describes the Ghost of Christmas Past. Put the quote in your own words by paraphrasing.

- A. *"It was a strange figure—like a child: yet not so like a child as like an old man . . . Its hair, which about its neck and down its back, was white as if with age and yet the face had not a wrinkle in it" (p. 27).*
- B. *". . . from the crown of its head there sprung a bright clear jet of light, by which all this was visible . . . a great extinguisher for a cap, which it now held under its arm . . . [Scrooge] had a special desire to see the Spirit in his cap; and begged him to be covered" (pp. 28–29).*

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 8

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from chapter 2. Choose the quote that best shows how Scrooge is changing.

- A. *"Why was he filled with gladness when he heard them give each other Merry Christmas . . . What was Merry Christmas to Scrooge? . . . What good had it ever done him?" (p. 31).*
- B. *Scrooge says to the spirit, "[Fezziwig] has the power to render us happy or unhappy; to make our service light or burdensome; a pleasure or a toil . . . his power lies in words and looks; in things so slight an insignificant it is impossible to count 'em up" (p. 40).*

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 9

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from chapter 3. Choose the quote that best shows how Scrooge is changing.

- A. *“Scrooge entered timidly and hung his head before this Spirit. He was not the dogged Scrooge he had been; and though his eyes were clear and kind, he did not like to meet them”* (p. 50).
- B. *“[Scrooge] was ready for a good broad field of strange appearances . . . nothing between a baby and a rhinoceros would have astonished him very much. Now, being prepare for almost anything, he was not by any means prepared for nothing; and, consequently, when the bell struck One, and no shape appeared, he was taken with a violent fit of trembling”* (p. 49).

In your own words/paraphrase:

Entry Task 10

Provided are two direct quotes pulled from chapter 3. Choose the quote that best shows the consequences of Scrooge's greed.

- A. *“[Scrooge's] wealth is of no use to him. He don't do anything good with it. He don't make himself comfortable with it. He hasn't the satisfaction of thinking he is ever going to benefit Us with it . . . Who suffers by his ill whims? Himself, always . . . he loses some pleasant moments . . . he loses pleasanter companions . . .”* (pp. 69–70).
- B. *“All the things that the ghost had shown [Scrooge], came upon his mind; he softened more and more; and thought that if he could have listened to it often, years ago, he might have cultivated the kindness of life for his own happiness . . .”* (p. 71).

In your own words/paraphrase: