**A Christmas Carol Quotes**

**Stave 1: Marley’s Ghost**

**Opening Description of Scrooge: Supports his initial Character.**

* “... he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner! Hard and sharp as flint, from which no steel had ever struck out generous fire; secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster. The cold within him froze his old features, nipped his pointed nose, shriveled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and spoke out shrewdly in his grating voice.”
* “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, no win-try weather chill him. No wind that blew was bitterer than he, no falling snow was more intent upon its purpose, no pelting rain less open to entreaty.”
* "Darkness is cheap, and Scrooge liked it."
* ***Reveals that Scrooge lacks human sympathy, compassion, friendliness, generosity.***

**Situation #1: Scrooge being invited to Christmas dinner by his nephew Fred**

* “Merry Christmas! What right do you have to be merry? You’re poor enough.”
* “What’s Christmas time to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older , and not an hour richer...”
* “ Every idiot who goes about with Merry Christmas on his lips, Should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly though his heart.”
* *Fred’s tells Scrooge his view of Christmas. “I* have always thought of Christmas time...as a good time: a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time: the only time I know of in a long calendar year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut up hearts...”
* ***Reveals that Scrooge values money over family, does not care for Christmas and does not see the joy in Christmas.***

**Situation#2: Portly Gentlemen asking for a donation to help the poor and destitute**

* Gentlemen tell Scrooge that many thousands of people are in want and in need.
* Scrooge responds: “Are there no prisons?...And the union houses? Are they still in operation? And the Treadmill and the Poor law are in full vigor then?”
* Gentlemen say: “Many can't go there; and many would rather die.”
* Scrooge responds: “If they would rather die, they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population.”
* Scrooge responds:

- “I wish to be left alone... I don't make merry myself at Christmas, and I can't afford to make idle people merry.”

-“I help to support the establishments I have mentioned - they cost enough: and those who are badly off must go there.*''*

* ***Reveals Scrooge as a selfish, uncaring, and uncharitable person.***

***Situation #3 Poor Caroler***

* “The owner of one scant young nose, gnawed and mumbled by the hungry cold ...stooped down at Scrooge’s keyhole to regale him with a Christmas Carol.”
* When upon the first sound of the carol, “Scrooge seized the ruler and with such energy of action that the singer fled in terror...”

**Situation #4: How Scrooge treats Bob Cratchit**

* “Scrooge had a very small fire but the clerk’s was so very much smaller that it looked like one coal.”
* “You’ll want all day off tomorrow, I suppose? It is not convenient ...and it’s not fair.”
* “I suppose you must have the day. Be here all the earlier next morning!”
* ***Reveals that scrooge is a terrible employer. He does not make Bob’s job very easy or pleasurable.***

**Situation #5: The Ghost of Jacob Marley**

* Jacob tells Scrooge that if human beings are not kind, generous, charitable and compassionate in life then they pay the price in death.
* Jacob says, ''It is required of every man that the spirit within him should walk abroad among his fellow-men, and travel far and wide and if that spirit goes not forth in life, it is condemned to do so after death. It is doomed to wander through the world - oh, woe is me! And witness what it cannot share, but might have shared on earth, and turned to happiness!”
* “Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence, were all my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business.”

**Stave 2: The Ghost of Christmas Past**

**Memory #1: The place where Scrooge grew up and when he was a young boy**

* “'The school is not quite deserted...A solitary child, neglected by his friends, is left there still. **‘Scrooge said he knew it. And he sobbed.**
* They went, the Ghost and Scrooge, across the hall, to a door at the back of the house. It opened before them, and disclosed a long, bare, melancholy room, made barer still bylines of plain deal forms and desks. At one of these a lonely boy was reading near a feeble fire; and **Scrooge sat down upon a form, and wept to see his poor forgotten self as he had used to be.”**

**Beginning of Scrooge’s Character Growth and Change:**

* Being shown Poor Robin Crusoe from his past thinks “There was a boy singing a Christmas Carol at my Door Last night. I should like to have given him something: that’s all.”

**Memory #2: His sister Fanny**

Fanny’s his Sister comes to take him home for Christmas from boarding school. She has since passed away and is the mother to scrooges’ Nephew Fred.

Upon the Ghost mentioning how wonderful Fanny was “Scrooge seemed uneasy in his mind...”

**Memory #3: Fezziwig his first boss**

* “He has the power to render us happy or un-happy; to make our service light or burdensome; a pleasure or a toil.”
* “I should like to be able to say or word or two to my clerk just now!”

**Memory #4: Belle: Scrooges first love**

* “Another idol has displaced me...”
* This is the even handed dealing of the world...there is nothing on which it is so hard as poverty...”
* “I release you.”

**Stave 3: The Second of the three Spirits**

**Scrooge’s Character Growth and Change:**

* “Conduct me where you will. I went forth last night on compulsion and I learnt a lesson which is working now. To-night, if you have aught to teach me, let me profit by it.”

**Situation #1: Bob Cratchit’s Family and Tiny Tim**

* “Scrooge had an interest he had never felt before, ‘Tell me if Tiny Tim shall live.’”
* “If these shadows remain unaltered by the Future none other of my race will find him here.”
* Scrooge asks, “ What then?”
* The Ghost throws his own words back at him. “If he be like to die, he had better do it, and decrease the surplus population.”
* “Scrooge hung his head to hear his own words quoted by the Spirit and was overcome with penitence and grief.”

**Situation #2: Fred Scrooge’s Nephews house**

* “'I'm sure he is very rich, Fred,' hinted Scrooge's niece. 'At least, you always tell me so. ‘What of that, my dear?' said Scrooge's nephew. 'His wealth is of no use to him. He don't do any good with it. He don't make himself comfortable with it. `I have no patience with him,' observed Scrooge's niece. Scrooge’s niece’s sisters, and all the other ladies, expressed the same opinion.”
* “`Oh, I have!' said Scrooge's nephew. 'I am sorry for him; I couldn't be angry with him if I tried. Who suffers by his ill whims? Himself always. Here he takes it into his head to dislike us, and he won't come and dine with us. What’s the consequence? He don't lose much of a dinner.”
* “Scrooge had imperceptibly become so gay and light of heart that he would have pledged the unconscious company in returnand thanked them...”

**Situation #3: Ignorance and Want**

* “They are man’s…This boy is ignorance. This girl is want. Beware them both…”
* Scrooge says, “Have they no refuge or resource.” The ghost quotes his word back to him again, “Are there no prisons…are there no workhouses?”

**Stave 4: The Last of the Three Spirits**

* "I fear you more than any spectre I have seen. But as I know your purpose is to do me good, and as I hope to live to be another man from what I was, I am prepared to bear you company, and do it with a thankful heart. Will you not speak to me?"
* "Lead on!" said Scrooge. "Lead on! The night is waning fast, and it is precious time to me, I know. Lead on, Spirit!"

**Situation #1 Business Men down at the dock**

Conversations between business men about Scrooge’s death (Scrooge is watching this not realizing that he is dead.)

* “I thought he’d never die.”
* “Most likely to be a cheap funeral”
* “For upon my life I don’t know of anyone that would go to it.”

**Situation #2 Beetling Shop**

* Mrs. Dilber (Laundress), woman (Charwoman), man Undertaker’s man)
* They all steal Scrooges remaining possessions even the clothes off his back.

**Situation #3 Caroline and Her Husband Scrooge’s Creditor**

* Happy Scrooge is dead. “Merciless creditor”

**Situation# 5 Cratchit and Tiny Tim**

* Sad that Tiny Tim died.

**Final Statements to Ghost:**

* "Men's courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead," said Scrooge. "But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me!"
* After realizing that the dead man is himself. Scrooge says, “Spirit! hear me! I am not the man I was. I will not be the man I must have been but for this intercourse.”

**Stave 5: The End of It**

* “I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future!”
* “The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. 0 Jacob Marley! Heaven and the Christmas time be praised for this! I say it on my knees, old Jacob; on my knees!”
* “He was so fluttered and so glowing with his good intentions that his broken voice would scarcely answer to his call. He had been sobbing violently in his conflict with the Spirit, and his face was wet with tears.”
* “'Now, I'll tell you what, my friend.... And therefore I am about to raise your salary!”
* “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. He became as good a friend, as good a master, and as good a man as the good old City knew, or any other good old city, town, or borough in the good old world.”
* “His own heart laughed and that was quite enough.”

**Reflects a Change in Character:**

Situation #1: Buys turkey for bob Cratchit; sends it anonymously.

Situation #2: See Portly Gentlemen. Apologies for earlier and offers many years of back payments to the charity.

Situation #3: Goes to his nephew Fred’s house for Christmas.

Situation #4: Raises Bob Cratchit’s salary, put coal in the fore, helps Tiny Tim.