POVERTY

**Stave 2:** Scrooge is visited by the shape-shifting Ghost of Christmas Past who shows him visions of his past including Scrooge’s lonely schooldays; his kind-hearted little sister, Fan; his generous and happy first boss, Fezziwig; the breaking off of his engagement to Belle; Belle’s family Christmas full of fun.

**Stave 3:** Scrooge is visited by the very jolly Ghost of Christmas Present who shows him visions of what Christmas is like for may different people including: Londoners, who are cheerily getting ready to celebrate; the Cratchits who, despite their poverty and despite Tim’s illness, are joyful in being together at Christmas; people in isolated places (miners and lighthouse keepers) who celebrate Christmas; Fred and his friends and family who are having fun at Christmas; and Ignorance and Want, two children who symbolise society’s ills.

**Stave 1:** Scrooged is introduced by as a miserly, solitary, cold-hearted man. His harshly treats his clerk, Bob Cratchit; is rude to his nephew, Fred, who extols the virtues of Christmas; refuses to give money to charity collectors; and harshly dismisses a carol singer. He is visited by the heavily-chained ghost of his old business partner, Jacob Marley, who tells him that he will be visited by 3 spirits, in the hope that what they show him will help him to change his ways. Marley leaves through the window, joining other ghosts who were suffering because of their life’s deeds.

**Stave 5**: Scrooge wake up on Christmas morning a changed man. He buys a huge turkey for the Cratchits, cheerfully greets people, pledges money to charity and goes to his nephew’s for Christmas dinner. The following day, he raises Bob Cratchit’s salary and we are told he became a second father to Tim and kept Christmas joyfully every year.

**Stave 4:** Scrooge is visited by ‘The Ghost of Christmas Yet to come who shows him: businessmen discussing the death of an acquaintance; a petty criminal buying goods stolen from a dead man’s room and body; an unmourned-for dead body; a couple rejoicing over the death of a man, The Cratchit’s mourning Tiny Tim’s Death; his grave.