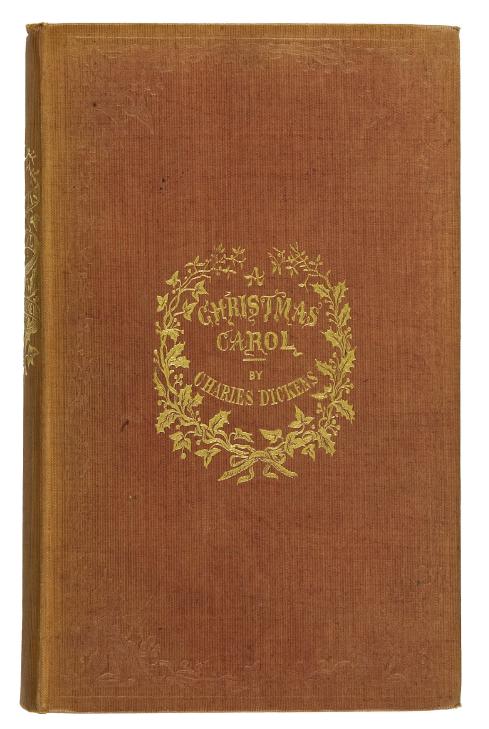


A Christmas Carol



Adapted for Accessibility Jeff McGunegle

A Christmas Carol

An Adapted for Accessibility Novel

©Jeffrey McGunegle

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Introduction

This book is what is referred to as an "adapted" novel. The novel is an adaptation of Charles Dickens' novella "A Christmas Carol", written in 1843. The writing of this adaptation is targeted at middle/high school students who have autism. Targeting the novel to those who have autism gives the novel a "universal" design where it can easily be accessed by those with other developmental/intellectual challenges as well as the hearing impaired, English second language and possibly those with Alzheimer's. The novel is written on a 2nd/3rd grade level (460 lexile ®) with some vocabulary words above these grade levels.

I did my best to keep the integrity of the book in tact. It is written that Dickens wrote the book and sold it at a very reasonable price in order to bring meaning back into the Christmas season. It is said that the release of "A Christmas Carol" was responsible for single-handedly bringing the meaning back to the Christmas season which had been lost in the mid 1800's.

I feel that the story is relevant to the world we live in today, especially in regards to those who I have taught over the years. The person who has the disability in the story, Tiny Tim, is responsible for fully transforming the heart of Scrooge. The greatest strength of those with disabilities that I have seen is their ability to transform hearts. We are in great need of heart "transplants", and the individuals are here to help.

The adaption of novels has been used in research by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in the Special Education Department with a focus on those with moderate to severe challenges. They are used in schools in North Carolina as well as many other states throughout the country. The novels give students the opportunity to access literature that their general education peers access. Each "classic" novel has a wealth of great lessons and can be used for instruction ranging from Language Arts to Occupations.

How to use the novel

<u>Adaptation</u>: If this book is bound, I first suggest protecting the pages with "side-cut" plastic sheet protectors. Protecting the pages gives flexibility in allowing the students to use an erasable marker to highlight, underline and draw on if necessary. We used vis-a-vis ® "overhead" type markers to mark on the page protectors.

<u>Repeated Line (rl)</u>: Repeated lines are the lines in bold print at the bottom-center of most pages. <u>(rl)</u> means "repeated line". The students are to read the repeated line whenever they come upon the <u>(rl)</u>. Repeated lines sum up the page read and give coherence to the chapter/part read in the story.

Vocabulary Words: The vocabulary words are highlighted in red with pictures attached in the chapters for which the vocabulary word is introduced. If the vocabulary word appears in a later chapter, the word is highlighted in red and underlined, but no picture appears. Each picture can be a lesson in itself. An example is the word "former". The picture used for the word

"former" is of past presidents standing with current President Obama. A lesson in presidents.

<u>**Create Lessons</u>**: Each chapter/part is filled with ideas for lessons. If you are fortunate enough to be part of a team teaching different subjects, use the book for "integrated" units. Students get a much greater understanding when they are learning the same/similar concepts in multiple settings. Virtually every subject in school can be taught out of one chapter/part.</u>

Example Lessons: Verse 1/Part 1: Lots of lessons regarding Business.

Language Arts: Novella's and reading of the story.

History: Christmas Historically.

Science: Growling: Anatomy and voices.

<u>Math</u>: Counting money, Holidays on the calendar.

Social Skills/relationships: Inviting others/being invited, relatives (nephew).

Vocations: Starting a business, what is a business, what is a bank.

<u>PE</u>: Cooperation and working together as a business to a goal (team sport).

Art: A business opportunity-Christmas ornaments.

There are lots of ways to use each part of the book. It takes some planning and imagination but there is great potential for meaningful outcomes. Have students build a "portfolio" picturing the skills they have learned for future work opportunities.

Technology: There are many versions of "A Christmas Carol" on DVD. Check out Youtube ® ! There is a 1949 version with Vincent Price that is 25 minutes long and many of the vocabulary words from this book are used throughout. Use the enclosed CD-Rom which contains characters, vocabulary and quizzes with your Smartboard ®.

<u>Get together</u> with your general education peers and compare lessons. Create joint ventures! The closer access your students have to their non-disabled peers, the better. Coordinating lessons with general education teachers brings everyone closer to full inclusion.

I am happy you are taking the opportunity to use this "adapted for accessibility" novel. Let me know what your needs are and how we can help to create resources that can bring greater energy to your vocation. InteGREATity Publications is dedicated to being part of the development of richer, more meaningful lives for those it serves. Our intention is to support these lives through profits generated from selling our products. THANK YOU (!!!!!) for your purchase and dedication.

Best regards.....Jeff

Characters



Bob Cratchit Ebenezer Scrooge





Fan





Mr. Fezziwig Jacob Marley



Nephew



Ghost of Christmas Past



Ghost of Christmas Present

Characters (continued)



Ghost of Christmas Future



Tiny Tim

Verse 1: Part 1 Vocabulary



Business



Employee



Growl





Fund





Ebenezer Scrooge was a man who liked to be by himself. He did not like



people very much. Scrooge did like to work and had a **business**.





Α

business is a way to make money. There are many types of **businesses**.



Selling coffee is a **business**. Anyone can start a **business**.





Scrooge's **business** was banking and counting money. He had an

Employees are people that work for others. Scrooge's



























helped Scrooge count money. Scrooge treated the **clerk** poorly. Bob

could barely keep warm at work. (rl)

(rl) Scrooge is not a very nice man.





It was Christmas time and Scrooge's Nephew came to visit him at work.









Nephew said

Scrooge's **nephew** is the son of Scrooge's brother. The







"Merry Christmas Uncle." Scrooge said "Bah Humbug." Scrooge did not like







Christmas time. Scrooge's Nephew and <u>clerk</u> Bob liked Christmas time.





The Nephew came to invite Scrooge to his home for Christmas dinner the



next day. Scrooge did not want to go to dinner. He wanted to be alone. The





Nephew left. Scrooge was still invited to attend dinner with his Nephew's family.

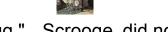
(rl)





The door to the **business** opened. Into the **business** walked two men.

(rl) Scrooge is not a very nice man.







The men asked Scrooge if he would give money to a **<u>fund</u>**. Sometimes a



<u>fund</u> is a collection of money for the poor. Scrooge yelled at the men to



leave. He did not give money to the poor. He did not give money to anyone.





Scrooge **growled** at the men. **Growling** is a sound an animal makes





when it is mad. The men left quickly when Scrooge growled.

Scrooge does

not like to give! (rl)

(rl) Scrooge is not a very nice man.



Verse 1: Part 2 Vocabulary







Ghost



Observe



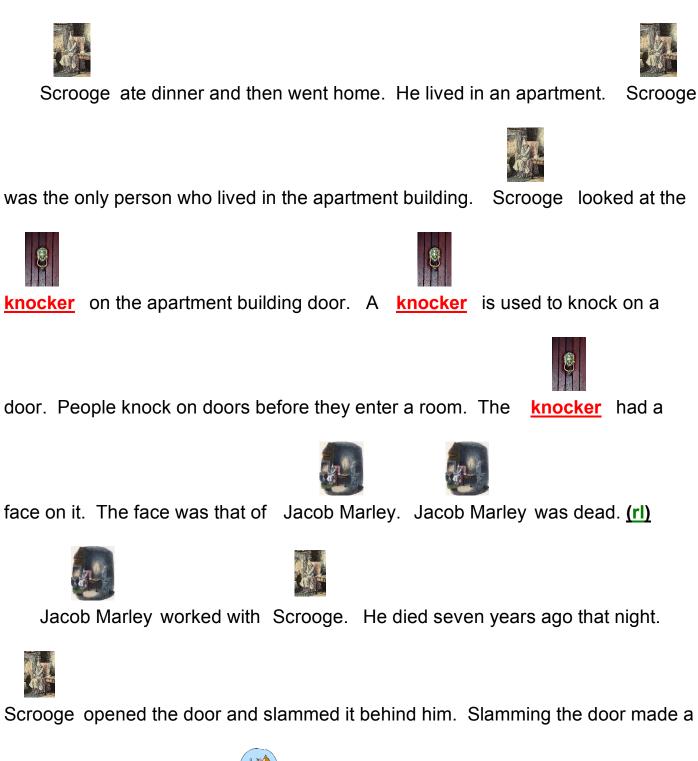


Knocker



Jaw

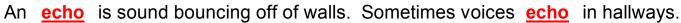




loud "bang". The sound <u>echoed</u> throughout the building with great force.

(rl) Scrooge remembers Jacob Marley.







Scrooge then entered his apartment.



Scrooge locked the door behind him. He locked the door so no one could

open it. In this case, the door was securely locked. Scrooge sat down in a

chair. Bells began to ring throughout the apartment and building. No one was

there to ring the bells. The bells stopped.

being dragged in the apartment below him.





Scrooge then heard a large chain

Scrooge had heard that ghosts carry chains. Ghosts are said to be

people who have already died.



were alive. That is why they are **<u>ghosts</u>**. Scrooge didn't **<u>believe</u>**



in **ghosts**.

Ghosts did not help other people when they



(rl) (rl) Scrooge remembers Jacob Marley.















ghosts were real.





Scrooge observed

a **ghost** standing in front of him.



Observe is to look



at someone or something. Most times, we **observe** with our own eyes.





Scrooge did not **believe** the Ghost was there. He thought he was seeing

things.



Ghost dropped its

our mouth.



Marley's Ghost began to cry out loudly and Scrooge was scared. The



jaw

to its chest. The



jaw

opens and closes



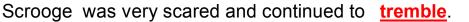
Scrooge began to tremble. People often tremble when scared.

(rl)



(rl) Scrooge remembers Jacob Marley.







He was beginning to





believe in ghosts.





Marley came to tell Scrooge about the three spirits coming to visit him.



Spirits are like **ghosts**. These spirits could help Scrooge from becoming a





ghost when he dies. The first spirit would come the next night. Marley left. (rl)



(rl) Scrooge remembers Jacob Marley.

Verse 2: Part 1 Vocabulary



Child



Mortal



Thought



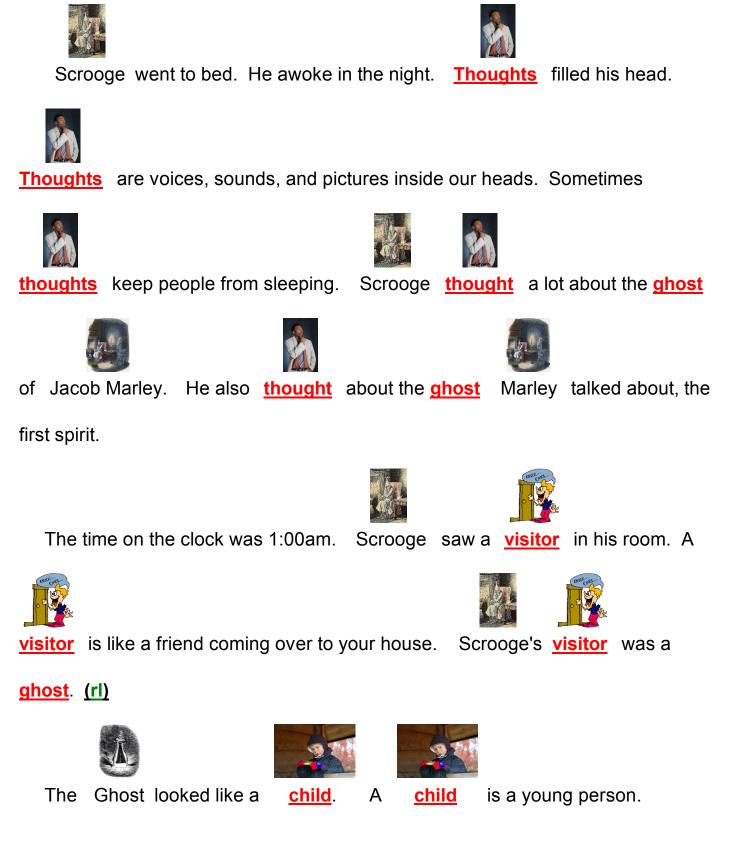
Former



Past



Verse 2: Part 1 The First of the Three Spirits



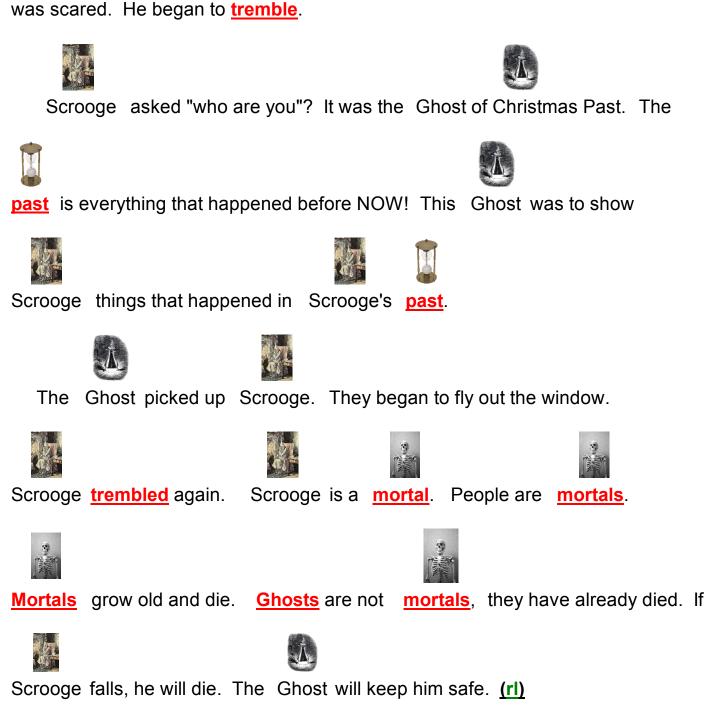
(rl) Scrooge visits his life as a child.



А

child is usually between three and twelve years old. The Ghost also

looked like an old man. It was made of light. It had no skin or bones. Scrooge



(rl) Scrooge visits his life as a child.



Scrooge and the Ghost first visited Scrooge when he was a



was Christmas time and Scrooge was alone at school. Scrooge remembered





this **past** time. It was sad for Scrooge to be alone at the school during

Christmas. He was happy to remember having fun playing by himself.

Time passed by and it was a few years later. The Ghost and Scrooge were

still at the school.

Scrooge's former self had grown older and larger.

Former is what someone or something used to be. A butterfly formerly was a

child

caterpillar. Scrooge **former**ly was a



A little girl was talking to Scrooge. She was very excited. The girl was Fan.

(rl) Scrooge visits his life as a child.











lt









or boy. (rl)









Fan is Scrooge's sister. She was at the school to take Scrooge home for



Christmas. They would have a great Christmas together. Scrooge was very

happy.







The Ghost told Scrooge that his sister Fan died as a woman. She had









child.

а

The <u>child</u>

was Scrooge's Nephew. (rl)





Verse 2: Part 2 Vocabulary



Enjoy



Fiddler





Exhausted



Misery



Warehouse

Verse 2: Part 2 The First of the Three Spirits







The Ghost of Christmas Past and Scrooge moved on to the city. Scrooge





was Dick. Dick thought Scrooge was the greatest person in the world.



Scrooge and Dick worked together at a warehouse.

usually a building where a **business** keeps what they have to sell. There was a



big Christmas party at the warehouse.







The owner of the warehouse was Mr. Fezziwig. Mr. Fezziwig was very nice





to Scrooge and Dick. Every year, Mr. Fezziwig would have a big Christmas

party. He had the party for the people who worked for him, his employees. (rl)

(rl) Scrooge saw people he had forgotten.

Page 21







is











This year, Mr. Fezziwig brought in **fiddlers** for the party. **Fiddlers**



are

people who play the fiddle.

Fiddles are musical instruments with strings. A



fiddle is the same as a violin. People were dancing to the fiddle music. The



best dancer was Mr. Fezziwig.



Mr. Fezziwig danced with his wife. People praised Mr. Fezziwig for how



well he danced. **Praise** is when people say good things about someone.



Many people praised Mr. Fezziwig by saying "you are a great dancer".



Mr. Fezziwig was very pleased. (rl)

(rl) Scrooge saw people he had forgotten.









(rl) Scrooge saw people he had forgotten.

Scrooge enjoyed seeing everyone so happy. Sometimes people enjoy a

Mr. Fezziwig made people happy. He was a special man. Mr. Fezziwig treated

good meal when the food tastes real good. Scrooge enjoyed seeing Fezziwig.

people well. Scrooge did not treat people well.

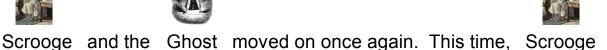
himself with a young lady. The lady was upset. The lady was Scrooge's

girlfriend. She was upset with Scrooge. She thought he worked too much.

Scrooge **thought** work was more important than friends and family. (rl)







saw















Scrooge **thought** working to make money was most important. Scrooge's





girlfriend did not think money was most important. She was in **misery** being with





Scrooge.



Misery is a feeling someone has when they are very unhappy.



Scrooge's girlfriend is so **miserable**, she breaks up with him.



Scrooge is very upset over seeing the **misery** of his old girlfriend. The





Ghost takes him to another time. It is another Christmas. Scrooge's old

girlfriend is seen married and with a child. The family is very happy. The ladie's



husband tells her that he saw someone. It was Scrooge that he saw. It was



Christmas and Scrooge was still working, alone. The lady felt bad for Scrooge. **(rl)**

(rl) Scrooge saw people he had forgotten.









Scrooge wished he had a child. He was now old with no wife or child.





The Ghost took Scrooge back home.



Scrooge was upset and





exhausted.



Exhausted is when someone is so tired, they can hardly stand up.



Scrooge fell into bed, exhausted from the trip with the Ghost. (rl)



Verse 3: Part 1 Vocabulary





Giant



Lesson





Great Britain





Verse 3: Part 1 The Second of the Three Spirits



Scrooge woke from a deep sleep. He thought about the visit from the





Ghost of Christmas Past. Scrooge remembered that another ghost was coming



to visit. Something called out "Scrooge" from the room. The room had changed.

The room was now colored green and was filled with food.



(rl) Giants can be very helpful.







Scrooge looked at the Giant. The Giant had a torch in his hand.



Scrooge had never seen such a





The Giant was very happy and





seemed to enjoy himself.





Scrooge told the Giant how he learned lots of

lessons from the Ghost of Christmas Past. A lesson is a time when we learn.







Teachers teach lessons at school. Scrooge was learning lessons on how

to treat people nice.



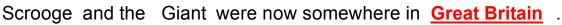




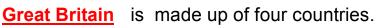
The Giant asked Scrooge to touch his robe. Scrooge touched the robe.













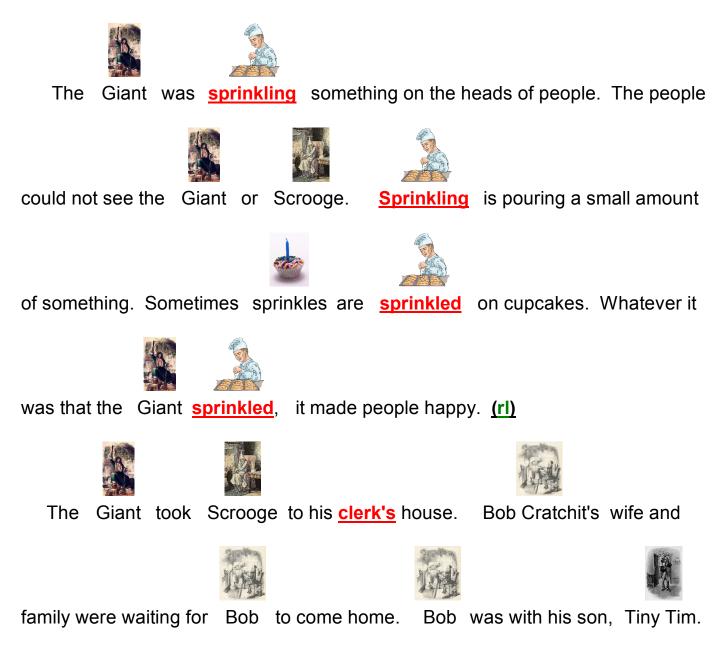


(rl) Giants can be very helpful.





Scrooge and the Giant were in the streets. People were walking and seemed very happy. It was Christmas time once again. People were shopping at the grocery store. People were shopping at the bakery. They were getting food for Christmas dinner.



(rl) Giants can be very helpful.





Tiny Tim was very small, had crutches, and sometimes was sick. Bob and



Tiny Tim arrived at the house.







Everyone was happy to see Bob and Tiny Tim. Mrs. Cratchit asked Bob





if Tiny Tim behaved. Behave is to act good. Acting bad is to misbehave.





Tiny Tim always **behaved**. The family was having fun with Bob





Tiny Tim.



The family sat down and were **<u>delighted</u>** by the goose they were ready to





Delight is to be very happy. The family was **delighted** that the cooked eat.

goose smelled and looked so good. The family ate and ate until they were all full.

(rl)

(rl) Giants can be very helpful.

Verse 3: Part 2 Vocabulary







Founder



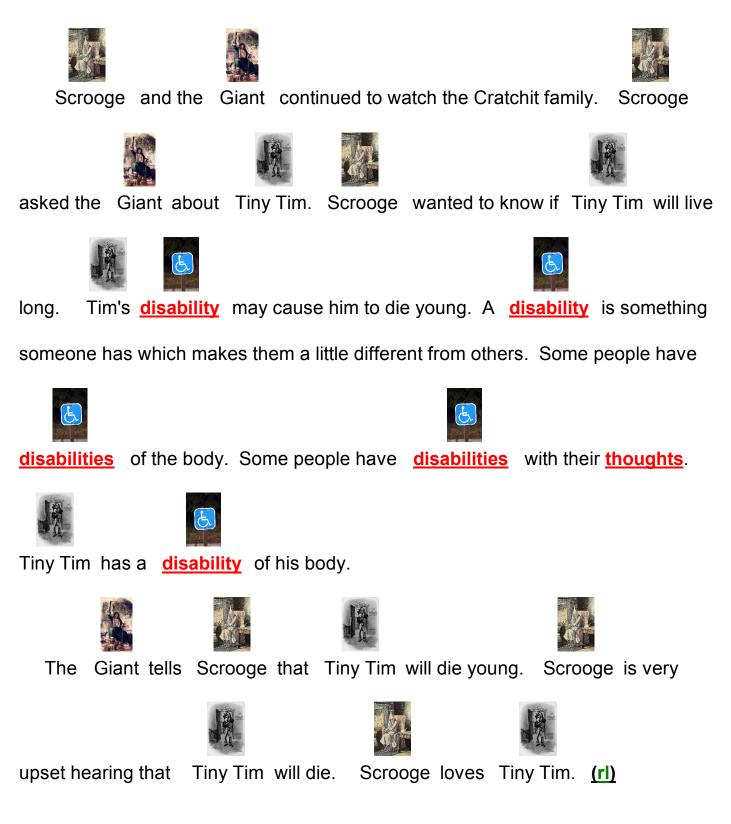
Ogre



Grateful



Verse 3: Part 2 The Second of the Three Spirits



(rl) Scrooge is starting to feel bad.



Before tonight, Scrooge did not think people with disabilities had a place in

the world.



Bob Cratchit raised his glass. He was giving thanks to Scrooge for being





the **founder** of the dinner. A **founder** is someone who makes an event







happen. Without Scrooge giving Bob Cratchit a job, Bob would not have

the money for dinner. Mrs. Cratchit became quite angry. She does not like



Scrooge. (rl)



Scrooge was upset to hear Mrs. Cratchit talk about him. She thought







Scrooge was an

<u>ogre</u>.

<u>ogre</u>

An

is a big, ugly, mean monster.













Most people see Scrooge as an ogre. Bob Cratchit sees Scrooge as

a miserable old man.



Talking about Scrooge made the family quite upset. After a few minutes,



they forgot about Scrooge. They talked and became very happy...it was



Christmas. The family was **grateful** for everything they had, even though they



had little. **Grateful** is to be thankful for what someone has received.











Bob Cratchit was grateful for Scrooge, even if he is like an







Scrooge and the Giant moved on. They ended up appearing at Scrooge's





Nephew's house. The Nephew who had invited him to Christmas dinner.

(rl) Scrooge is starting to feel bad.





Scrooge was happy to see his Nephew and the family.





The Nephew's family was talking about Scrooge and how rich he was.









Scrooge was very wealthy. Wealthy is having a lot of money. Scrooge was





wealthy because he did not spend or give away much money. (rl)



Scrooge's niece talked about how Scrooge's wealth was of no benefit.



Benefit is to help someone or something in a good way. Scrooge did not give





money to help others. He **<u>benefited</u>** few.

Scrooge gave money







to **benefit** Bob Cratchit. Bob Cratchit worked for his money. The money



given to Bob was very little though. Scrooge did not like what he heard. (rl)

(rl) Scrooge is starting to feel bad.









Scrooge did not like what his Nephew's family said about him. What they said

was true though.



The Giant took Scrooge to many places where people were poor.





The poor people who could be helped by Scrooge. Scrooge was getting a



good lesson from the Giant. He learned the lesson that everyone has a place



in the world, even if they are poor or **disabled**.





As the Giant left, Scrooge thought about what he had seen. He also



thought about what he would see as the next ghost waited for Scrooge at his

apartment. (rl)

(rl) Scrooge is starting to feel bad.

Verse 4: Part 1 Vocabulary



Bundle









Funeral



Phantom



<u>Verse 4: Part 1</u> <u>The Last Spirit</u>

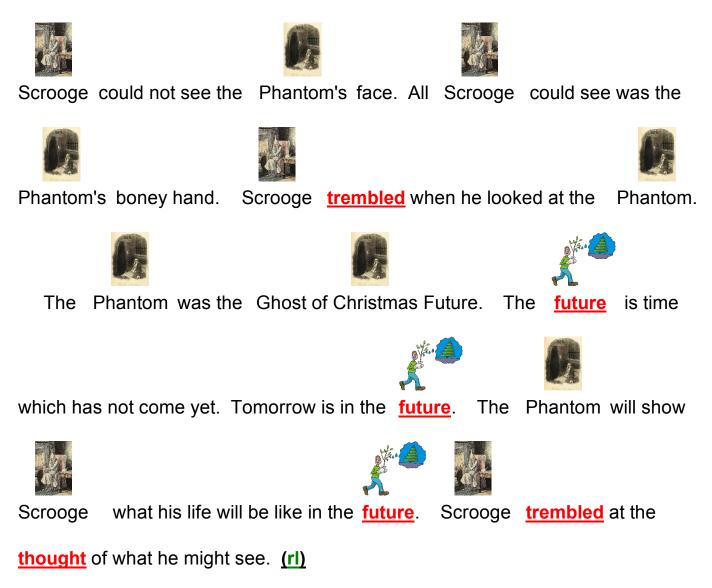






A phantom was waiting for Scrooge in his room. Phantom is another

name for **<u>ghost</u>**. This **<u>ghost</u>** wore a black robe with a hood over its head.





The Phantom and Scrooge were back in the city. They stopped and listened to a group of <u>business</u> men. The men were talking about someone who had died. The men seemed happy that the person had died. They were making lots of jokes about the person. The men were <u>delighted</u>.





Scrooge heard two men talking about the funeral for the man who died. A



<u>funeral</u> is a ceremony for people who have died. Usually a lot of people cry at



funerals.



These men were laughing about the **<u>funeral</u>**. Scrooge did not know



who the men were talking about. To Scrooge, the men's talking had no





<u>Purpose</u> is "why" people do things.



Scrooge felt like the men

did not know why they talked.



Scrooge looked everywhere for himself. He was nowhere to be found. (rl)





The Phantom pointed to three people hiding behind a store. They all had a





bundle

was him.

with them. A **bundle** is a collection of things usually tied together.



bundle was full of things stolen from the dead man. Scrooge did not Each

like these people. It is not a good thing to steal from dead people. No one





seemed to mind though. Scrooge was beginning to think the person who died





The Phantom pointed once again. Scrooge and the Phantom were now in



a dark room. Something was lying down in a bed. Scrooge knew it was

something dead and maybe a man. No one was there to see the dead man. The

dead man had no friends or family. He died alone and no one cared for him. (rl)



Scrooge had learned a lesson in this room. The lesson was about caring.

(rl) Who is the dead man?

The **lesson** is that if you care for people, you will not die alone.

Scrooge





is the ability to do.



power

Scrooge did not have the

wanted to leave but did not have the

to do anything but look at the dead man.



Scrooge continued asking to leave. He asked a question of the Phantom.



Scrooge wanted to know who would have cared about the man's death. The



Phantom would take him to the man who cares. (rl)

Verse 4: Part 2 Vocabulary



Creditor







Debt



Grave





Service



Tenderness

Verse 4: Part 2 The Last Spirit

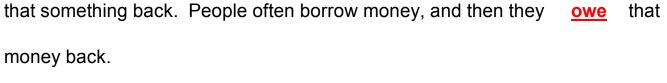


The Phantom took Scrooge to a room where a lady and children were waiting for someone. The person was the ladie's husband. The man arrived. He had a look of misery on his face. The wife asked the man if things were good or

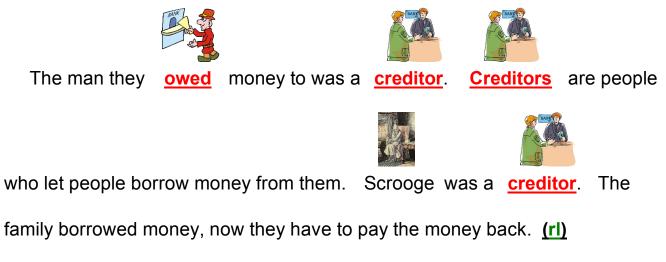
bad. The man said that things were bad. The person they



died.



Owed is when someone borrows something, then they have to pay

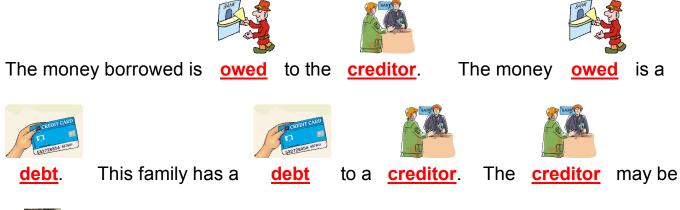


(rl) Is Scrooge the dead man?











Scrooge.

The wife was very happy the man had died. The kids were happy also. They

would no longer see the man who they <u>owed</u> money. He was a mean man.

The man's death brought great **pleasure** to the family.



Scrooge was upset with the family. Most people show tenderness when



others die.



Tenderness is when people treat others with great care. No one



was showing tenderness over this man's death. (rl)



The Phantom took Scrooge to a new place. They passed Scrooge's place.

(rl) Is Scrooge the dead man?











As they passed where Scrooge lived, Scrooge looked to see if he could find





himself. He was nowhere to be found. Scrooge and the Phantom entered



Bob Cratchit's house.





Bob

The Cratchit family was waiting for

Bob to come home.

seemed



upset about something.

500



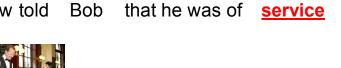
Bob told his wife that he met Scrooge's Nephew.

for anything the family





The Nephew told



needed. Service means to serve someone or something . The cafeteria ladies



serve lunch at schools. (rl)







Scrooge's Nephew spoke about what a good person Tiny Tim was. The







Nephew showed great tenderness to Bob. Tiny Tim was no longer alive.



Tiny Tim had died. The Cratchit family would never forget Tiny Tim.



Forget means not to remember. Tiny Tim was too important to the Cratchit



family to be forgotten.



Once again, the Phantom pointed his finger and they were now in a



graveyard.

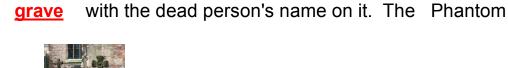


A grave i

is where a dead person is buried. Usually a grave



stone marks the



showed Scrooge a grave stone. (rl)

(rl) Is Scrooge the dead man?





The **grave** stone had the name of the dead person that everyone was



talking about. The grave stone read, EBENEZER SCROOGE!!! (rl)

(rl) Is Scrooge the dead man?

Verse 5: Vocabulary



Chuckle



Laugh



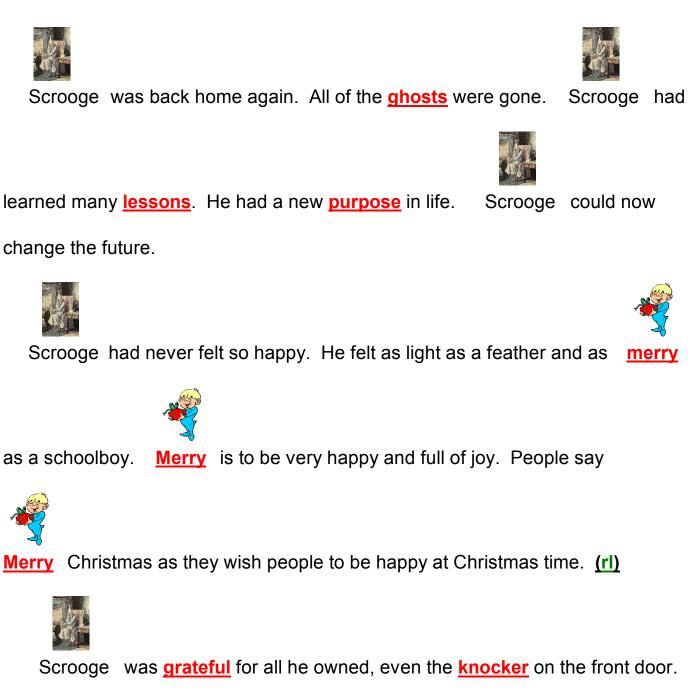
Practice

12

Dozen











(rl) Scrooge has a change of heart.



practice something, the better they get at it. Scrooge will laugh a lot now that



he is practicing.



Scrooge put his head outside his window and asked a boy what day it was.



The boy said, "Christmas day". Scrooge was delighted, he had not missed

Christmas. (rl)



Scrooge paid the boy to go and buy the biggest, fattest turkey he could find



in the city. The turkey was for Bob Cratchit and his families' Christmas dinner.

(rl) Scrooge has a change of heart.







Scrooge began to chuckle.

Chuckle is another word for **laugh**.





chuckled because he was happy for the Bob Cratchit family.





Scrooge said "Merry Christmas" to everyone he saw. He gave away



money. Scrooge gave money to the men who came to his work. Scrooge even



went to his Nephew's house for Christmas dinner. He was afraid to knock on his















Nephew's door. Scrooge passed the door a <u>dozen</u> times. <u>Dozen</u> means



twelve. He finally used the **knocker** and knocked on the door. The Nephew let

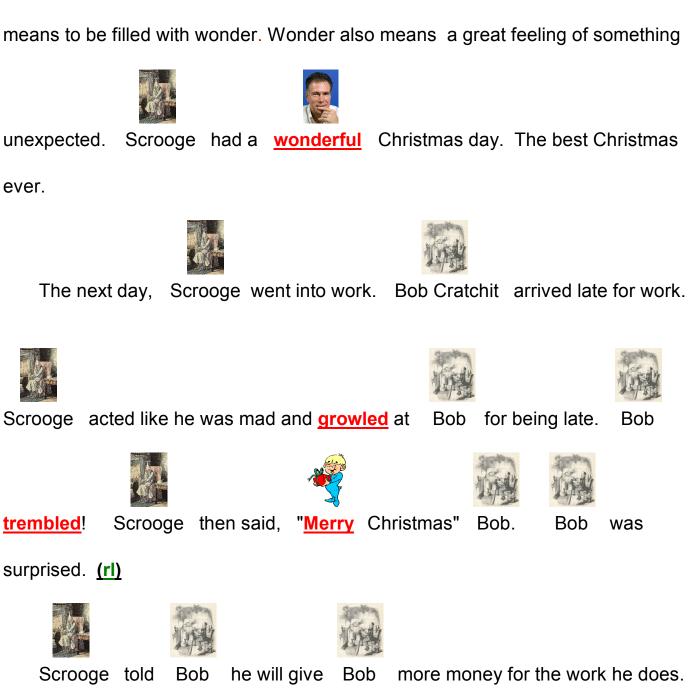
him in. (rl)





Scooge's Nephew was happy and surprised to see Scrooge at the door.





(rl) Scrooge has a change of heart.

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merry he was. Everyone had a **wonderful** time at the dinner.

Wonderful



Everyone was surprised to see Scrooge. They were surprised to see how



Scrooge will also be of <u>service</u> whenever Bob's family needs help at home.





Scrooge even let Bob turn up the heat in the **business**.





Scrooge had changed and was now like a second father to Tiny Tim. He





would visit the Cratchit family often. Scrooge also visited his Nephew's family



often. People loved to be around Scrooge now that he was kind hearted.



Scrooge had become a good man, a good friend, and good business man.



Scrooge never saw anymore **<u>ghosts</u>**, but he did remember the <u>lessons</u> he



learned from them. The lessons were well learned. Scrooge was now very

happy!



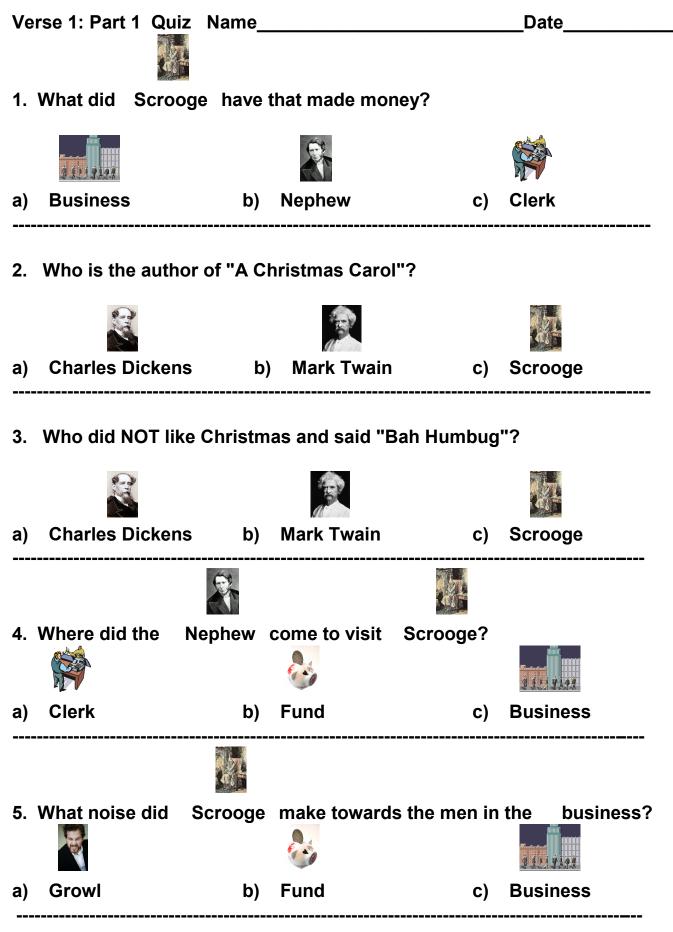
<u>Appendix</u>

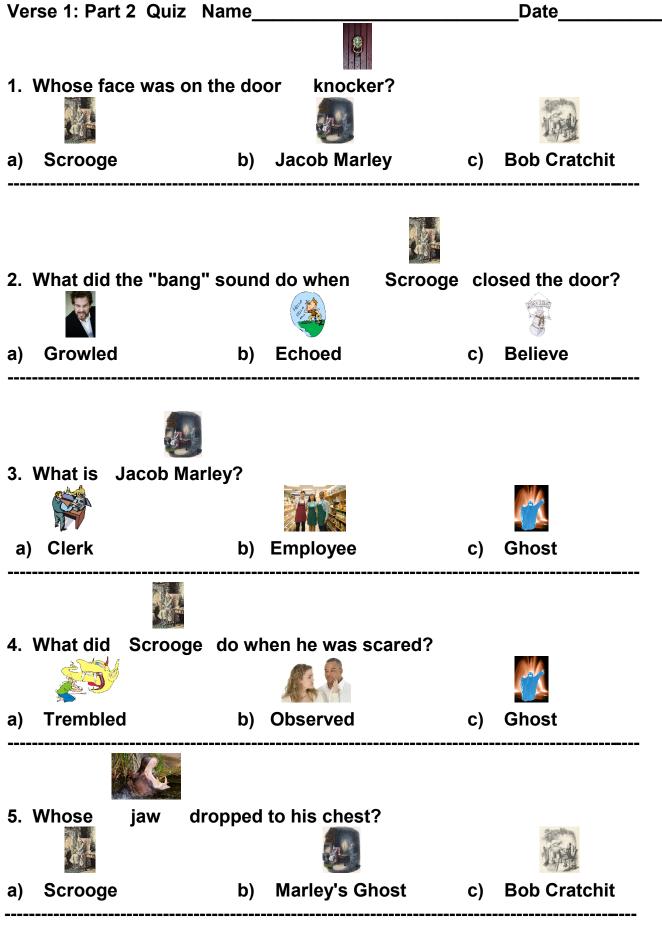
Multiple-Choice Quizzes

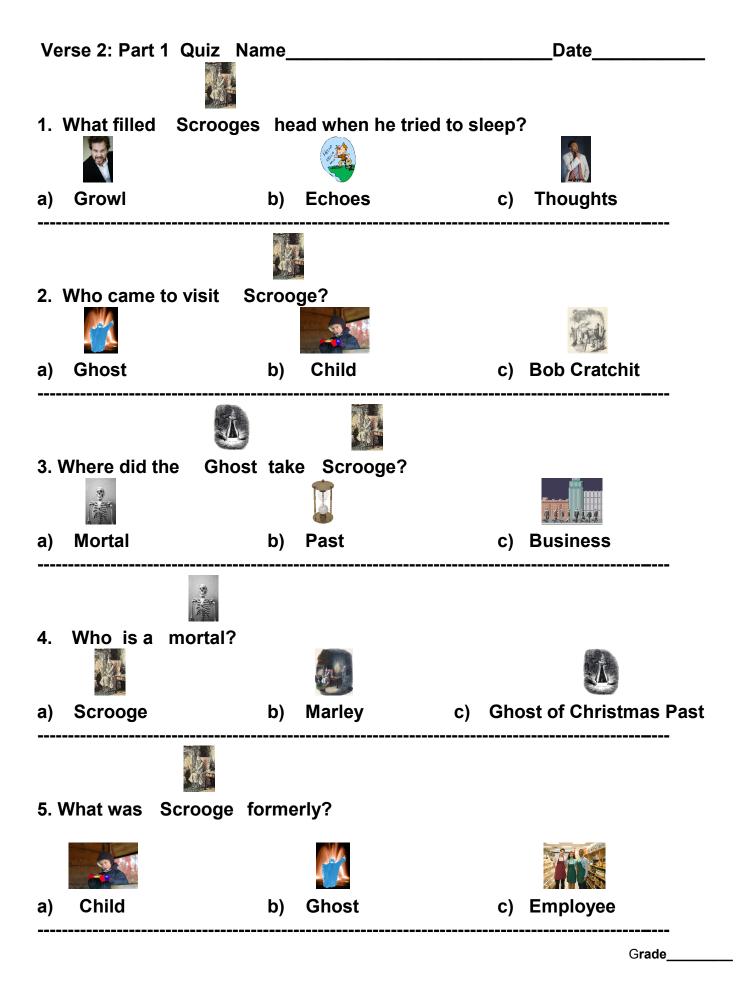
Verses 1-5

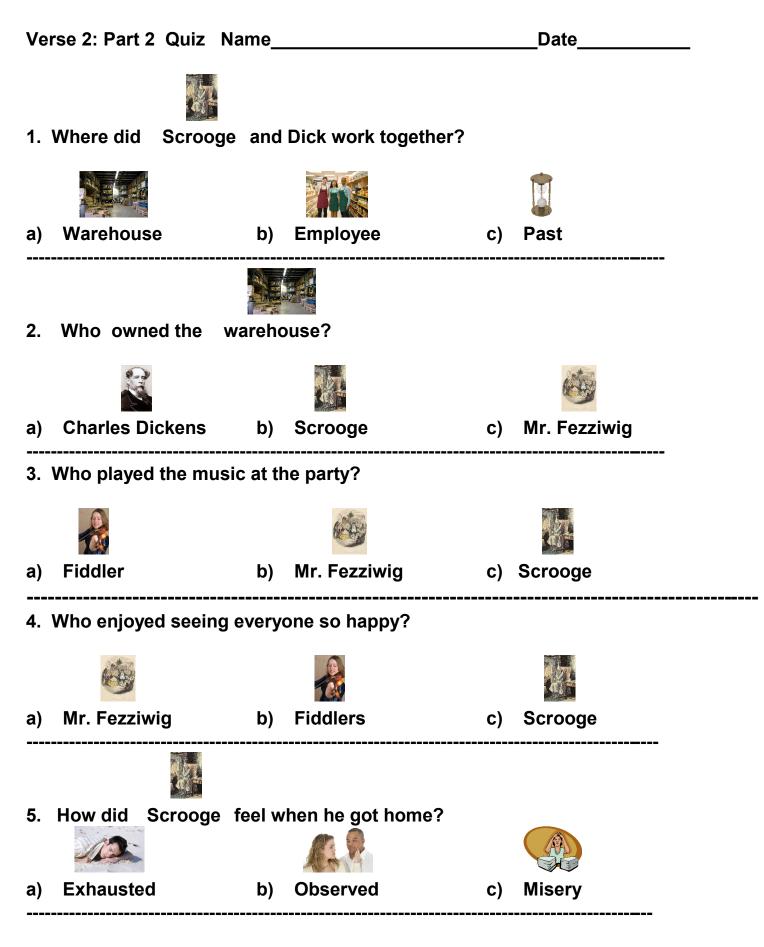
9 Total Quizzes

Quiz pages may be copied as often as needed.

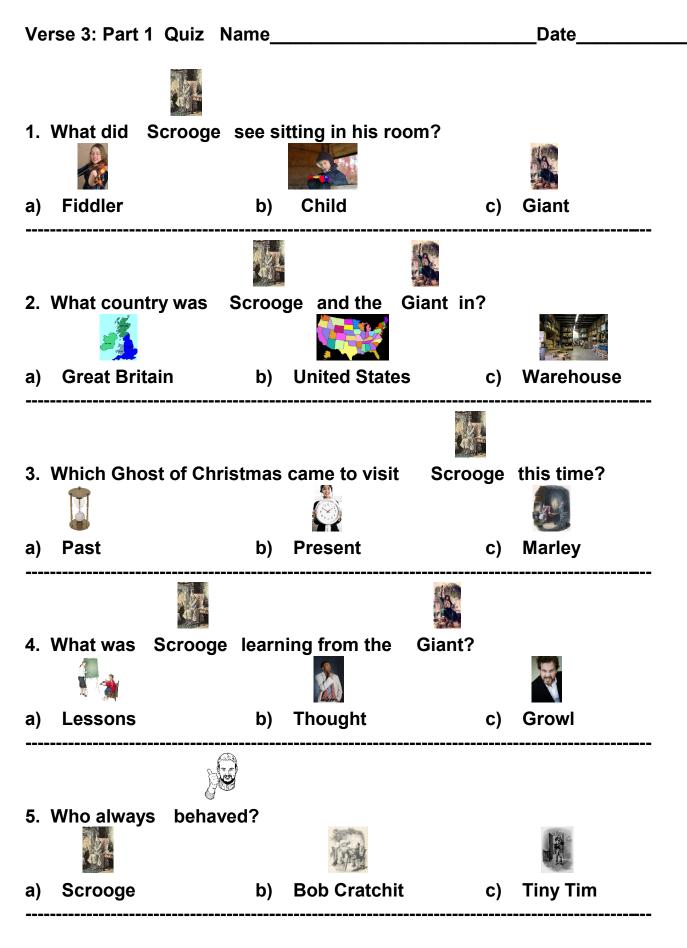




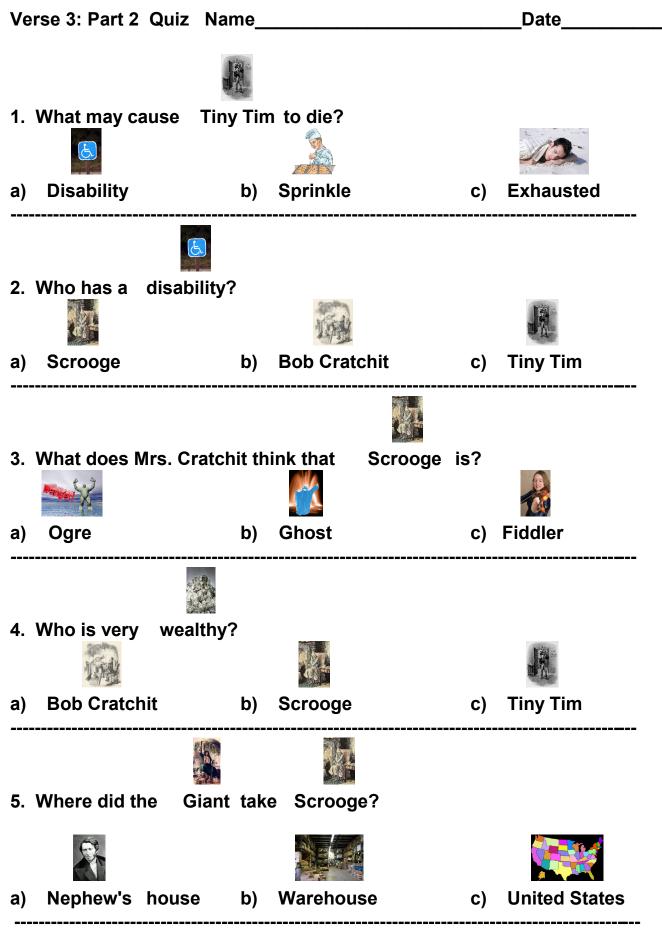


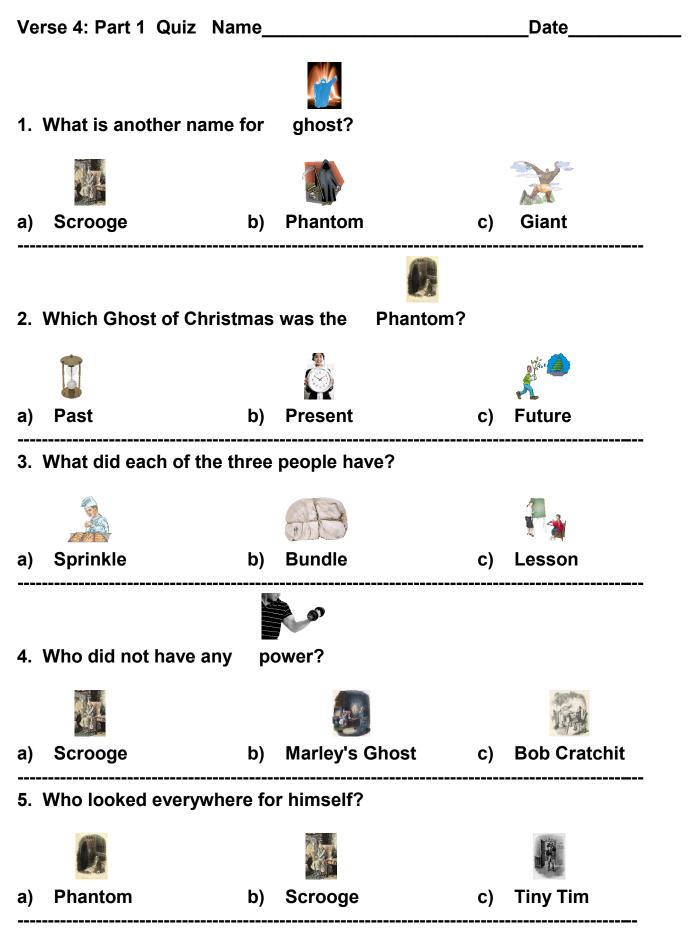


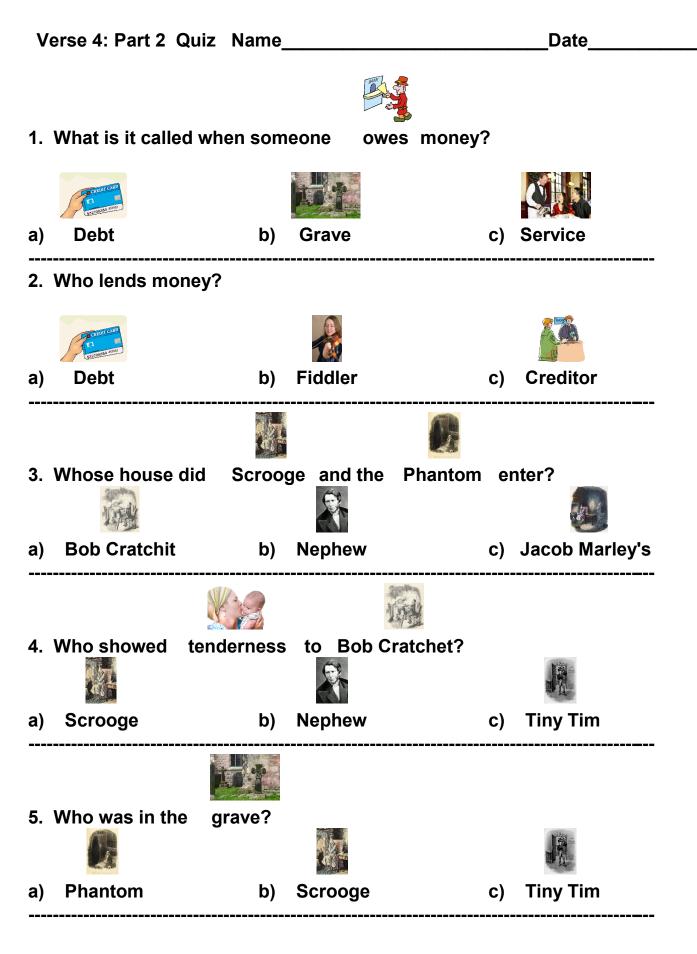
G**rade**

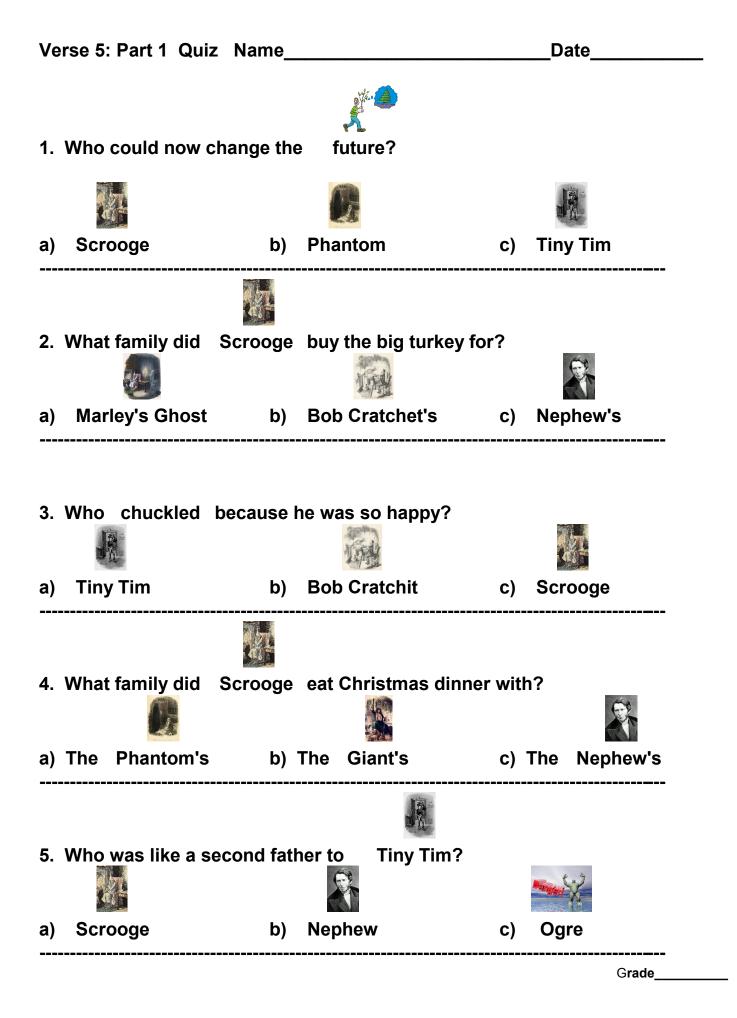


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Jeff is a dedicated father of two living in Indian Land, SC. He describes himself as an "autism entrepreneur" with roles as a writer/teacher/consultant/coach and advocate for those on the autism spectrum. Jeff has taught students who have autism at all grade levels and has the hands-on experience of raising his son Clay, who has autism. He is unique in that he experiences the "autism world" as both a parent and as an educator. Jeff describes Clay as the person in his life who brings him depth. He also describes his daughter Mary as the person in his life who brings him breadth. Jeff created the company "InteGREATity" to help create a meaningful future for those with autism and similar challenging conditions. The first step is through these books.

"Create something that a person with autism can access and you now have a universal design that most everyone can access."



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