

2016-2017 Year 11 English Holiday Homework

Expectations:

- You are expected to read *A Christmas Carol* over the Christmas holidays
- Your holiday homework is due in your first English lesson 2017.
- English teachers are required to inform Senior School of any students who have not completed the homework to a satisfactory standard
- The homework may be typed or handwritten

Purpose:

- You need to have a solid knowledge and understanding of the text before you can develop the kind of thinking that will bring you strong results in your SACs and exam. The thoroughness of your holiday homework directly benefits you.

Equipment

- **Please bring one 48/64 page exercise book to your first English class.** All your written SACs will be completed in this exercise book. Your teacher will bring this book to each SAC session.
- Make sure you have a **good quality dictionary**. Cheap or small dictionaries have fewer words and may be useless to you in the exam or your SACs. You are not permitted to use a combined dictionary/thesaurus in your SACs or the exam. Your dictionary will be checked. Do not have anything written in it (besides your name!)

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK

A Christmas Carol

Task 1: Describe the character of Scrooge as he is presented to the reader in Stave 1. Incorporate quotes from the text and discuss the significance of these quotes as well as what they suggest about Scrooge. (200+ words)

Task 2: Through his use of setting and descriptions, Dickens emphasises key thematic messages. Consider the following settings by identifying quotes which are indicative of these messages and by thinking about the ways in which the settings can be compared/contrasted.

- Find two quotes that describe each of the following settings
 - Scrooge's office
 - Fezziwig's ball
 - Scrooge's home
 - The Cratchits' household
- Compare and contrast the difference between Scrooge's office and Fezziwig's ball. What message is Dickens aiming to convey through this contrast in setting?
- Compare and contrast the difference between Scrooge's home and the Cratchits' household. What message is Dickens aiming to convey through this contrast in setting?

Task 3: Identify and describe (utilize a quote or quotes) each of the following characters and their relationship to Scrooge. To do this effectively you must consider their purpose, what they symbolise and how they affect Scrooge.

- A. Jacob Marley
- B. Bob Cratchit
- C. Fred
- D. Fan
- E. Tiny Tim

Example:

Character	Description (quote/s)	-What is their purpose? (What do they symbolise? How do they affect Scrooge? How are they used to influence Dickens' reader?)
Fezziwig	<i>Fezziwig, Scrooge's old boss, is a very jolly older man who is extremely generous at Christmas and "the happiness he gives, is quite as great as if it cost a fortune". He demonstrated this kindness not only to his employee's but everyone in the neighbourhood especially those in need (boy without food, girl whose Mistress pulled her ears, etc.) He is very energetic and enthusiastic despite his old age. Fezziwig inspires loyalty; Scrooge is happy to see him and happy to work for him. He celebrates Christmas warmly with his colleagues through music, dancing until all hours and lots of food.</i>	<i>Brings a delightfully Christmas-y scene into the novella; description of his dance inspires delight. Massive contrast as an employer to Scrooge – makes Scrooge ashamed of how he treats his clerk. Direct reminder (Scrooge's speech pg. 64) to readers, especially those with employees, that they have the power and responsibility to inspire loyalty and make employees' lives better. Acts as a reminder to keep childlike joy in life (is old but dances like he's young)</i>

Task 4: Dickens slowly transforms the character of Scrooge through a journey that takes him through his past, present and future. Find 1 quote about, or said by Scrooge from stave 2, 3, 4 & 5 that convey Scrooge's character development and redemption and discuss what they demonstrate about Scrooge's redemption.

Task 5: Find one quote for each of the following.

- A description of London on Christmas Eve
- A physical description of the ghost of Christmas past
- A physical description of the ghost of Christmas present
- A physical description of the ghost of Christmas yet to come
- A quote describing the weather in stave 1
- A quote describing the weather in stave 5
- A quote describing how people in isolation enjoy the festivity of Christmas in stave 3 (consider the miner's, lighthouse workers etc.)
- Find a quote that describes what the "boy" and "girl" symbolise in stave 3