



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you read or seen *A Christmas Carol* before? Did anything about the story surprise you?
2. This story has been a favorite of readers and audiences for over 150 years. Why do you think people enjoy it so much and want to keep retelling it?
3. Did you have a favorite scene? What line or character sticks with you the most?
4. How do you feel about the relationship between Scrooge and Bob Cratchit?
5. At the beginning of the story, why does Scrooge get angry with Fred for being happy? What does this reveal about Scrooge?
6. What do you think Marley's ghost been doing since his death?
7. How does Scrooge's relationship with his sister, Fan, affect him and how he thinks about the world?
8. What changes do you think Belle saw in Scrooge that drove her away?
9. Why does Scrooge try to extinguish the light of the Ghost of Christmas Past? Why does the Ghost tell him that "what is hidden cannot heal?"
10. Why does the Spirit of Christmas Present show Scrooge the Cratchit family?

11. Who are the siblings of the Ghost of Christmas Present? Why does she say that the “first” was the greatest of them?
12. What is the point of the visits to the lighthouse and the mines?
13. What does the Ghost of Christmas Present mean when she says the boy and the girl under her robes, Ignorance and Want, are “the offspring of humankind” who “plead for better fathers, better mothers?”
14. Why doesn’t the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come speak?
15. Why won’t Scrooge look at the body on the bed?
16. What finally causes Scrooge to change?
17. Is Scrooge’s transformation believable?
18. How does Scrooge demonstrate that he has really changed?
19. What do you think is the meaning of the “Boy” who follows Scrooge.
20. Do you think that a person changes oneself voluntarily? Or is a person changed by some outside force? Or is it both?
21. How did light and sound help tell the story?
22. What did you think of the way the spirit-world was represented in the play?
23. Do you see any parallels between Scrooge’s world of 19th-century London and our own world?
24. How do you think your own experiences in life might shape who you will be in 30 or 40 years?
25. If the Ghost of Christmas Past took you on a journey, what parts of your life might she visit with you? What about Christmas Present?
26. Did you notice any references to other stories by Dickens?