

Spelling list: A Christmas Carol 1

Key words for your GCSE study of A Christmas Carol

Dickens	Charles Dickens wrote 'A Christmas Carol' in 1843.
Ebenezer	Scrooge thinks the poor are idle.
Scrooge	At the beginning of the story Scrooge is a greedy, selfish person.
Cratchit	Bob Cratchit is badly mistreated by Scrooge at the start of the novella.
workhouse	The Poor Law enforced hard labour in the workhouse in return for shelter and food.
treadmill	The treadmill was originally created as a punishment for criminals but became a job for people in the workhouse.
context	We should think about the context of a text to help us understand the writer's message.
Victorian	Victorian London was a dismal place for the poor.
symbol	Ignorance and Want are key symbols used in Dickens' lesson to the reader.
Ignorance	The manager showed ignorance towards his employees.
analysis	He wrote a detailed analysis of the paragraph.
evaluation	You will need to make judgements in your evaluation of key characters.
judgement	You will need to make judgements in your evaluation of key characters.
thoughtful	Make thoughtful judgements about what Dickens was trying to teach the reader about the context in which he grew up.
chronological	Present your points in chronological order.
stave	Dickens called his chapters 'staves' to enforce the idea of his story being a carol.

novella	A novella is a narrative that is longer than a short story but shorter than most novels.
allegory	The story is an allegory as it has a deeper meaning and a moral lesson.
allegorical	'A Christmas Carol' is an allegorical tale showing the possibility of and importance of change.
cautionary	Dickens wrote a cautionary tale which still applies today.