

Spelling list: A Christmas Carol 2

Key words for your study of A Christmas Carol

reader	The explanation of the background material necessary for the reader to understand the story.
writer	The atmosphere of a piece of writing is the feeling the writer has created in it for the reader.
symbolism	Dickens uses symbolism at several points during his novella, including the horn of plenty and Ignorance and Want.
parallelism	Dickens creates parallelism to show how similar Scrooge and Marley are.
microcosm	A microcosm is a community, place, or situation regarded as encapsulating in miniature the characteristics of something much larger.
macrocosm	Macrocosm is the whole of a complex structure, especially the world or the universe, contrasted with a small or representative part of it.
Malthusian	Malthusian theory claims that the population will outgrow available resources, resulting in a surplus population.
surplus	Scrooge believed that people in poverty made up a 'surplus population'.
juxtaposition	Juxtaposition means ' putting next to'.
antithesis	Fred is the antithesis of Scrooge.
clerk	He was the office clerk .
phantom	Each phantom had more effect on Scrooge than the last.
melancholy	'Scrooge took his melancholy dinner in his usual melancholy tavern'.
morose	Morose means sullen and ill-tempered.
charwoman	Scrooge's charwoman stole his possessions after his death.
solitude	Solitude is different from loneliness.

charity	Many people donate generously to charity (especially around Christmas).
spectre	Spectre is another word for ghost.
apparition	The visitors reported seeing an apparition in the haunted house.
jovial	Mr Fezziwig was very jovial .