COMPREHENSION QUESTION PACKET

A Christmas Carol

(Charles Dickens)

(Name: ___________________________  Block: C D)
A Christmas Carol COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS STAVE ONE

Stave 1: pages 1-9

1. What is the simile in the second paragraph?

2. Describe the relationship between Scrooge and Marley.

3. Contrast Scrooge with his nephew.

4. What, besides Christmas, does Scrooge ridicule in his conversation with his nephew?

5. What do the “portly gentlemen” want?

6. Describe Scrooge’s attitude toward the poor and the unfortunate? Provide a quote of Scrooge’s that sums up his attitude.

7. How does Scrooge treat his clerk? How does he respond to his clerk’s request for Christmas day off?
1. What strange incident happens to Scrooge as he reaches his house? What does it indicate?

2. Describe Marley’s ghost – provide both a physical and emotional description.

3. What does Scrooge think has caused this ghost to appear?

4. What does Marley tell Scrooge he’s been doing in the seven years since his death?

5. What warning does Marley give to Scrooge?

6. What emotions has Scrooge felt during Marley’s visit? What is his mood like after Marley leaves?
A Christmas Carol COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS STAVE TWO

Stave 2 p. 21-30

1. Describe the appearance of the first spirit.

2. What was the strangest thing about the way the spirit looked?

3. What is the first spirit called? What does this spirit symbolize?

4. How does Scrooge initially react to the Spirit? What is his attitude?

5. What part of his past does the spirit show to Scrooge first?

6. What do you learn about Scrooge when his sister, Fan, visits him at school?
1. What kind of people are the Fezziwigs? Describe them in all aspects.

2. Contrast Scrooge’s old Christmas celebrations with those of the Fezziwigs.

3. Why does Belle end her relationship with Scrooge? What does she say to him?

4. What does Scrooge regret as he watches each scene from the past unfold?

5. How does Scrooge try to “extinguish the light”? Does he succeed?

6. What does the light symbolize?

7. How has Scrooge changed after the visit by the Ghost of Christmas Past?
A Christmas Carol  COMPREHENSION  
QUESTIONS STAVE 3

Stave 3 p. 39-49  Answer all questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES!!!!!!

1. What first alerts Scrooge to the presence of the second spirit? How does he respond?

2. When the second spirit invites Scrooge into the room, what does Scrooge find there?

3. Describe the second spirit physically.

4. Describe the personality of the second spirit.

5. What does the spirit mean when it says it has more than eighteen hundred brothers?

6. Where does the Ghost of Christmas Present take Scrooge on the first part of their journey? What do they see?
1. Describe the Cratchits’ reaction to their Christmas feast. What does their celebration show Scrooge?

2. What does the spirit predict will happen to Tiny Tim? How does Scrooge respond?

3. What toast does Bob Cratchit make to the surprise of Scrooge and the regret of Mrs. Cratchit? Why does Cratchit make this toast?

4. Why does Fred continue to see his uncle?

5. How does the spirit change as the night progresses? Why does the spirit change?

6. Describe the two children that emerge from the second spirit’s robes.

7. What do they symbolize? How are they “man’s children?”

8. How does Scrooge change as a result of his visit with the Ghost of Christmas Present?
1. Describe the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. In what ways is this spirit very different from those that came before? What does this spirit lack that the others had? Why do you think it lacks this quality?

2. What is Scrooge’s reaction to this spirit? Is his reaction the same or different from the other spirits?

3. What does the spirit show Scrooge first? What are the men talking about?

4. What does Scrooge keep looking for during this part of the journey?

5. Who are the people at Old Joe’s Scavenger Shop and what are they doing?
1. Does anyone care about the dead man in the bedroom? Why?

2. Scrooge asks the spirit to show him tenderness connected to a death. What does the spirit show him?

3. Scrooge's last request is to know what shall become of him in the days ahead. What does the spirit show him? How does Scrooge respond to what he is shown?

4. What is the lesson Scrooge learns in this stave that he had not learned before?

5. Why is this stave necessary when Scrooge has already changed so much?

6. What does Scrooge promise the spirit?
A Christmas Carol COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS STAVE 5

Stave 5 p. 79 - 85 Answer all questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES!!!!!

1. How does Scrooge feel when he realizes the visits are over?

2. What actions does Scrooge take to make amends for the past?

3. How does Scrooge reconcile with Fred, his nephew?

4. Describe Scrooge’s interaction with Bob Cratchit at his office. What is Bob’s response?

5. What lesson has Scrooge learned?

6. What type of a person is Scrooge at the end of the story?