A Christmas Carol – Questions and activities

Read each chapter.
Some difficult or unusual words are explained in italics. Look up in a dictionary any other words you don’t know and write them in your book.
Answer the questions in full sentences.

The Man Who Hated Christmas

workhouse: a building where very poor people could live. Conditions were very basic, food was limited and the poor people were often treated badly and made to work very hard.

clerk: a kind of secretary

1. What is Scrooge’s business partner called?
2. What is the name of his clerk?
3. Write down three things that show us how mean Scrooge is.

Marley’s Ghost

spirits: ghosts
dismal: gloomy
eerie: spooky

1. What is the first mysterious thing that happens when Scrooge arrives home?
2. Why is Marley being punished?
3. How many spirits does Marley say will visit Scrooge?

The Spirit of Christmas Past

Sir Roger de Coverley: the name of a dance

1. Draw a picture of the Spirit, using the description to help you. Label it with words from the text.
2. What happy scene does the Spirit show him?
3. Why did Scrooge not get married?
The Spirit of Christmas Present

disagreeable: bad-tempered, unfriendly
grate: fireplace
solemn: serious

1. What did the Cratchit family have for Christmas dinner?
2. What is wrong with Tiny Tim?
3. How does Fred describe Scrooge?

The Spirit of Christmas yet To Come

slum: the poor part(s) of a city where everything is dirty, houses are falling down, etc.

1. Why is Scrooge frightened of the Spirit?
2. List three things that the Spirit shows Scrooge.
3. How has Scrooge changed since the beginning of the story?

God Bless Us, Every One!

What would Fred write in his diary about Christmas Day? (Think about what happened during the day. Think carefully about Fred’s feelings - what might have surprised him or made him happy?)

Imagine you are Fred. Write his diary.