

A Teacher's Guide and Student Activities



An Introduction to *Scrooge! The Musical*

Welcome to the world of Ebenezer Scrooge! This musical is based on the novella (*A Christmas Carol*) written by the famous English author Charles Dickens in 1843, and it is much more than just a ghost story; it's a powerful message about kindness, forgiveness, and the true meaning of Christmas. Dickens wrote this novella (a short novel) during a time of great change in London, and his story quickly became one of the most beloved holiday tales of all time. This musical is but one of the several forms that novella appears in now.

Meet the Miser: Ebenezer Scrooge

Our story centers on Ebenezer Scrooge (played by Jim Merrell), a man whose name has become synonymous with stinginess. Scrooge is a "miser," a person who hoards wealth and hates spending money. He runs a counting-house (an accounting firm) and cares for nothing but profit. Scrooge hates warmth, generosity, and, most of all, Christmas. His favorite phrase is a dismissive "Humbug!" when anyone mentions the holiday spirit. He refuses to give money to charity, pays his loyal, underpaid clerk **Bob Cratchit** (played by Mac Hackney III) barely enough to survive, and shuns his only living relative, his cheerful **nephew Fred** (played by Donald Falls II). Scrooge's life is defined by isolation and coldness—a reflection of the dark economic times that Dickens wanted to expose.

The Journey of Redemption

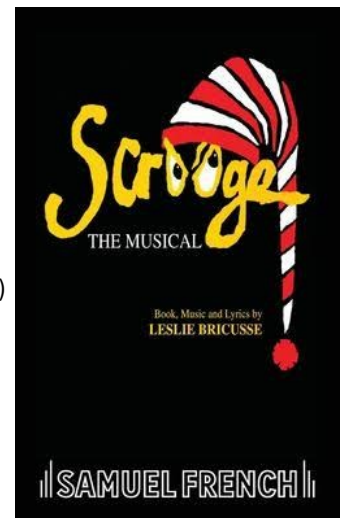
Scrooge! The Musical is structured around one extraordinary, life-changing Christmas Eve. **Scrooge** is visited by the ghost of his deceased business partner, **Jacob Marley** (played by George Thagard) who is doomed to wander the earth, bound by the heavy chains forged from his own greed in life. Marley warns Scrooge that he faces a similar, terrible fate unless he changes his ways. Marley announces that Scrooge will be visited by three spirits:

The Ghost of Christmas Past: This spirit (played by Elana Woodall) takes Scrooge on a journey back through his own life, reminding him of his lost innocence, lost love, and the moments when he chose wealth over happiness.

The Ghost of Christmas Present: This spirit (played by Charles Prosser) shows Scrooge how others—his nephew, Bob Cratchit, and the world outside—celebrate Christmas, revealing the joy and warmth he misses out on, and introducing the heartbreaking sight of Tiny Tim, Bob Cratchit's sick son.

The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come: This terrifying, silent phantom (played by Jackson Blankenship) shows Scrooge the shadows of the future: what will happen if he does not change. He witnesses the miserable, unmourned death of a lonely man—himself. In the song "Thank You Very Much" lead by Tom Jenkins (played by Logan Spradley) Scrooge's debtors cheer his passing.

This supernatural journey forces Scrooge to confront the consequences of his choices. *A Christmas Carol* is, at its heart, a powerful story about transformation. Dickens shows us that it is never too late to change, to choose kindness over cruelty, and to find the joy that comes from caring for others.



Lasting Impact

A Christmas Carol was an instant sensation and had a real impact on Victorian society, inspiring increased charity and a greater focus on generosity during the holidays. It helped shape many of the Christmas traditions we still recognize today, proving that a single story can truly change the world.

Scrooge-o-Meter: Are You a Scrooge or Full of Holiday Cheer?

Description:

This personality test will determine how much holiday spirit you have! **Circle the letter** that best describes your attitude. Then finally, add up your points to find out your result.

Instructions:

Read each question and choose the answer that best fits you.

Each letter has a point value:

A = 1 point, B = 2 points, C = 3 points

D = 4 points

At the end of the quiz, total your points and check the results chart to see if you're a **Scrooge, Holiday Neutral, a Festive Friend, or a Holiday Cheerleader!**

The Quiz

1. How do you feel when you see the first holiday decorations in stores?

- A. It's too early. Bah humbug!
- B. It's fine, but I'm not ready for Christmas yet.
- C. I enjoy seeing the decorations...it gets me in the spirit!
- D. I LOVE it! The more decorations, the better!

2. Someone wishes you a cheerful "Happy Holidays!" How do you respond?

- A. Grumble "Thanks" and keep walking.
- B. Smile and say a quiet "Thank you."
- C. Return the greeting with a smile and a kind word.
- D. Enthusiastically wish them a "Happy Holidays" and compliment their holiday spirit.

3. You're asked to donate to a holiday charity. What do you do?

- A. Walk away...someone else can donate.
- B. Drop in some change if I have it.
- C. Donate a reasonable amount, it feels good to give.
- D. Donate generously and encourage others to do the same!

4. Your friend invites you to a holiday-themed event. What's your response?

- A. Decline—crowds and events aren't my thing.
- B. Agree to go but don't seem too excited.
- C. Accept happily and look forward to it.
- D. Volunteer to help plan and bring extra treats to share.

5. How do you feel about gift-giving during the holidays?

- A. It's a chore I try to avoid.
- B. I'll buy gifts if I have to.

C. I like picking out thoughtful gifts for others.

D. I go all out—gifts, wrapping, and surprises are my favorite part!

6. What's your reaction to classic holiday movies or songs?

- A. Ugh, not again. I'd change the channel immediately.
- B. I'll tolerate them, but I don't especially like them
- C. They are necessary for the holiday season, and I like them.
- D. I watch or sing along enthusiastically if I get the chance!

7. What's your ideal holiday activity?

- A. Relaxing at home with no interruptions.
- B. A low-key dinner with family or friends.
- C. Decorating cookies or wrapping presents.
- D. Hosting music!

8. You find a surprise gift on your desk from a student.

What do you do?

- A. Assume it's a mistake and ignore it.
- B. Say a polite "Thank you" and put it aside.
- C. Open it with a smile and send a thank-you note later.
- D. Jump with joy and immediately plan a way to surprise them back!

9. If you could pick one holiday tradition to keep forever, what would it be?

- A. None—traditions are overrated.
- B. A quiet evening with family.
- C. Exchanging gifts with loved ones.
- D. Big holiday gatherings with music, food, and fun!

10. How do you feel when you hear about someone doing something generous for others?

- A. Annoyed, it's probably just for attention.
- B. It's nice, but I don't think much of it.
- C. Inspired—it reminds me to be kind, too.
- D. Overjoyed—it makes my day, and I want to join in!

Results

Add up your points to see where you fall on the holiday spirit scale! Remember A = 1, B = 2, C = 3, D = 4 **Total** _____

10–19 points: Total Scrooge

Bah humbug! Holidays might not be your thing, and that's okay. But even Scrooge found his holiday spirit eventually—maybe you can, too! (Results are continued on the next page)

The Results continued...

20–29 points: Holiday Neutral

You don't dislike holidays, but you're not full of cheer either. With a little more enthusiasm, you might find yourself enjoying the season more!

30–39 points: Festive Friend

You have a good mix of holiday cheer and thoughtfulness. Like Fred or Tiny Tim, you're spreading kindness and enjoying the season in your own way.

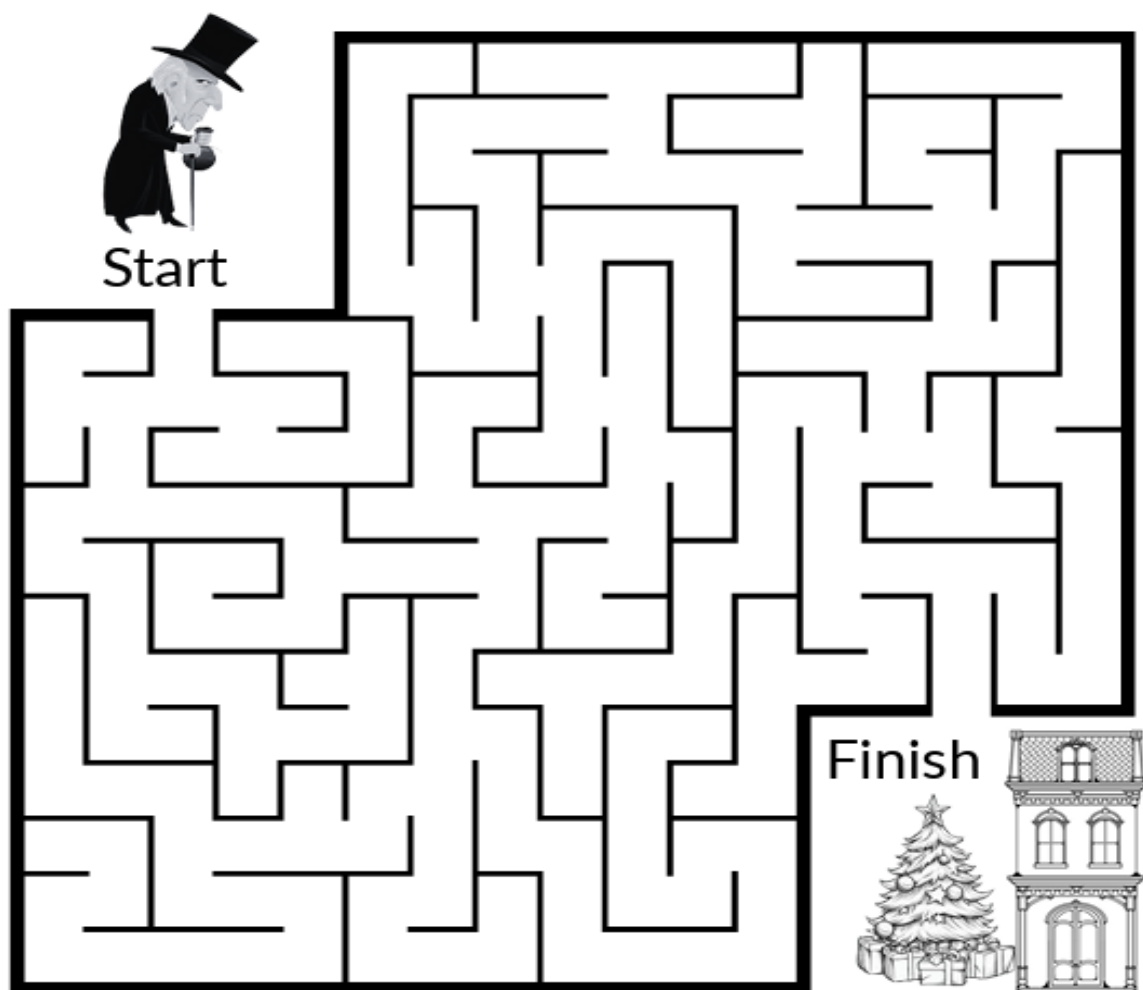
40–50 points: Spirit of Christmas Cheer

You're the life of the holiday season! With your enthusiasm and generosity, you bring the magic of Christmas to everyone around you. Keep it up!



Help Scrooge

FIND HIS WAY HOME



Scrooge! The Musical

SNOXKIUVIOIAWTURKEYAL
UPJ MCCQPXUUDLCGDKHKO
PCZVDHBFVBYURHOPBPON
HNMLYJEJCXEVMRMFNUUD
UDBKQEAEDYFPEIBC F DHO
DTMPGOBCRXMAMSYATDPN
WWWERWNEOFBSPTZRD IUP
QTJ VREQBNBUTZMPODNNV
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OOECNJIJATPMOSEHXRQS
SRJQRJUMNISKB OCY YQMP
TKPZRAJPDDEWUSRXNFI
KHC MRJTJPUQKMJGEORLR
VOPQAUECOTDQB EHRJOHI
LUKYGJLCHMJGJZDRNOGT
ZSXYXCTJIAKWCCUMWLE
KEBGCJRLMCTHBVLFVXDS



Ebenezer Scrooge	Bob Cratchit	Jacob Marley	carol
Christmas	workhouse	Tiny Tim	past
present	pudding	family	
future	turkey	humbug	
merchants	cheer	goose	
London	spirit	ghost	
punch			



Once you have seen the show ... Be A Critic

Theatre critics can "make or break" a show. Their opinion about a show is taken very seriously by the people involved in producing the show and selling tickets. Here is your opportunity to give your opinion about the show you have seen. Please write your honest opinion of these parts of the show: *Scrooge! The Musical*

Who was your favorite character and why?

Is there another character you particularly enjoyed?

What did you think about the set and the decorations?

What did you think about the costumes?

What is your overall opinion of the show?

A: Did you like it or not. B: Best part and worst part of the show? C: Would you go to see the show again?
