

A Christmas Carol – Study Guide Staves 1 & 2

Directions: Type all answers in MLA format. Title the assignment CC Staves 1-2 Study Guide

Vocabulary

Directions: Write a definition for each term as it relates to the context of the book.

Reclamation (56)	Avarice (65)
Vestige (56)	Sordid (65)
Capacious (61)	Dowerless (66)

Questions

Directions: Write a brief but thorough answer to each question as you read the book. Support your answers with material from the text such as specific details, examples, and quotes. All answers must be a minimum of 3 complete sentences!

Stave 1

1. On page 34, Dickens uses a long, extended metaphor about “cold” to introduce the reader to the character of Ebenezer Scrooge. What parts of Scrooge’s appearance are “cold”? How is his personality “cold”?
2. On page 35, you first meet Scrooge’s nephew, Fred. How does Dickens immediately describe Fred in a “warm” way that contrasts with the “cold” description of Scrooge? Reading further, how else is Fred presented as a foil (or opposite) for Scrooge in this scene?
3. What do Marley’s chains represent? Explain why Marley and the other spirits must wander the earth and what ultimate “misery” they suffer as they do.

Stave 2

The Ghost of Christmas Past takes Scrooge to revisit several scenes of Christmas.

4. Describe (in 3-4 sentences) the first Christmas scene when Scrooge was a child all alone. Then, explain what it causes Scrooge to regret and why.
5. Describe (in 3-4 sentences) the Christmas at Fezziwig’s. Then, explain what it causes Scrooge to regret and why.
6. In yet another Christmas past, you learn that Scrooge had once been engaged to a young woman. Why does she break off the engagement? How does this breakup eventually lead to the final regret that Scrooge has about his past?

Rubric:

MLA format: 5 pts

Definitions: 5 pts each

Questions: 10 pts each

(total out of 95)