EBENEZER SCROOGE

Key features · development · paired evidence



THE BIG IDEA

Dickens makes redemption visible through changed relationships and practical care. Feeling differently matters because Scrooge begins to behave differently.

FOLLOW THE CHARACTER

1 Rejects others › **2** Revisits losses › **3** Learns empathy › **4** Acts generously

ISOLATION BECOMES BELONGING

“solitary as an oyster”

Narrator, Stave 1

PAIRED WITH

“a second father”

Narrator about Scrooge and Tiny Tim, Stave 5

METHOD → MEANING

The opening simile encloses Scrooge; the family metaphor gives him a continuing relationship and responsibility. A possible pearl is an interpretation of the oyster, not a stated guarantee of reform.

STATISTICS BECOME A PERSON’S LIVELIHOOD

“decrease the surplus population”

Scrooge, Stave 1

PAIRED WITH

“I’ll raise your salary”

Scrooge to Bob, Stave 5

METHOD → MEANING

Impersonal economic language reduces human lives to a burden. The final direct promise uses money to support a named employee, answering the earlier refusal in everyday conduct.

PUSH THE ARGUMENT

The ending describes sustained change. A festive gift alone would be weaker evidence than continued support for Bob and Tiny Tim.

COVER THE SHEET. CAN YOU EXPLAIN…?

Which actions prove that Scrooge’s new feelings become lasting care?