The main idea

Fezziwig shows that an employer's influence is measured in other people's daily lives. Scrooge recognises a kind of wealth that cannot be reduced to the party's cost.

Character development

Employs young Scrooge

Pauses work

Creates shared joy

Models better authority

Business can make room for people

"No more work to-night" — Fezziwig, Stave 2

"the happiness he gives" — Scrooge about Fezziwig, Stave 2

The command uses authority to create rest and celebration. Scrooge's later recognition moves value from the money spent to the experience made possible for employees.

Past example, present responsibility

"the power to render us happy or unhappy" — Scrooge about Fezziwig, Stave 2

"say a word or two to my clerk just now" — Scrooge, Stave 2

Opposing adjectives acknowledge how a manager shapes emotional life. The sudden reference to Bob links admiration of a past employer to Scrooge's own unfinished duty.

Develop the interpretation

Mrs Fezziwig helps create the party's welcome. The scene presents collective enjoyment, rather than a heroic employer acting entirely alone.

Recall question

Why does Scrooge defend the party when its financial cost is questioned?

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