The main idea

Fred presents belonging as an offer made before it is earned. His steady generosity provides an alternative to Scrooge’s isolation.

Character development

Offers companionship

Rejects Scrooge’s values

Keeps the invitation open

Welcomes his return

Christmas as shared humanity

“kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time” — Fred, Stave 1

“fellow-passengers to the grave” — Fred, Stave 1

The list turns Christmas into a set of social practices. The travel metaphor places different classes on a shared human journey, challenging the separation Scrooge protects.

Rejection meets an open door

“I mean to give him the same chance every year” — Fred, Stave 3

“Let him in! It is a mercy he didn’t shake his arm off.” — Narrator about Fred’s welcome, Stave 5

Repeated opportunity makes Fred’s care persistent. The excited narrative exclamation and energetic handshake turn that principle into an embodied welcome.

Develop the interpretation

Fred does not need a conversion arc. His consistency matters because Scrooge’s relationship to his offer changes.

Recall question

Why does Fred’s welcome matter more because he offered it before Scrooge became generous?

EXAM STASH • examstashhq.com