EXAM STASH

A CHRISTMAS CAROL – CHARACTER REVISION

GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

SCROOGE – STAVE 5

CHARLES DICKENS



REDEMPTION | GENEROSITY | BELONGING | CARE

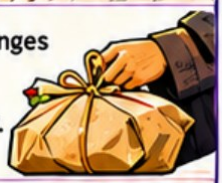
Dickens tests Scrooge's conversion through what he does. Joy matters because it becomes generosity, renewed relationships and sustained care beyond Christmas morning.

THE JOURNEY: STAVE 5

5.1 ***Waking:*** surprise and childlike delight replace habitual coldness.



5.2 ***Giving:*** he arranges a turkey and approaches a charity collector.



5.3 ***Belonging:*** he joins Fred's gathering rather than refusing the invitation.



5.4 ***Employment and family:*** he raises Bob's salary and becomes a continuing support to Tiny Tim.



5 KEY QUOTATIONS

1	***'I am as light as a feather'***	**Speaker/Location:** Scrooge, Stave 5 **Method:** Simile; release from weight	**Analysis:** The joyful comparison reverses the earlier heavy, hard portrait. Relief is physical and emotional, suggesting release from his old habits.
2	***'as merry as a schoolboy'***	**Speaker/Location:** Scrooge, Stave 5 **Method:** Simile; return to childhood	**Analysis:** Schoolboy pleasure recalls earlier scenes of loneliness. The adult can now recover play and openness instead of repeating exclusion.
3	***'I'll raise your salary'***	**Speaker/Location:** Scrooge to Bob, Stave 5 **Method:** Direct promise; economic action	**Analysis:** The change reaches the employment relationship. Money becomes a means of improving another family's daily life rather than protecting only himself.
4	***'a second father'***	**Speaker/Location:** Narrator about Scrooge and Tiny Tim, Stave 5 **Method:** Family metaphor	**Analysis:** The bond is continuing and personal. His response to poverty becomes responsibility for a named child rather than an impersonal statistic.
5	***'better than his word'***	**Speaker/Location:** Narrator, Stave 5 **Method:** Evaluative judgement; narrative confirmation	**Analysis:** The narrator confirms that conduct exceeds promises. This closes the gap between the declarations at the grave and the actions needed to make them credible.

KEY CONNECTIONS

- **Bob** experiences reform through practical support, not just a warmer greeting.
- Fred's repeated offer of belonging is finally accepted.
- Tiny Tim makes the reversal of "surplus population" concrete; sustaining a child's life gives the conclusion its social meaning.

INTERPRETATION: SCROOGE IN STAVE 5

- **Basic:** Scrooge becomes kind and generous.
- **Further:** Dickens uses joyful similes and changed economic behaviour to make redemption visible.
- **Advanced:** the ending's long-term narrative judgement matters more than a single gift; reform must become a habit.

CONTEXT (RELEVANT)

- The carol's festive ending presents generosity and belonging as obligations that should continue throughout the year. Its resolution invites readers to examine their own conduct.

PAIRED-EVIDENCE LINK

"decrease the surplus population" (Stave 1) ↔ ***"a second father"*** (Stave 5): dehumanising dismissal becomes lasting care.

RECALL TASKS

1. Which evidence proves change lasts beyond Christmas morning?
2. How do the final similes answer the earlier portrait of Scrooge?

WRITING TASK

How does Dickens make Scrooge's redemption convincing in Stave 5?