# English & Media Centre Home Learning Workbook



For use with EMC Full Text Study Edition

## A CHRISTMAS CAROL: HOME STUDY GUIDE

This workbook is to record your responses to the tasks in the English and Media Centre edition of *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens.

We recommend that you listen to an audio recording of the novel alongside your own reading. You can find a free unabridgd reading of the novel available here: https://librivox.org/a-christmas-carol-by-charles-dickens/ Audible.co.uk also has several, professionally-read, downloadable versions. (You can sign up to a free 30-day trial.)

Studying on your own is hard, so we would recommend talking about any of the work you do with teachers, friends and family whenever possible. Books talk to us too, though. We hope this guide helps *A Christmas Carol* talk to you – and helps you to talk back to the novel.

- 1. To type directly into this PDF, open it in Acrobat Reader.
- 2. Acrobat Reader is a free program you can download here: https://get.adobe.com/uk/reader/
- 3. To enable the 'Comment' tools, you need to create a free Adobe account and be signed in.
- 4. Once you have signed in, go to Tools-Comment. Click the 'T' icon, then click into the empty box and begin to type.
- 5. Remember to save your work before you close the PDF!

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## **SESSION 1 - GETTING INTO THE STORY**

Page numbers refer to the EMC edition of the novel where you can find the detailed instructions for each activity.

## 1. Key Words and Motifs (see page 10)

■ Complete the first two bullet points.

Groups of linked words	Possible themes linked to these words	
Weather		

Based on the words what kinds of things do you think might happen in the opening section?



#### Session 23

## 1. Answer to Can You Recognise a Dickens Extract?

\*Session 23: Extract 3 is from Dickens' Bleak House

## 2. The Preface (see page 18)

■ Read and reflect on the preface on page 18.

■ What tone does Dickens set in this preface?	
What type of relationship is he establishing with the reader?	
	<u>C</u>

## 3. Establishing Scrooge's Character (see pages 18-24)

- As you read pages 19-24, think about how Dickens establishes Scrooge's character:
- What kind of man is he?
- How is he described?
- How does he compare with other characters in this section?

. Establishing Scrooge's Character (see page 25)
■ What did you notice about Scrooge's character as you read?
How does Scrooge compare with the two other characters mentioned: Scrooge's nephew Fred, and his clerk.
■ Remind yourself of the description of Scrooge on pages 20-21. Pick out the sentence, or part of a sentence, that you think describes him most vividly.
■ The two statements I think best describe what Dickens is trying to achieve with this description are:

examples. Make a plan for answering the exam question y activity 7, completed earlier.	ou nave created. Draw on ideas in

You should answer the exam question in your own time. Use the amount of time specified by the exam  $\frac{1}{2}$ specification your school teaches for GCSE English Literature.

# **SESSIONS 25 – AN EXAM QUESTION**

Page numbers refer to the EMC edition of the novel where you can find the detailed instructions for each activity.

Complete activit	ty 7 on pages 169 -17	<b>71.</b>		

## 5. Mimicking Dickens's Style (An Additional Activity)

■ Try to mimic Dickens's style by writing a short description of a character of your own choice. Perhaps your character could be incredibly kind and generous.