

Vocabulary Worksheets *A Christmas Carol*

Stave 1 Marley's Ghost

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Context Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean on the lines provided.

1. Oh, but he was a tightly-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner!

2. "What right have you to be dismal? What reason have you to be morose?"

3. "I am sorry, with all my heart, to find you so resolute."

4. He stopped at the outer door to bestow the feelings of the season on the clerk, who, cold as he was, was warmer than Scrooge; for he returned them cordially.

5. It certainly was; for they had been two kindred spirits.

6. At the ominous word "liberality," Scrooge frowned, and shook his head, and handed the credentials back.

7. "At this festive season of the year, Mr. Scrooge," said the gentleman, taking up a pen, "it is more than usually desirable that we should make some slight provision for the poor and destitute, who suffer greatly at the present time."

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8. Scrooge could not feel it himself, but this was clearly the case; for though the Ghost sat perfectly motionless, its hair, and skirts, and tassels, were still agitated as by the hot vapour from an oven.
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9. "You are fettered," said Scrooge, trembling. "Tell me why." "I wear the chain I forged in life," replied the Ghost.

10. "Oh, captive, bound, and double-ironed," cried the phantom, "not to know, that ages of incessant labour by immortal creatures, for this earth must pass into eternity before the good of which it is susceptible is all developed."

Part II: Determining the Meaning Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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| _____ 1. covetous | A. poor; penniless |
| _____ 2. morose | B. determined |
| _____ 3. resolute | C. shackled; chained |
| _____ 4. cordially | D. avaricious; eagerly desirous of; greedy |
| _____ 5. kindred | E. threatening |
| _____ 6. ominous | F. stirred up; disturbed |
| _____ 7. destitute | G. impressionable; easily influenced |
| _____ 8. agitated | H. related; belonging to the same family |
| _____ 9. fettered | I. ill-humored; sullen |
| _____ 10. susceptible | J. graciously; in a friendly way |