**Week 1: Context**

1. Charles Dickens wrote and published *A Christmas Carol* in the Victorian era.
2. Dickens was writing at a time when there was no Welfare State and, therefore, no safety net to catch the most vulnerable members of society when they were most in need.
3. Before becoming a successful novelist, Dickens was a parliamentary reporter and had become sickened by the attitudes MPs displayed towards their fellow human beings.
4. Dickens was highly critical of the ‘Poor Law Amendment Act’ which established the cruel workhouse system.
5. Dickens wrote *A Christmas Carol* to highlight how those at the zenith of society turned a blind eye to those most in need and to encourage people to change for the better.

**Week 2: Scrooge at the start of the novel**

1. ‘Hard and sharp as flint’
2. ‘self-contained, and solitary as an oyster’
3. ‘Every idiot who goes about with 'Merry Christmas' on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart.’
4. ‘Are there no prisons?’ ‘And the Union workhouses?’
5. ‘If they would rather die…they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population.’

**Week 3: Marley**

1. ‘The spirit raised a frightful cry, and shook its chain with such a dismal and appalling noise, that Scrooge held on tight to his chair…’
2. ‘I wear the chain I forged in life...The chain was made up of cash boxes…ledgers…heavy purses’
3. ‘If that spirit goes not forth in life, it is condemned to do so after death.’
4. ‘My spirit never walked beyond our counting-house –Mark me!’
5. ‘Scrooge trembled more and more.’

**Week 4: Fred**

1. ‘"A merry Christmas, uncle!  God save you!" cried a cheerful voice.’
2. ‘He was all in a glow; his face was ruddy and handsome; his eyes sparkled.’
3. ‘…the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women…open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave.’
4. ‘Don’t be angry, Uncle. Come! Dine with us tomorrow.’
5. ‘Let him in!’

**Week 5: The Cratchits**

1. ‘The clerk’s fire was so very much smaller that it looked like only one coal.’
2. ‘Tiny Tim hoped the people saw him in the church, because he was a cripple, and remember upon Christmas day, who made lame beggars walk, and blind men see.’
3. ‘Mrs Cratchit made the gravy hissing hot, Master Peter mashed the potatoes with incredible vigour, Miss Belinda sweetened up the apple sauce...’
4. ‘“Spirit,'' said Scrooge, with an interest he had never felt before, ``tell me if Tiny Tim will live.''’
5. ``No, no,'' said Scrooge. ``Oh, no, kind Spirit! say he will be spared.''

**Week 6: Fezziwig**

1. "Why, it's old Fezziwig! Bless his heart.’
2. ‘He rubbed his hands; adjusted his capacious waistcoat; laughed all over himself, from his shows to his organ of benevolence.’
3. ‘There was nothing they wouldn't have cleared away, or couldn't have cleared away, with old Fezziwig looking on.’
4. ‘His [Scrooge] heart and soul were in the scene, and with his former self. He corroborated everything, remembered everything, enjoyed everything…’
5. ‘He has the power to render us happy or unhappy; to make our service light or burdensome; a pleasure or a toil.’

**Week 7: Belle**

1. “Another idol has displaced me… a golden one”
2. “I have seen your nobler aspirations fall off, until the master passion, Gain engrosses you”
3. “May you be happy in the life you have chosen”
4. ‘When he thought that such another creature, quite as graceful and as full of promise, might have called him father, and been a spring-time in the haggard winter of his life, his sight grew very dim indeed.
5. “No more! Show me no more!”

**Week 8: Ignorance and Want**

1. **‘**From the foldings of its robe, it brought two children…’
2. ‘…wretched, abject, frightful, hideous, miserable.’
3. ‘Where angels might have sat enthroned, devils lurked, and glared out menacing.’
4. ‘Scrooge started back, appalled.’
5. ‘They are man’s’

‘…for on his brow I see that written which is Doom

**Week 9: Scrooge at the end**

1. Scrooge crept towards it, trembling as he went… EBENEZER SCROOGE’
2. ‘"Am I that man who lay upon the bed?" he cried, upon his knees.’
3. "Spirit!" he cried, tight clutching at its robe, "hear me. I am not the man I was.’
4. ‘I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.’
5. ‘”Oh, tell me I may sponge away the writing on this stone!"’
6. ‘Scrooge was better than his word. He did it all, and infinitely more; and to Tiny Tim, who did not die, he was a second father.’

**Week 10: Setting**

1. ‘It was cold, bleak, biting weather…’ 4
2. ‘Scrooge had a very small fire, but the clerk’s fire was so very much smaller.’ 4
3. ‘fuel was heaped upon the fire’ 43
4. ‘The ways were foul and narrow… the people half naked, drunken, slipshod, ugly…. The whole quarter reeked with crime, with filth and misery.’ 98
5. ‘No fog, no mist, clear, bright, jovial,… golden sunlight; Heavenly sky‘ 119