

**A Christmas Carol Final Exam Part II: FREE RESPONSE/ESSAY QUESTION**  
(40 POINTS)

Read the following prompt carefully and write your response on binder paper.

Note: You may use your book and dialectical journal for this part of the test.

At the end of the book, Scrooge says to the spirit:

“Men's courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead,” said Scrooge. “But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me!”

In *A Christmas Carol*, Scrooge goes on a journey of self-discovery. What experiences cause him to make changes in his life? How do you know?

-In a well-organized essay (at least three paragraphs), explain what experiences cause Scrooge to change.

-Include examples from the novel. (at least one quote per paragraph)

-Avoid a mere plot summary.

Teacher notes and Sample Responses (for teacher use only)

-Students need to describe experiences that changed Scrooge and show how they know. Essays should have quotations from the book.

-I usually grade for content only. Students should have a thesis, but I don't worry about introductions and conclusions.

-I remind students to keep quotes short (about 1-2 handwritten lines) and include page numbers

-Here are possible responses that CAN be supported by textual evidence.

Possible Incidents that show changes in Scrooge:

- Kindness to Marley
- Happy reaction to childhood classmates
- Reaction to child left (saying he wished he had given something to the boy who came to him that day)
- Praise for, and defense of, Fezziwig
- Describing visions of Belle as “torture”
- Asking if Tiny Tim will live
- Participating in the vision of Fred’s party
- Reaction to Ignorance and Want
- Ready to learn from Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come
- Wanting to see tenderness at a death
- Reaction to headstone
- Reaction to waking up
- Sending the turkey
- Going to church
- Going to Fred’s dinner
- Giving Cratchit a raise
- Becoming a second father to Tiny Tim