

Use this extract to answer Question 4.

A Christmas Carol: Charles Dickens

From Stave 1, 'Marley's Ghost' – Scrooge is visited by two men collecting money for the poor.

This lunatic, in letting Scrooge's nephew out, had let two other people in. They were portly gentlemen, pleasant to behold, and now stood, with their hats off, in Scrooge's office. They had books and papers in their hands, and bowed to him.

"Scrooge and Marley's, I believe," said one of the gentlemen, referring to his list. "Have I the pleasure of addressing Mr. Scrooge, or Mr. Marley?"

"Mr. Marley has been dead these seven years," Scrooge replied. "He died seven years ago, this very night."

"We have no doubt his liberality is well represented by his surviving partner," said the gentleman, presenting his credentials.

It certainly was; for they had been two kindred spirits. At the ominous word "liberality," Scrooge frowned, and shook his head, and handed the credentials back.

"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. Many thousands are in want of common necessaries; hundreds of thousands are in want of common comforts, sir."

"Are there no prisons?" asked Scrooge.

"Plenty of prisons," said the gentleman, laying down the pen again.

"And the Union workhouses?" demanded Scrooge. "Are they still in operation?"

"They are. Still," returned the gentleman, "I wish I could say they were not."

"The Treadmill and the Poor Law are in full vigour, then?" said Scrooge.

"Both very busy, sir."

"Oh! I was afraid, from what you said at first, that something had occurred to stop them in their useful course," said Scrooge. "I'm very glad to hear it."

"Under the impression that they scarcely furnish Christian cheer of mind or body to the multitude," returned the gentleman, "a few of us are endeavouring to raise a fund to buy the Poor some meat and drink and means of warmth. We choose this time, because it is a time, of all others, when Want is keenly felt, and Abundance rejoices. What shall I put you down for?"

"Nothing!" Scrooge replied.

"You wish to be anonymous?"

"I wish to be left alone," said Scrooge. "Since you ask me what I wish, gentlemen, that is my answer. I don't make merry myself at Christmas and I can't afford to make idle people merry. I help to support the establishments I have mentioned – they cost enough; and those who are badly off must go there."

Question 4 – *A Christmas Carol*

4 (a) Explore how Dickens presents Scrooge's character in this extract.

Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, poverty is discussed.

Explain how Dickens portrays poverty **elsewhere** in the novel.

In your answer you must consider:

- what poverty is shown
- how poverty affects those involved.

(20)

(Total for Question 4 = 40 marks)

Candidate 1

4a) Explore how Dickens presents Scrooge's character in this extract

In this extract, Dickens presents Scrooge's character as mean, greedy and rude. The extract initially shows us that Scrooge is an important person, with the evidence being that the gentlemen 'bowed to him' and 'took their hats off.' It is interesting that these are 'gentlemen' but they still feel the need to 'bow' to Scrooge, showing how highly regarded he is.

We also learn that Scrooge thinks that business is the most important thing in life, thanks to the conversation about 'Scrooge and Marley's' as the name of the business. Scrooge has not changed the business name as he wants to maintain its reputation. This shows how important reputation was in the Victorian era.

It also appears that Scrooge is not that upset about Marley's death, which is suggested by the phrase 'Dead these seven years.' This phrase is repeated in the extract, but delivered without emotion, suggesting that Scrooge does not feel upset or angry, and perhaps suggesting a lack of ability to care for people. This is backed up by the fact that he does not like the word 'liberality' as it involves spending his money on other people.

This idea has an impact on his feelings towards the poor. These negative feelings are highlighted by the quote 'Are there no prisons?' which is a rhetorical question. Scrooge, like many wealthy people of the era, thought that poor people should be sent to the workhouses and prisons, without really understanding what that means.

Scrooge is also careful with money. We know this because of the quote 'I can't afford to make idle people merry.' This is ironic as he *can* afford to make people merry, but he does not because he is rich and he wishes to remain rich - which for him does not involve helping the poor.

4b) In this extract, poverty is discussed. Explore how Dickens presents poverty in 'A Christmas Carol'

Dickens presents poverty as a major theme in the book. We know this as the book is set during the Industrial Revolution where many families were forced to share houses and rooms with other families and poverty was a major issue.

People 'in the streets' are described in the novel to represent normal people, who face poverty every day. They are described as being 'happy' because it is Christmas, which shows that being poor does not mean being unhappy.

The Clerk, Bob Cratchit, is a character in the book who represents the poor. A direct contrast is provided when he has only one piece of 'coal' to heat up his room, when his employer, Mr Scrooge, has lots - although he doesn't use it. He also has no 'coat,' because he needs all his money to pay for his wife and children. This shows the wealth gap that existed at the time.

Charles Dickens wrote 'A Christmas Carol' to tell people that the poor people of the time were extremely poor and the rich people, like Scrooge, were unnecessarily rich. Scrooge says 'Humbug!' to everything like rich people at the time ignored the poor, which was what Dickens was trying to stop from happening.

Student 1	Mark	Commentary
4a)	Level 4 - 15	The candidate has produced a detailed response exploring the presentation of Scrooge and how he is a 'mean, greedy and rude' man. A range of textual examples are made to accurately support each point and the analysis is sustained. Exploration is made to the use of rhetorical questions and repetition and the effect these have on the reader. Subject terminology is accurate.
4b)	Level 2 - 7	The response is largely narrative but has some personal engagement and valid points are made of how poverty is presented elsewhere in the novel. The candidate considers the character of Bob Cratchit and how he only has 'one piece of coal to heat up his room.'

Candidate 2

4a) Explore how Dickens presents Scrooge's character in this extract

Dickens presents Scrooge's character in this extract as stubborn, selfish and rude. He wishes nothing to do with the two gentlemen and wishes "to be left alone."

Scrooge is also shown to be self-centred. He believes that the poor do not need or deserve to be helped by being given comfort and food. He believes that he already pays enough taxes for the "workhouses" where he they should go. Dickens portrays Scrooge as a shallow and uncharitable to represent the business owners of the day who did not engage with charity.

Though the gentlemen in the extract are very polite to Mr Scrooge, he does not give them the same kindness back, as when the gentlemen asked Scrooge how much money he should be put down for, Scrooge replied "Nothing!" abruptly. Dickens use of the a short sentence and exclamation here shows that Scrooge is very against giving up any money for charity, to the extent of being angry at the suggestion. His abruptness shows that he would do everything in his power to make the two kind gentlemen disappear.

The rhetorical questions "Are there no prisons?" "And union workhouses?" are used to show where Scrooge believes the poor people belong, suggesting that he believes his status suggests that poverty is not directly relevant to him, and that nothing to do with the poor matters.

In this extract I definitely think that Dickens was trying propose that Scrooge's character is very negative and that he doesn't have any love or kindness in his heart. This establishes Scrooge, early in the novel, as being an evil character.

4b) In this extract, poverty is discussed. Explore how Dickens presents poverty in 'A Christmas Carol'

Dickens presents poverty in 'A Christmas Carol' as being a very big problem in the Victorian era following the industrial revolution. Various aspects of the plot are about poverty and what happens to the people who are in poverty.

At this time of year, at christmas charity collectors come round collecting for the poor as it is a time of giving, yet Scrooge give "Nothing!" The reader will recognise that many would react in this way and that Scrooge surely will not be the only person who has not donated. Many businessmen who think like Scrooge at this time, motivated by self interest, will have done the same thing. The tragedy here is that this is the time of year when people give the most. So this is when the most money is donated, but some people are not giving at all, forcing the reader to question what must it be like throughout the rest of the year.

Dickens also displays poverty through the Cratchit family, and how they do not have enough money for medical care to help poor "little" Tiny Tim, which highlights the difficulty of the lives of poor people at the time. However, Dickens

also has other messages to deliver about the poor. When the Cratchit family sit down for their Christmas dinner, Dickens makes out in the dialogue that they view their meal as large and plentiful; 'nobody said or thought it was at all a small pudding for a large family.' The reality is quite different. For this impoverished family the meal is many times larger than any other they would have, but it is still meagre. The fact that they can make the best of it shows that poor people are not necessarily bad people.

Dickens makes regular reference to the fact that during the industrial revolution time many poor and underprivileged people will have been sent away to either "union workhouses" or "prisons." The regular references show that society did not know the reality of these places, and that many people did not realise that they should help. This is the realisation that the reader is supposed to make when reading the novel. Charles Dickens definitely tries to prove to people how big an issue poverty was becoming in Victorian London in 'A Christmas Carol' and to highlight the fact that no-one was trying to prevent it.

	Mark	Commentary
4 a)	Level 4 - 15	A focused response, which covers a number of points concerning the presentation of Scrooge as a 'selfish and rude' character. Points are well supported with evidence from the text and the effect of language on the reader is sustained. The candidate uses subject specific terms to analyse the use of rhetorical questions and sentence structuring.
4 b)	Level 4 - 16	A sustained and developed response analysing the presentation of poverty in the novel, through the use of the 'charity collectors collecting for the poor', the poverty of the Cratchit family and their meagre Christmas meal and the discussion of 'workhouses' and 'prisons'. There are relevant and well-chosen references to the text to support the points made.

Candidate 3

4a) Explore how Dickens presents Scrooge's character in this extract

Dickens presents Scrooge's character in the extract in many different ways. Firstly, he shows Scrooge's class - upper/middle class - through the use of the setting 'Scrooge's office'. This setting establishes for the reader that he is rich enough to own his own office, and to be an employer, which establishes him as representative of this part of society.

Dickens then describes and characterises Scrooge as a moody, negative and cruel person. His reaction to being asked to donate to charity was to answer with a very strong 'Nothing!' and, when asked about the poor he replies with the rhetorical questions 'Are there no prisons?' 'And the union workhouses?' His answer tells the reader that he, and his kind, would rather the poor be sent to workhouses or prisons than him waste money on them. There is a definite lack of care present for other human beings, which may force the reader to question their own attitude to charity.

Another way in which Dickens describes Scrooge is as an outsider, because he isolates himself away from everyone else. For example, the short sentence 'I wish to be left alone' shows that he is definitely an outsider not an outcast - he has made a conscious decision to separate himself from society rather than being forced from it. This side of Scrooge is structurally important as it makes the reader wonder why Scrooge is like this and question his actions.

Having said that, although it seems that he is an outsider by the point of time the extract is set, the quote about him and Marley being 'two kindred spirits' suggests that he used to have friends before Marley died. This shows that Scrooge was not always the man he is now, which brings about an early suggestion of a capability for change. Although this is small, it may suggest that there is hope yet for Scrooge (and other mean spirited men).

4b) In this extract, poverty is discussed. Explore how Dickens presents poverty in 'A Christmas Carol'

In 'A Christmas Carol' Dickens presents poverty in a variety of different ways, one of them being the setting. He describes London as being 'quite dark' and 'gloomy' with a lot of people living on the streets, or at least spending a lot of time there. The setting highlights the reality of Dickensian London - which was very overcrowded. The purpose of this was to evoke sympathy in the reader and force them to recognise the issues that surrounded them. Some of this impact is probably lost on a modern reader.

However, the setting in the novella also portrays poorer people who "celebrate" on the streets. This shows the reader that not all of the poor were sad, grumpy people, and not all of them turned to crime because they didn't have much money. They are just as capable of being happy, and they love to celebrate

Christmas with their families and loved ones. Perhaps the message here is that happiness is more important than wealth.

Dickens also presents poverty through the existence of the charity men coming to collect money for the poor. This shows the reader that there were a lot of poor people in this era who needed help. The way that Scrooge turns the charity men away is an example of what some rich people in the Victorian era did when asked for money. This was not necessarily because they were mean-spirited, but may have been because they didn't know what happened to the poor, so Dickens was trying to highlight the problem - and the need for action.

Poverty is represented by the character Cratchit who is Scrooge's clerk. He symbolises their two classes through the motif of coal. Scrooge gets as much coal as he likes and gets the bucket to "top it up," but Cratchit only gets "one piece" and daren't ask for another in case he gets fired. In a way, this is a metaphor for the situation in society, where the poor feared the rich, which is a sign of the inequality which existed.

Another way in which Dickens presents Cratchit occurs when he is going home to spend time with his family for Christmas. He "runs" home with "no coat." This shows the extremes of his poverty - that he cannot afford transport or even a coat, which may be a shock to readers who take such things for granted.

Overall Dickens shows the reader the different people that lived in the Victorian era. It makes the people who read this book at the time of its release aware of what help the poor needed and promoted the need to donate to charity and to treat people in a humane way.

	Mark	Commentary
	Level 5 – 18	A cohesively written response, which explores a number of factors in the presentation of Scrooge: his class, background, attitude to money, his isolation from society and how he is 'moody and cruel'. Terminology to analyse the use of language, form and structure is precise and integrated within the response and fully supported by evidence from the text.
	Level 5 – 19	The candidate explores a number of ways Dickens presents poverty within the novel, including: the setting; the poorer members of society on the streets of London; the charity men collecting for the poor and the Cratchit family. Each point made is fully supported by appropriate reference to the text and the analysis is developed, assured and perceptive in style.

Candidate 4

4a) Explore how Dickens presents Scrooge's character in this extract

Charles Dickens presents Scrooge in this extract as being a rich and wealthy man but also one who is both very cruel and alone. Dickens shows us that Scrooge is a respected person in society by telling us he had his own office and by saying that the men collecting for the poor 'bowed to him'. The verb 'bowed' showed that he must be rich and well-known, but also helps us understand why he has come to feel so self-important.

Dickens then shows us that Scrooge may have once been a friendly person by describing Scrooge and Marley as 'two kindred spirits'. Dickens shows us that these two characters were once very close and almost like family by using the adjective 'kindred'. It also tells us that Scrooge is capable of such a friendship and therefore it's his choice to be horrible and not make more friends. This leads the reader to question the motivation behind his behaviour, perhaps making the assumption that it is a negative reaction to Marley's death.

The next thing Dickens shows us about Scrooge is that he has a cruel side. When asked to give to the poor he replies with 'Are there no prisons?' implying that this is where he thinks they should be. This reveals his uncaring nature. By using a rhetorical question it suggests that he knows that there are prisons but is just saying it to deliberately show how cold he is and to make it obvious to the men that he does not want to give them any money. Sadly, this is reflective of the attitude of many Victorians towards the poor and needy, which was exactly why Dickens draws attention to it - to force people to realise that this is an issue which needs addressing.

After Scrooge is pestered for money he still says he will give 'Nothing!'. He is clearly uncharitable. After this exclamation, he does not close the door or walk away which suggests he is proud of not caring, he enjoys the confrontation. This is structurally important as it sets up an expectation in the reader that further confrontation will follow.

However, a contrast exists later when Scrooge says 'I wish to be left alone.' This strongly implies that he is insular; he chooses to be an outsider; he doesn't want friends and he doesn't want to be charitable and give his money to anyone else.

4b) In this extract, poverty is discussed. Explore how Dickens presents poverty in 'A Christmas Carol'

Charles Dickens sets his book 'A Christmas Carol' in the Victorian era in which he was writing. In this era poverty was a huge social problem. However, the general theme in this book is that anyone can be happy if they put their relationships first, even those in poverty. This would have been a fairly controversial position at the time.

The first example of the presentation of poverty in this book is the characterisation of Bob Cratchit. He is described to have 'boasted no great coat' but in the same scene he also is said to have 'run home'. This could imply that

he is embarrassed by his financial situation or it could be a sign of happiness and his keenness to get home and see his family. Dickens describes Cratchit in this way to portray the message that family is more important than money, and even though someone is impoverished, it doesn't necessarily mean they have to be unhappy. This would hopefully impact the readers to change the way they think about the poor and see them as equals or even role models.

Another examples of an interesting presentation of poverty is Belle. During her break up with Scrooge she describes herself as being a 'dowerless girl'. This is a concept from the Victorian era which a modern reader may not understand, the fact that if a woman got married then the man she was marrying would receive money from her parents. The fact that Belle is 'dowerless' may influence Scrooge's lack of inclination to fight for her, but it also shows us the gender inequality which existed at the time. Dickens writes about this to show us what society was like in those days - particularly the discrimination against women.

Another scene which highlights the societal discrimination occurs when the Cratchits are sitting down for Christmas dinner and the mother gets up to go get the Christmas pudding which she worried about 'being stolen.' To an extent, this demonstrates the stereotype which existed of poor people being criminals, revealing that they not only stole from the wealthy, but also from people in similar situations. However, I believe that Dickens included this scene to highlight how desperate people were at the bottom rung of society and how far they were willing to go to feed themselves. This is a stark image and would again force Victorian readers to realise that societal change was needed.

	Mark	Commentary
4a)	Level 5 – 20	The response is an excellent example of a full mark Level 5 answer. The candidate writes with a maturity and precision, clearly illustrating the various ways Dickens presents Scrooge as a 'wealthy man but also one who is both very cruel and alone'. Close and specific quotations are made which are integrated and precisely embedded within the response. Relevant terminology is used to explore language, form and structure, particularly the use of adjectives, rhetorical questions and exclamatory sentences and a tentative analysis is made throughout.
4b)	Level 5 - 20	Three specific areas of the novel are explored by the candidate in relation to the theme of poverty: Bob Cratchit's appearance and how despite being 'impoverished', it does not mean they are unhappy – Cratchit considers his family as more important than wealth. The candidate also perceptively analyses the character of Belle and how she is 'dowerless'. Finally, the response considers the impact of crime on the community within <i>A Christmas Carol</i> and how Mrs Cratchit worries that the pudding might be 'stolen'. The response conveys how desperate lives were for people in poverty. A secure Level 5 response.

Candidate 5

4a) Explore how Dickens presents Scrooge's character in the extract (20 marks)

In this extract, Dickens shows us Scrooge's character in a number of different ways. The fact that the two gentlemen "bow to him" shows us that he is respected and important to the society. In the text, he broadly represents rich people.

When Scrooge tells us some crucial information, "He died seven years ago," we infer that he is still mourning the loss of his business partner, and as seems likely, his only friend. We find out that Mr. Marley died "this very night," which is interesting as we notice that Scrooge remembers specifically when his partner died. Scrooge knowing and remembering the exact details shows us both his meticulousness for detail and, perhaps, his vulnerable side; the side that misses his loved ones.

When Scrooge "frowned, and shook his head" we are able to see his negative side. Dickens uses the physical verbs, 'frowned' and 'shook' to help the reader visualize Scrooge's level of annoyance and frustration. He hates to be questioned, and he hates the company of others. To a reader in the twenty-first century, this lack of skill when it comes to social interaction may seem a little over the top.

However, this extreme of characterisation continues as Scrooge shows cruelty through his use of rhetorical questions. He asks "Are there no prisons?" showing us that not only does he not care about the poor and the less fortunate, he actively wants them to be sent off, just like he wants rid of the portly gentlemen from his office. However, although the bluntness of the question sounds hard and uncaring, a reader might interpret it as a belief that those people (the poor and less fortunate) are better off when placed in "prisons" or "workhouses," because at least they would be fed and employed. This is a deliberate ploy by Dickens to try and hold a mirror up to such ignorant thought, and enable his readers to recognise that such reactions are not helpful for society.

Scrooge's bluntness is also evident when he doesn't take into consideration what others say and think. He says "Nothing!" when the men attempt to prize money from him. Through the use of short sentences and exclamations, Dickens makes Scrooge almost a caricature of an unpleasant character.

The unpleasant Mr. Scrooge acts like an outsider, if he is approached by people, he wishes to be "left alone." He deliberately chooses to be an outsider, which forces other people to treat him like an outcast. This behaviour would trigger thoughts in the reader about why he has become this way, whether it is in his nature to be horrid, or whether the way he was nurtured is responsible.

4b) In this extract, poverty is discussed. Explore how Dickens presents poverty in 'A Christmas Carol'.

The Clerk, also known as Cratchit, represents the less fortunate people in society. The small amount of 'coal' he uses in the office, compared to Scrooge's larger amount is a metaphor for the extent of his poverty. This immediately shows the reader the contrast between the wealthier people in society and the poorer people. A reader in the twenty-first century might realise the impact of this, as the social inequality is not quite the same in our society, but it is included to highlight the fact that some wealthy people fail to recognise the gap that exists between themselves and the less fortunate.

Dickens uses setting as another way to show highlight the poverty gap that existed, "nothing very cheerful in the climate or town ... yet there was an air of cheerfulness". This shows that even when the weather was horrible, when the living conditions were disgusting, the citizens still kept up a 'cheerful' atmosphere. Dickens might have included this in to show the reader that you don't have to lead a perfect life to be happy, but also to paint a realistic picture of London life in his era.

During the novel we witness an interesting take on the interrelationship between poverty and happiness. Even though characters like Cratchit are poor, and less fortunate, it doesn't mean that they are necessarily any less happy. Cratchit, and his family are described as 'happy' and their house 'full of warmth' whereas Scrooge's description associates him with 'frost' and 'cold' despite his wealth. This tells us that you don't have to be rich to be happy, and highlights the thematic importance of family.

However, in contrast to Scrooge, Scrooge's nephew Fred is portrayed as wealthy - being well off enough to have a 'parlour,' showing the reader that it is possible to combine being wealthy with being happy. A Victorian era reader would recognise the differences between Fred and his Uncle, and see that the difference in happiness lies in the relative importance of family to the two, and in how they treat other people in general. There is a moral message to be discerned here in terms of how you should treat others.

Morality and poverty are also brought into question when the Cratchits are sitting down to eat their Christmas dinner. We are given an insight when Mrs Cratchit says, "suppose someone should have got over the wall of the back-yard, and stolen it". This might have been included by Dickens to the consequences of poverty - and how hunger makes people do stupid and sometimes even criminal things. Rather than being a criticism of the poor, this seems to be highlighting the lengths that some people at the time were being driven to by their poverty - that they would steal from their own, equally poor neighbours.

	Mark	Commentary
4a)	Level 5 – 20	This particular response is an excellent example of a candidate achieving above a Level 5 for quality, understanding and depth of analysis. The candidate explores how Scrooge is presented as a 'caricature of an unpleasant character' through the interrelationship of language, form and structure. Close exploration is made of the use of physical verbs and rhetorical questions, to illustrate how Scrooge does not care for 'the poor and less fortunate'. A cohesive response.
4b)	Level 5 - 20	A sophisticated and perceptive response, which more than fulfils all the requirements of a Level 5. The depth of knowledge and understanding is assured and comment is made of a number of key aspects of poverty within the novel including: the presentation of the 'poverty gap that existed between the rich and poor; the 'interrelationship between poverty and happiness'; the contrast between Scrooge and his nephew and the moral message of how to treat others. Finally, the Cratchit family is used most thoughtfully to illustrate the consequences of poverty. All points explored are fully supported by appropriate and discerning quotations, which form an integral part of the response.

A Christmas Carol

Question Number	Indicative content
4 (a)	<p>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explore how Dickens portrays Scrooge in the extract.</p> <p>Responses may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scrooge is shown to be a person of some importance, as the 'portly gentlemen' bowed to him• his opening words are in completely unemotional language – just a statement of fact• he 'frowned' at the word 'liberality' – the whole idea of a generous spirit was one he had no time for• his response to the request for charity shows his complete lack of sympathy for the plight of the poor• he refers to the various institutions and laws which existed to bring relief to the poor ('Union workhouses', 'Poor Law')• his sarcastic tone underlines his unsympathetic character 'I'm very glad to hear it.'• he completely refuses to donate with the single emphatic word 'Nothing!'• the visitors cling to the hope that he will donate anonymously, but that is anything but his intention• he shows himself to be solitary ('I wish to be left alone') and has no time for merrymaking• the development of the extract gives gradual clues into Scrooge's character which is shown fully by his final shocking statement of rejection. <p>Reward all valid points.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor – Bullets 1 and 2 – AO2 (20 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is simple and the identification of language, form and structure is minimal. • Little evidence of relevant subject terminology.
Level 2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is largely descriptive. There is some comment on the language, form and structure. • Limited use of relevant subject terminology to support examples given.
Level 3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response shows an understanding of a range of language, form and structure features and links them to their effect on the reader. • Relevant subject terminology is used to support examples given.
Level 4	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is focused and detailed. Analysis of language, form and structure features and their effect on the reader is sustained. • Relevant subject terminology is used accurately and appropriately to develop ideas.
Level 5	17–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is a cohesive evaluation of the interrelationship of language, form and structure and their effect on the reader. • Relevant subject terminology is integrated and precise.

Question Number	Indicative content
4 (b)	<p>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explore how Dickens portrays poverty elsewhere in the novel.</p> <p>Responses may include:</p> <p>The portrayal of poverty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the extreme plight of the poor is presented in many parts of the novel, showing the contrasts between the rich and the poor in society in food, housing and way of life • the three ghosts are used structurally to show the differences in people's lives • the Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge the Cratchit family's humble dwelling and the way they have to eke out the food for their Christmas meal on the one-day holiday from working, yet despite their poverty they have other 'riches' • the disease and ill-health that were rife because of the living conditions of the poor: Scrooge asks the Ghost of Christmas Present whether Tiny Tim will live but he is told that he will die, as many thousands will, unless something changes in the future • the second section ends with the two symbolic dirty children Ignorance and Want • the Ghost of Christmas Future shows Scrooge what will happen after he dies, with a very bleak picture of the pawnbroker buying the things stolen from the now-dead Scrooge. <p>How poverty affected people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Cratchit family's humble circumstances mean that they are unable to have special Christmas celebrations • poverty breeds crime: for example the poor (the laundry woman, the charlady and the undertaker's assistant steal, from Scrooge's house after his 'death' – bed curtains, blankets and his shift • debt severely affects the poor and they live in fear of what will happen to them. The Ghost of Christmas Future shows Scrooge a couple who owed him money and the hardship that debt produced • the stark contrasts between rich and poor show that this was a society where the State's provisions did not prevent people from living in extremely harsh conditions, such as the Workhouse. <p>Reward all valid points.</p> <p>Candidates will be rewarded if they make relevant textual references or use short quotations from elsewhere in the novel. This includes relevant paraphrasing.</p>

In responses to the following question for AO1, examiners should be aware of the different ways candidates may structure their responses. There should be sufficient evidence of a personal response and a critical style to meet the criteria for each level.

Level	Mark (20 marks)	Descriptor – Bullets 1, 2 and 3 – AO1 (20 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is simple with little personal response. • There is little evidence of a critical style. • Little reference is made to the content or themes of the text.
Level 2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response may be largely narrative but has some elements of personal response. • There is some evidence of a critical style but it is not always applied securely. • Some valid points are made, but without consistent or secure focus.
Level 3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response shows a relevant personal response, soundly related to the text. • There is an appropriate critical style, with comments showing a sound interpretation. • The response is relevant and focused points are made with support from the text.
Level 4	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response has a developed personal response and thorough engagement, fully related to the text. • The critical style is sustained and there is well-developed interpretation. • Well-chosen references to the text support a range of effective points.
Level 5	17–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an assured personal response, showing a high level of engagement with the text. • A critical style is developed with maturity, perceptive understanding and interpretation. • Discerning references are an integral part of the response, with points made with assurance and full support from the text.

The following five essays are in response to questions from the first set of Specimen papers.

Use this extract to answer Question 4.

A Christmas Carol: Charles Dickens

From Stave 1, 'Marley's Ghost' – Scrooge's business partner has died and the reader is introduced to Scrooge.

Once upon a time – of all the good days in the year, on Christmas Eve – old Scrooge sat busy in his counting-house. It was cold, bleak, biting weather; foggy withal: and he could hear the people in the court outside, go wheezing up and down, beating their hands upon their breasts, and stamping their feet upon the pavement-stones to warm them. The city clocks had only just gone three, but it was quite dark already: it had not been light all day: and candles were flaring in the windows of the neighbouring offices, like ruddy smears upon the palpable brown air. The fog came pouring in at every chink and keyhole, and was so dense without, that although the court was the narrowest, the houses opposite were mere phantoms. To see the dingy cloud come drooping down, obscuring everything, one might have thought that Nature lived hard by, and was brewing on a large scale.

The door to Scrooge's counting-house was open that he might keep his eye upon his clerk, who in a dismal little cell beyond, a sort of tank, was copying letters. Scrooge had a very small fire, but the clerk's fire was so very much smaller that it looked like one coal. But he couldn't replenish it, for Scrooge kept the coal-box in his own room; and so surely as the clerk came in with the shovel, the master predicted that it would be necessary for them to part. Wherefore the clerk put on his white comforter, and tried to warm himself at the candle; in which effort, not being a man of strong imagination, he failed.

'A merry Christmas, uncle! God save you!' cried a cheerful voice. It was the voice of Scrooge's nephew, who came upon him so quickly that this was the first intimation he had of his approach.

'Bah!' said Scrooge, 'Humbug!'

He had so heated himself with rapid walking in the fog and frost, this nephew of Scrooge's, that he was all in a glow; his face ruddy and handsome; his eyes sparkled, and his breath smoked again.

'Christmas a humbug, uncle!' said Scrooge's nephew. 'You don't mean that, I am sure?'

'I do,' said Scrooge. 'Merry Christmas! What right have you to be merry? what reason have you to be merry? You're poor enough.'

'Come, then,' returned the nephew gaily. 'What right have you to be dismal? what reason have you to be morose? You're rich enough.'

Question 4 – A Christmas Carol

4 (a) Explore how Dickens presents the setting in this extract.

Give examples from the extract to support your ideas.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Scrooge shows a lack of consideration for others.

Explain how Scrooge is unkind to other characters **elsewhere** in the novel.

In your answer, you must consider:

- Scrooge's poor treatment of other people
- how Scrooge's lack of consideration affects other people.

(20)

(Total for Question 4 = 40 marks)

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A Christmas Carol.

A) Dickens uses the weather to present the setting in this extract. 'It was cold, bleak, biting weather'. The connotations associated with these words are winter and Christmas as ~~the~~ bad weather is usually experienced at this time of year. This is directly linked to the title of the novella 'A Christmas Carol' and tells the reader that the story will take place at this time of year. 'The fog came pouring in', Dickens has again described the weather and the fact that it is the fog is 'pouring in' tells the reader that the conditions are bad. As well as this, the sentence has quite an ominous tone to it as fog is dense and suffocating, leaving the reader feeling that it is a negative ~~the~~ scene or that something negative will happen. The weather that Dickens describes is somewhat dark, thus painting a fairly negative scene in the readers mind of the setting. This is interesting as many authors would create a positive setting to draw the reader in. However, Dickens, in my opinion, is still successful in this.

'Wheezing up and down' Dickens also describes the actions of other people to present the setting. The word 'wheezing' is associated with the cold which directly links to the weather. He uses these two different ways side by side to present to the reader exactly what is happening. "That he was all in a glow", Once again Dickens has used the actions of other people to describe the setting. Scrooge's nephew had been walking outside in the cold

'in a glow'

hence why his face was ~~in a glow~~. Happiness can also be associated with this word 'glow' which tells the reader that the majority of people were happy. It was ~~the~~ Christmas time and although it was cold, they still felt cheerful. This is how the setting is presented as from Scrooge's nephew's face, we as the readers know that the weather is cold but the people are still happy as they walk through the frost covered streets.

B) It has already been conveyed to the readers that Scrooge is cold-hearted and doesn't show consideration to other people. Later on in the novella, Scrooge shows no consideration to his clerk, Bob Cratchitt. Bob asks for the day off on Christmas day so he can spend time with his family, and Scrooge is very ~~reluctant~~ reluctant to give it to him, telling him to come all the earlier the next morning. This conveys that Scrooge does not treat his clerk well because he does not think about him at all, and only lets him have the day off when Cratchitt mentions that Scrooge won't benefit. This lack of consideration towards Cratchitt would make this character timid as he would not want to upset Scrooge. This is shown when Cratchitt asks for the day off. ~~As well as this, Scrooge~~ Furthermore, Scrooge pays Cratchitt very little money despite the fact that he works very hard everyday. This is being unkind because he wants to keep all of the money to himself even though his clerk works hard for him. Being paid a low wage ~~off~~ affects Cratchitt because it means he can't properly provide for

his family, including Tiny Tim who is dying and needs good food and warmth for strength. In essence, Scrooge's lack of consideration towards Bob Cratchitt is killing Tiny Tim.

Scrooge also shows no consideration to his fiancé.

The ghost of Christmas past takes him back to the scene where his fiancé ~~gets~~ breaks up with him.

Scrooge is supposed to love this woman as they are getting married, but when she is upset, he does not comfort her at all. She says that he cares more about money than he cares about her.

4a)	Level 4 – 13	The response is very similar in quality to candidate 2 – the candidate shows a secure understanding of the setting created by Dickens, through the ‘cold, bleak, biting weather’ and how the ‘actions of other people’ impact on the setting. Points made are carefully selected with key quotations from the text. The one area needed to develop this response further would be the use of more subject specific terminology.
4b)	Level 2 - 8	The response contains some elements of a personal style, although it is rather narrative at times. The candidate analyses one key aspect of the novel – Scrooge’s treatment of Bob Cratchit and how Scrooge ‘shows no consideration to his clerk’, when he asks for a day off and pays him ‘very little money’. A brief mention is also made of Scrooge’s treatment of his fiancée. The response meets the requirements at the top of a Level 2.

A Christmas carol

"Cold, bleak, biting weather." Dickens presents the setting as a very dismal place. "Biting weather" could refer to harsh, "cold" wind which is usually a bad atmosphere to be in. Furthermore, the "biting weather" could be linked to Scrooge and his negative approach to the time of year. Since Scrooge has a "bleak" reaction to Christmas, unless he's scolding someone about how bad it is, the "weather" could represent his negative emotions about the topic of Christmas. Dickens could've also represented the setting like this because it could represent a storm that would change everything for Scrooge.

"Very small fire" Dickens has presented Scrooge's counting house as a place where Scrooge does not care to be warm nor comfortable since he only has a "very small fire." This could be used to represent Scrooge's lack of warmth towards Christmas and its festivities. Furthermore, Dickens could've used "small fire" to convey that Scrooge does not need warmth to live since his heart is frozen from selfishness and greed. Due to the fact that Scrooge cares more about money than family or Christmas, "very small fire" could represent Scrooge's compassion to others, a flame that's barely glowing but once it has a purpose, it will flourish into a strong warm flame that others will appreciate.

"What right have you to be merry." Dickens presents the setting as very cold in this quote. The quote conveys that Scrooge believes that a person has to have a "right" to be able to be merry. This shows

that Scrooge thinks of celebration as a "right" that needs to be earned through gaining wealth. Furthermore, "right" could also convey that no one can be "merry" in Scrooge's view, unless they have worked for it. Dickens could've presented the setting as this to convey the fact that Scrooge doesn't care for happiness or the ability to be "merry" since a "right" is needed, which could be gained through obtaining wealth.

"Dismal little cell" ~~is~~ Dickens could've presented the setting like this to show that for most people, working in a "cell" was mandatory for them to be able to celebrate Christmas. Since money must be earned to be able to celebrate, most poor people would work in a cell to be able to achieve it. "Dismal" is a key word since it is conveying that the setting presented is a negative one due to it being a "little cell" in the counting-house of Scrooge. Since it's Christmas, ~~most~~ most work places would be in a festive mood, however "dismal" could've been used to convey that Scrooge has no need for himself or his employees to be happy since, to Scrooge, it's a normal work day. The setting was presented like this to show that Scrooge was trapped in a "dismal little cell" in his imagination due to his negativity towards Christmas.

B Elsewhere in the book, Scrooge is unkind to others in multiple ways. He was unkind to the thousands of poor / homeless people in London by not giving some money to charity to be able to feed them. Scrooge also shows this when he states that people should get off of their backsides and go to workplaces and prisons if they want sympathy from others which is unkind and disrespectful to thousands of people who just want food and

shelter from the ~~to~~ cold, harsh weather.

Furthermore, Scrooge's ex-fiancée* states that Scrooge never cared for her but only for the money he gains. Due to Scrooge's unkindness, his fiancée had to "release" him from her since she believed that she was keeping Scrooge from his real love, money. Scrooge has always shown a love for money and nothing else which is shown through him being alone most of his life and only taking on 1 partner and 1 employee which he barely paid so he could keep the future.

Not only has money affected Scrooge and turned him into a being of greed, but he also affected Bob Cratchit's life as well. Due to Cratchit's large family and poor wage, he and his family are suffering. Multiple people in their family have to work, like his son Peter and daughter Martha, just to afford food to put on the table. Plus, Cratchit's son Tim is also suffering immensely due to the fact that his ^{families} poor condition. Since Scrooge gives Cratchit little money, tiny Tim dies when the ghost of Christmas Future shows ~~him~~ Scrooge what's to come. If Scrooge had given Cratchit more pay, which he does after he learns his lesson, tiny Tim wouldn't have to suffer and could live with his family till he grows old.

Scrooge's lack of consideration is also shown by the ghost of Christmas Future where he is dead and no-one cares that he's past.

Question	Level - mark	Commentary
4a)	Level 4 – 13	The response is focused and detailed and does analyse specifically selected quotations from the extract. There is a lack of subject terminology to place it higher; however, the candidate does illustrate a secure understanding of the setting presented and therefore does meet some of the requirements for a Level 4 mark.
4b)	Level 3 - 9	The response is a little narrative at times but has elements of a critical style to analyse the impact of Scrooge's character on the other characters in the novel, particularly how he is 'disrespectful to thousands of people who just want food and shelter' by not donating to charity. Similarly, the candidate explores the effect Scrooge's miserly attitude has on Bob Cratchit and his family and how they are 'suffering'. Focused points are made with support from the text.

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A Christmas Carol

Dickens uses the weather and its bleak / miserable atmosphere to set the base idea for the inside. "It was cold, bleak, biting weather" the main subject of the weather and therefore inside Scrooge's counting house is the cold, Dickens uses the word "biting" as to show that this is a harsh, painful cold which would set a violent, undesirable air inside. This is a clear representation of Scrooge's character which is important to the setting of the whole book as how Scrooge feels (cold, bitter) is the atmosphere we as the audience receive from the setting. The personification of the cold as "biting" transmits a pain sense. //

"Dismal little cell beyond with little description of Scrooge's counting house we're lead to believe that it is in much better condition than Cratchit's cell. The differences in condition and the use of the word "cell" is a representation of the author's intention ~~to~~ to show a large contrast in ~~the~~ power, so much so, that by the use of the word "cell" we're lead to believe that Bob is trapped there, almost chained, this is important to setting the scene as the oppressed element of master and (metaphorically) slave ~~is~~ adds to the idea of depression and harshness

in the room.

"He was all a glow" a short description of Scrooge's nephew brings a change to the setting of the scene and by using the word "glow" it takes us out of this idea that the room is dark and dismal and refocuses the setting on brightness and the feeling of something new. This is further showing the audience that the chosen character of focus changes our perception of the scene and how we view a certain scene or back drop.

B) Later on in the play we are shown a scene where Scrooge's fiancée leaves him due to his ~~long~~ growing attachment to money and ~~that~~ that it's changed the way she sees him. She links it to his new business, giving us the idea that he's become greedy and that as his care for his business grows his care for her decreases. He's making her feel isolated and unloved which eventually pushes her away.

This is later carried on when we are introduced to Bob Cratchit. Bob is physically isolated and quite intentionally pushed away. Scrooge's greed is a constant source of his poor ~~treatment~~ treatment of others as it gives him a lack of care and

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consideration. This is further affecting his family, Bob's son is dying and Scrooge's blind faced ignorance is allowing that problem to manifest dragging Bob and his emotional state down. However, you can tell that Bob hasn't experienced this as long as Scrooge's old fiancée as she was willing to take a social suicide, which is a elevated piece of drama for its day and age, and leave her soon to be groom. This shows a rampant lack of consideration on Scrooge's behalf, to force her in to making such a excruciating ~~expensive~~ decision.

Later on Scrooge is shown, by the ghost of Christmas future, Bob's son's death which is the last nail in the coffin and where Scrooge really learns his lesson, however he knew this all along, he knew that Bob struggled and he still did nothing. This is a physical representation in the book of how Scrooge's cold nature is going to affect other people.

Question	Level - mark	Commentary
4a)	Level 4 – 15	<p>The candidate has made three detailed points with regards the setting in <i>A Christmas Carol</i>: the weather, the description of Scrooge’s counting house, and the change Scrooge’s nephew Fred brings to the setting. Appropriately chosen textual examples are used and there is mention of personification, which is used accurately to develop points made.</p>
4b)	Level 3 - 9	<p>The candidate explores two key points in the novel, which illustrate the character of Scrooge and the impact his behaviour has on others. The first is his relationship with his ‘fiancée’ and how ‘his growing attachment to money... changed the way she sees him.’ The second is the analysis of Scrooge’s treatment of Bob Cratchit and his family and how ‘Scrooge’s cold nature is going to affect other people’. The style is appropriately critical enough to just place it into a Level 3.</p>

A Christmas Carol.

- b) Scrooge is quite blatantly a horrible, condescending, conniving character, with malicious intents towards other characters. And the cruel part? He knows precisely what he is doing. Dickens uses Scrooge's traits to develop a negative response towards him from a reader. This means a contrast is created in Stave 5 - in a positive way.

However, dis regarding Stave 5, throughout the novella Scrooge presents himself as self-centred and cruel. A miser at that! This is first portrayed in Scrooge's flashback to a time when he was courting. He is shown having a conversation with his then-fiancee - who proceeds to end their engagement due to his uncaring nature. It is insinuated that the relationship was ended as the fiancee perceived that Scrooge only cared for his money - his constricted attitude driving her to a breaking point. This conveys his bitter ~~and~~ demeanour - as he seems resigned at her leaving - and makes no attempts to implore her to stay. I can infer that Scrooge, however, did have intense feelings for this woman - and thus was heartbroken when she left - entailing his negative future-self. Nevertheless the fact of the matter is he willingly let her go - ~~and~~ disregarding his feelings for her, which reveals his belligerence and spite. This leads to the crushing revelation that the fiancee moved on - and is depicted laughing about "old Scrooge", happy and carefree without Scrooge. This implies that Dickens wanted the reader to see that everybody receives their comeuppance, even the well off - linking to the context - as Dickens was not well off and perhaps undermined by the upper classes - but he is stating that karma will come around.

Scrooge's promise not only affects people at the time, but also leads to several knock on effects for his unfortunate victims. This is portrayed through the Cratchit family. Scrooge treats Bob poorly and we can infer that he pays him a meagre sum - hence why Bob can scarcely support his family. He, however almost idolises Scrooge - and cares not for his poor ~~harsh~~ treatment. Furthermore Scrooge's poor treatment means that the Cratchits barely scrape by at Christmas time - and an even more startling occurrence is Tiny Tim - who is on the verge of death. Bob and his family cannot support their child, leaving him to suffer alone. A drastic impact then entails - with the Ghost of Christmas future showing Tiny Tim's imminent demise - an occurrence caused by Scrooge's harsh behavior. Scrooge is somewhat redeemed through the fact that he is mortified at Tiny Tim's death - however this does not abolish the fact that he committed the abhorrent acts leading to Tim's passing.

Scrooge displays his poor treatment of other people at the very start of the novella, a structural point setting his pretense as nasty. He straight out refuses to give the Charity men who visit his abode any money whatsoever, ~~not~~ on the contrary he aggressively states that the receivers of the charity are purely waifs and strays and should be sent to "workhouses" or "prison". This not only has an effect on the Charity men at the time, as they are taken aback by his rudeness - unknowing that Scrooge had been contriving to be horrible the entire time - but the repercussions of his actions could be severe - as without money the children could perish - which conveys Scrooge's negligence as he knows this is what will happen and yet he ~~is~~ still gives no money. Dickens could be linking this back to the time in his life in which he worked at the blackening factory - a waif and a stray - and how no charity was given to him as he arduously worked his days away.

A Christmas Carol

b) To conclude, I concur that Scrooge is - at the start of the narrative - a very horrible man. His actions portray this and the subsequently the effects they have are startling. I think Dickens was purveyed Scrooge's lack of consideration tremendously.

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A Christmas Carol

- a) Dickens portrays the setting of 'A Christmas Carol' throughout the novella in scrutinising detail, hence it entails subliminal links to the mood of the text.

Dickens portrays that the setting is extremely frigid. "Cold, bleak, biting weather" this conveys that the weather is terrible "cold, bleak" expressing that it is perhaps obsolete and bitter, which culminates a pathetic fallacy and may link to Scrooge himself, as he is "bleak", as in he is emotionless, unremorseful and unempathetic. "biting" blatantly ~~also~~ depicts the temperature, as it implies that it is so "cold" out than pain is felt; distress and turmoil caused at the nipping frost. This overall creates a rather dismal image of winter - insinuating Scrooge's feelings towards the time of year.

"The fog came pouring ... more phantoms" Dickens uses the setting of Scrooge's lodging to his advantage - to bring undertones of ~~the~~ Scrooge's motives to light. "Fog" this blatantly shows that there is a mist about the scene - creating an ambiguous effect on the reader - as the lack of sight gives an air of mystery. "dense" also portrays that the "fog" is very viscous, perhaps even suffocating - culminating on dark and negative connotations - even relating to death imagery; which explicitly links to the death of Marley. "phantoms" also gives connotations into this fore-mentioned death imagery (which also foreshadows Stave 4). The "fog" also may correlate with Scrooge's closed-mindedness - the fact that he has no regard to anything but his money - thus making him a malicious miser.

~~Scrooge clearly~~ Scrooge clearly treats Cratchit as his inferior. "dismal little cell" this solidifies my previous statement perfectly. "dismal" denotes the "cell" being cold and dark - a place not fit for anyone to work in for a day, let alone every day. Nevertheless Cratchit is subjected to this "cell" every day - the fact that his place of work is a "cell" also hinting at the fact that he is trapped by Scrooge - and "little" which expresses the cell being cramped makes these assumptions even worse. The effect that this would have on a reader would be startling - they would feel extremely empathetic for Cratchit - and an intense hatred for Scrooge for all he has regressed Cratchit to. I think Dickens has used the effect of empathy spectacularly, truly denouncing Scrooge from his high horse in the reader's mind.

"He had so heated himself - - - Smoked again" Dickens, however creates a catalyst in Scrooge's mind in the form of his nephew. "heated himself with the rapid walking in the fog and frost" goes against the connotations I have aforementioned, as "heated" portrays a warmth and salvation - an ~~epiphany~~ epiphany. This connotes to the fact that the nephew is dispelling the "fog and frost" that Scrooge has in his heart in an attempt to warm him - to cure his frozen heart and mind. "Glow" purveys an almost ethereal being - thus solidifying my hypothesis on Fred being a revelation for Scrooge - his light to weed off the shadows.

To conclude, Dickens uses the setting of 'A Christmas Carol' to his utmost advantage - as the reader is introduced to some characters - and connotations and inferences are inserted wonderfully.

Question	Level - mark	Commentary
4a)	Level 5 – 20	The candidate has produced a cohesive response, evaluating the interrelationship of language, form and structure. There is a close focus on how Dickens uses pathetic fallacy to convey Scrooge as a ‘cold and bleak’ character. The use of Scrooge’s nephew as a ‘catalyst’ in ‘dispelling the fog and frost that Scrooge has in his heart’ is perceptive. Subject terminology is integrated and precise.
4b)	Level 5 - 18	The response is assured and shows a high level of engagement and interpretation of the novel. Discussion is made of how Scrooge’s attitude and behaviour has a knock-on effect on other characters – especially the Cratchit family and Tiny Tim. The style is critical and at times perceptive. Although specific quotations are not given, the references made to the text are appropriate and assured and fully support the points made.

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A Christmas Carol

A) In the extract Dickens creates a powerful and strong atmosphere and image to go in the readers head. "Once upon a time" the first phase in the text, Dickens uses our links and connections with the phrase, stories, childhood, nostalgia to draw the reader in. Because it reminds us of our childhood we feel we must read on.

The next part, "of all the good days of the year, on Christmas Eve - old Scrooge sat busy in his counting house." Dickens chooses a happy time for the readers, Christmas Eve, to set a dismal character into the story; Dickens ensures that the reader is thinking of good times by reminding them of Christmas and it's connections and our childhood and it's connections. It is in the happiest times of our lives where the grumpiest, most depressing and most dismal character lives. This is an effective way of entering an atmosphere, we already think of him as grumpy at the best of times. We are now making judgements on ^{Scrooge in} this first sentence.

Dickens creates a setting in the ~~the~~ extract as well by using, ~~a~~ pathetic fallacy: "It was cold, bleak, biting weather; foggy withal" By writing this our mind continues to imagine the rest of the atmosphere, we continue to add to the ~~the~~ senses we would feel and what other people would feel and act like, 'cold' and 'bleak' suggests an empty day, people scared to leave their house for fear of the cold, and anyone who would be outside ~~to~~, would be bracing the cold. Our connections with Dickens description of the weather are: ~~moody~~, frigid, disappointing, depressing. Dickens created a successful setting using ~~the~~ pathetic fallacy.

Dickens carries on using pathetic fallacy to give away tips and subtle messages about what is to come "the houses opposite were mere phantoms" the fog is so dense that it is like a translucent ghost, as if ghosts are lingering everywhere. Dickens uses this to link the weather to the atmosphere to come it gives us as readers an impression of what will come. Dickens uses pathetic fallacy to make an eerie atmosphere and setting.

To make the setting ~~stronger~~ Dickens uses the personality of the characters to make the scene more effective and powerful. Dickens has already portrayed Scrooge as a dismal and depressing character just using the time and place

but Dickens uses Scrooge's personality to add to the setting. "Scrooge's counting-house was open that he might keep his eye upon his ~~own~~ clerk, who in a dismal little cell beyond, a sort of tank, was copying letters". Dickens portrays Scrooge as a man of power his is wealthy and in charge, he can afford to pay for an employee. But he treats him like dirt. We feel ~~so~~ sorry for the clerk because of his ~~the~~ situation, "a dismal cell" suggests that he is trapped in Scrooge's power, we feel sorry for the underdog who is desperate: "the clerk put on his white comforter, and tried to warm himself at a candle." The clerk is desperate trying irrational thoughts to ~~seem~~ satisfy the basics. We feel sorry for the clerk for he is working for Scrooge. The people of London in the Victorian times are mistreated and greedy in the very atmosphere.

Dickens carries on with the personality when Scrooge's nephew enters "God save you!" cried a cheerful voice" Scrooge's nephew is the complete opposite to Scrooge this suggests that there is hope in the story, Scrooge is an anomaly to his family.

Dickens uses pathetic fallacy, personality and connotations ~~to~~ with Christmas and childhood to successfully create a setting. The readers feel uncomfortable but their mind is absorbed into the story.

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- B) Dickens has already conveyed that Scrooge has a lack of consideration ~~for~~ for others already but ~~the~~ Scrooge carries on and Dickens ensures that he seems like a horrid character throughout stave 1.

Scrooge is especially bad to his ~~&~~ clerk: later on from the extract the clerk is about to leave when Scrooge confronts him about Christmas, normally it would be out of the question in the Victorian era to work on Christmas day but him and Bob Cratchet have a discussion over it, and Bob must bargain with him and give up his boxing day ~~with him~~ for work, Scrooge despises family and does not care for it and he sees no reason for his clerk to either.

Scrooge's ~~for~~ past experiences ~~for~~ affect his attitude towards other people, when ~~was~~ he was with his fiancée his mind was driven by money and business with no room for family so his fiancée left him, this broke his heart; because of this Scrooge doesn't want to care anymore otherwise it may break his heart once again. Scrooge didn't pay attention to his fiancée and mistreated her. He did not play his part in their relationship. Not only does it break his heart but others too, others around him don't want to care because he will break their heart.

Later on in the novel ^{Tiny} ~~or~~ ~~the~~ Timmy ~~was~~ gets seriously ill and the Ghost of Christmas future shows his death, it was because of Scrooge that this happened, Scrooge's hatred and anger killed Tiny Tim, he took out his rage on his employee, Bob Cratchet couldn't give Tiny Tim the attention he needed, it was because of Scrooge and his poor ~~treatment~~ treatment for other people.

Soon after ~~the~~ Scrooge's nephew leaves the counting house, two charity men come asking for Scrooge to donate to the homeless and penniless. Scrooge feels that it is their fault that they are homeless and why should he help he is giving a very capitalist opinion. Scrooge doesn't even want to help the poorest of the poor. This is a huge lack of consideration, this could lead to the death of people. Scrooge's greed overwhelms him he has no care for hope or fear only greed, and his greed is like a poison to others, he is a well known figure and if he is grumpy, everybody is ~~is~~

Continued →

To conclude the attitude Scrooge delivers to people has an effect on himself and everyone else too, his poor treatment ~~of~~ for others results as a miserable life for all, everyone else has a negative opinion on him, he doesn't care because he doesn't want to.

Question	Level - mark	Commentary
4a)	Level 5 – 20	A high level 5 response, exploring how Dickens uses language, form and structure to create a ‘powerful and strong’ setting. The candidate explores how pathetic fallacy is used to present the way that the characters’ emotions are reflected by the weather: ‘cold, bleak and biting’. In addition, the presentation of Scrooge’s office and the ‘dismal cell’ is analysed with the use of relevant subject terminology integrated precisely.
4b)	Level 2 - 12	The response is fairly narrative but there are some elements of personal response to the presentation of Scrooge and how he ‘despises Christmas’. A number of points are made, with support from the text, relating to the Cratchit family; Scrooge’s nephew and his reaction to the charity collectors. The style is critical but not always applied as securely as section a).

A Christmas Carol

Question Number	Indicative Content
4 (a)	<p>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explore how Dickens presents the setting in this extract.</p> <p>Responses may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dickens begins with 'Once upon a time', which makes the reader think that this will be a pleasant fairy story; the initial mood is optimistic, being 'of all the good days in the year'• the extract is written in third person narrative• the setting quickly changes to present an unwelcoming atmosphere; the triplet emphasises the cold: 'cold, bleak, biting weather'• the activity outside in the court is described by including the sounds of passers-by who are desperately trying to keep warm: 'wheezing', 'beating their hands', 'stamping their feet'• there is a sense of gloom, as, although it is only three in the afternoon, it is already quite dark: 'it had not been light all day'• the scene, coldness and atmosphere are described using alliteration: 'countless candles', 'dingy cloud came drooping down' and a simile: 'like ruddy smears'• the fog and 'Nature' are personified: 'The fog came pouring in', 'Nature ... was brewing on a large scale'• hyperbole is used to describe the smallness of the fire, suggesting that it was just as cold inside as it was out: 'it looked like one coal'• when Scrooge's nephew arrives, despite his cheerful entrance, he is not given a warm welcome; the coldness of the counting-house is again emphasised with the nephew's breath: 'his breath smoked again'• the opening paragraph sets the scene outside; the opening sentence of paragraph two invites the reader inside and goes on to explore the counting-house and the room where Bob works; the final short paragraphs provide a contrast with the nephew's warm entrance. <p>Reward all valid points.</p>

Level	Mark	Descriptor – Bullets 1 and 2 – AO2 (20 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is simple and the identification of language, form and structure is minimal. • Little evidence of relevant subject terminology.
Level 2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is largely descriptive. There is some comment on the language, form and structure. • Limited use of relevant subject terminology to support examples given.
Level 3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response shows an understanding of a range of language, form and structure features and links them to their effect on the reader. • Relevant subject terminology is used to support examples given.
Level 4	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is focused and detailed. Analysis of language, form and structure features and their effect on the reader is sustained. • Relevant subject terminology is used accurately and appropriately to develop ideas.
Level 5	17–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is a cohesive evaluation of the interrelationship of language, form and structure and their effect on the reader. • Relevant subject terminology is integrated and precise.

Question Number	Indicative Content
4 (b)	<p>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explain how Scrooge is unkind to other characters elsewhere in the novel.</p> <p>Responses may include:</p> <p>Scrooge's poor treatment of other people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrooge shows a lack of consideration towards Bob Cratchit, his clerk; Bob's working conditions are poor; he is treated harshly and he is only allowed one day off for Christmas; despite how hard Bob works, his family struggle financially • Scrooge is not a charitable man; he refuses to give to charity, believing that he does his fair share in supporting the prisons and the workhouses; he throws the portly men out of his office • the Ghost of Christmas Past shows Scrooge how he became obsessed with money and how this destroyed his relationship with and engagement to Belle; despite Scrooge's poor treatment of Belle at the time, she goes on to be happily married and has a loving family • Scrooge is cold-hearted and unwelcoming to his nephew, Fred; he declines the offer of joining his nephew for Christmas dinner and demonstrates no affection towards him; Scrooge's reputation is made clear when Fred's guests play a guessing game • Scrooge's mean and cold nature is further made clear through what the Ghost of Christmas Future shows him; the rich gentlemen, pawn-broker and charwoman talk about Scrooge's death and none of these has a good word to say about him; each has clearly experienced Scrooge's poor treatment of them • the Ghost of Christmas Future shows Scrooge how he had driven a couple to ruin, but there is hope for them now that Scrooge is dead. <p>How Scrooge's lack of consideration affects other people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • despite Scrooge's lack of compassion towards Bob Cratchit, Bob remains a humble and dedicated employee; he is a devoted family man who struggles to support his wife and children; by being a better employer, Scrooge could help make the Cratchit family have a better life • despite Belle's pleas, she eventually finds love; she marries and has a family; when Scrooge is shown her later life, she is very happy – far happier than Scrooge • Scrooge is Fred's only uncle; Scrooge's coldness towards him is shown through Scrooge's refusal to celebrate Christmas with his family; Fred remains loyal to his uncle, despite Scrooge's lack of consideration • Scrooge's reputation is poor amongst the community; he is known to be a miser and harsh man; his ruthless business manner makes others suffer hardships. <p>Reward all valid points.</p> <p>Candidates will be rewarded if they make relevant textual references or use short quotations from elsewhere in the novel. This includes relevant paraphrasing.</p>

In responses to the following question for AO1, examiners should be aware of the different ways candidates may structure their responses. There should be sufficient evidence of a personal response and a critical style to meet the criteria for each level.

Level	Mark (20 marks)	Descriptor — Bullets 1, 2 and 3 – AO1 (20 marks)
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response is simple with little personal response. • There is little evidence of a critical style. • Little reference is made to the content or themes of the text.
Level 2	5–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response may be largely narrative but has some elements of a personal response. • There is some evidence of a critical style but it is not always applied securely. • Some valid points are made, but without consistent or secure focus.
Level 3	9–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response shows a relevant personal response, soundly related to the text. • There is an appropriate critical style, with comments showing a sound interpretation. • The response is relevant and focused points are made with support from the text.
Level 4	13–16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response has a developed personal response and thorough engagement, fully related to the text. • The critical style is sustained and there is well-developed interpretation. • Well-chosen references to the text support a range of effective points.
Level 5	17–20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an assured personal response, showing a high level of engagement with the text. • A critical style is developed with maturity, perceptive understanding and interpretation. • Discerning references are an integral part of the response, with points made with assurance and full support from the text.