

*A Christmas Carol* Reading Log Directions

Duckworth/Friesz

Due: December 9 (G) and 10 (W)

While reading the novella, type (double spaced, Times or Times New Roman 12 point) a reading log for the following items. Remember to cite and offer a works cited

1. Characters: Select three (3) major characters and two (2) minor characters. For each, select a quote from the text that describes that character, either directly or indirectly (identify). This quote may be something the character says, something said about the character, or something the author tells us directly. The quote must be significant and must demonstrate something about the character's personality. Explain.

Example: "But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge!" (Dickens 2). Ebenezer Scrooge is the epitome of the miser: an old man with plenty of money but no friends and no enjoyment in life. The author gives us this *direct characterization* to show that Scrooge's only interest in life is making money and getting rich, but he gets no pleasure from his riches, only working long hours and living a lonely miserable existence. The mention of the "grindstone" also indicates that Scrooge is a hard worker, and by extension, a hard taskmaster to his employee, Bob Cratchit. Because Scrooge himself doesn't make merry and only lives to work and make money, he resents anyone who appreciates life and family. This quote shows Scrooge's personality at the beginning of the book, and it also gives an idea of his incredible change after the visits by the three ghosts. (15 points)

2. Literary Devices: Select a minimum of five (5) literary devices from the list below. Define each and give an example from the text. Analyze how the literary device is used to enhance the text or create a deeper meaning. DO NOT simply list the examples. (25 points)
  - a. foil
  - b. figurative language
  - c. metaphor
  - d. allusion
  - e. symbolism
  - f. foreshadowing
  - g. paradox
  - h. motif
  - i. irony
3. Select three (3) examples of the use of color in the novel. Quote and annotate the passage for significance of color in theme, tone, setting, etc. Then, analyze the meaning of the color and its significance in the passage. You may wish to consult a color symbolism chart (cite, if you do). (15 points)

4. Select one (1) passage in each the past, present, and future of Scrooge's travels (3 events total). Quote and annotate the passage for significant details. Analyze the impact of each to his future *reclamation*. How do these events help change Scrooge's attitude and make him into a better man? (15 points)
  
5. Find two (2) passages – one from before Scrooge's transformation and one from after -- in which the setting specifically develops the tone. It can be the overall tone of the entire book, or just the tone of that particular passage. Quote the passages and annotate for setting and tone. Write a paragraph in which you analyze each passage and the tone in each to determine if the settings (date/time/place) make the tones positive or negative. Refer to your tone words handout for specificity and use evidence from the passages (before and after) to support your argument/supposition. (15 points)
  
6. Choose one of the following topics and apply it to a theme from *A Christmas Carol*. Write extensively, using multiple quotes from the text to support your answer. Remember to look for universality. DO NOT REFER TO OUTSIDE SOURCES TO DETERMINE A THEME! THIS IS PLAGIARISM. (15 points)
  - a. bad behavior
  - b. you can make up the years
  - c. someone had to stop him
  - d. connect like never before
  - e. never have an ordinary day
  - f. this could be the start of something beautiful