# BOB CRATCHIT

Key features · development · paired evidence

## THE BIG IDEA

Bob's warmth exposes Scrooge's cold use of authority. His family's vulnerability connects an employer's decisions to life beyond the workplace.

## FOLLOW THE CHARACTER

**1** Endures harsh employment › **2** Nurtures his family › **3** Imagines devastating loss › **4** Receives practical support

## COLD WORK, WARM AFFECTION

**"one coal"**

Narrator about Bob's fire, Stave 1

**PAIRED WITH**

**"Tiny Tim upon his shoulder"**

Narrator, Stave 3

**METHOD → MEANING**

The minimal fuel makes inequality concrete. Carrying Tim turns care into a visible physical act; Bob's limited income does not imply limited affection.

## GRATITUDE UNDER PRESSURE

**"the Founder of the Feast"**

Bob about Scrooge, Stave 3

**PAIRED WITH**

**"I'll raise your salary"**

Scrooge to Bob, Stave 5

**METHOD → MEANING**

Bob's toast is generous but meets Mrs Cratchit's anger. The pay rise answers workplace exploitation more directly than praise: changed authority improves the family's resources.

## PUSH THE ARGUMENT

Bob's kindness need not mean the working conditions are acceptable. Mrs Cratchit's criticism prevents the reader from confusing gratitude with justice.

## COVER THE SHEET. CAN YOU EXPLAIN…?

How does the pay rise connect the office to the family meal?