EXAM STASH

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT

AQA GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE



FEAST | CELEBRATION | RESPONSIBILITY

WHO ARE THEY?

A generous, larger-than-life spirit who shows Scrooge the present: its joy, community and need.

THE BIG IDEA

The second spirit links abundant celebration to urgent responsibility. Its warmth makes the exposure of neglected children more unsettling.

CHARACTER JOURNEY

1. Welcomes Scrooge.
2. Reveals shared celebration.
3. Returns his own words.
4. Uncovers deprivation.

PAIRED KEY QUOTATIONS

An invitation that becomes a challenge

'Come in! and know me better, man!'	Ghost, Stave 3
'Are there no prisons?'	Ghost repeating Scrooge, Stave 3

Method: The welcoming imperative opens Scrooge to other lives.

Connection: Repetition later turns his earlier dismissal back on him, exposing the inadequacy of punishment as an answer to need.

Abundance and deprivation

'a jolly Giant'	Narrator, Stave 3
'This boy is Ignorance. This girl is Want.'	Ghost, Stave 3

Method: The expansive festive figure seems to promise plenty; the allegorical children concealed beneath its robe reveal deprivation within the same society.

Connection: Celebration becomes a reason to share.

CONNECTIONS TO THEMES AND OTHER CHARACTERS

- **Generosity and social responsibility** – shows the need to care for those in need.
- **Poverty and inequality** – reveals the stark contrast between plenty and deprivation.
- **Scrooge** – challenges his narrow view, using warmth and confrontation to broaden his understanding.

DEVELOP YOUR IDEAS

Basic point: The Ghost of Christmas Present shows the joy of Christmas and the reality of social need.

More nuanced: The spirit ages across the day. Its short life turns the present into an opportunity that cannot simply be postponed.

RECALL

How do the children change the meaning of the spirit's earlier abundance?