JACOB MARLEY

Key features · development · paired evidence



THE BIG IDEA

Marley shows what recognition looks like when it arrives too late. His warning gives Scrooge the opportunity he no longer has.

FOLLOW THE CHARACTER

1 Accumulates wealth › **2** Dies in isolation › **3** Recognises failure › **4** Warns his partner

A SELF-MADE BURDEN

“I wear the chain I forged in life”

Marley, Stave 1

PAIRED WITH

“Mankind was my business”

Marley, Stave 1

METHOD → MEANING

The chain makes repeated choices physically visible. The redefinition of business challenges the belief that commercial success fulfils human duty.

SHARED PAST, DIFFERENT POSSIBILITIES

“a good man of business”

Scrooge about Marley, Stave 1

PAIRED WITH

“a chance and hope of escaping my fate”

Marley to Scrooge, Stave 1

METHOD → MEANING

Scrooge’s compliment exposes the narrow values they shared. Marley’s later offer turns their resemblance into a warning: the same past need not produce the same future.

PUSH THE ARGUMENT

His regret is sincere but cannot undo his life. His role is to make Scrooge’s remaining time morally urgent.

COVER THE SHEET. CAN YOU EXPLAIN…?

How does the chain connect personal choice to lasting consequences?