

Read the text below and answer Questions 1–3 on the question paper.

Extract from *A Christmas Carol*: Charles Dickens

In this extract, Dickens describes a very rich but very mean man called Scrooge.

Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner! Hard and sharp as flint, from which no steel had ever struck out generous fire; secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster. The cold within him froze his old features, nipped his pointed nose, shrivelled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and spoke out shrewdly in his grating voice. A frosty rime was on his head, and on his eyebrows, and his wiry chin. He carried his own low temperature always about with him; he iced his office in the dog-days; and didn't thaw it one degree at Christmas.

5

External heat and cold had little influence on Scrooge. No warmth could warm, no wintry weather chill him. No wind that blew was bitterer than he, no falling snow was more intent upon its purpose, no pelting rain less open to entreaty. Foul weather didn't know where to have him. The heaviest rain, and snow, and hail, and sleet, could boast of the advantage over him in only one respect. They often "came down" handsomely, and Scrooge never did.

10

Nobody ever stopped him in the street to say, with gladsome looks, "My dear Scrooge, how are you? When will you come to see me?" No beggars implored him to bestow a trifle, no children asked him what it was o'clock, no man or woman ever once in all his life inquired the way to such and such a place, of Scrooge. Even the blind men's dogs appeared to know him; and when they saw him coming on, would tug their owners into doorways and up courts; and then would wag their tails as though they said, "No eye at all is better than an evil eye, dark master!"

15

Glossary

Gait: manner of walking

Rime: formation of frost

Name:

School:

Year 7 Entrance Exam

Fiction and Imaginative Writing

Time: 60 minutes

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name and school name.
- Answer **all** questions in the test paper.
- You have 40 minutes to answer all the questions.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Section A – Reading and Responding to Fiction

- The marks for each question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.
- You should spend 25 minutes on this section
- The total mark for this paper is 10

Section B – Imaginative Writing

- Answer the question in the space provided (*there may be more space than you need.*)
- You have 35 minutes to answer the question.
- The total mark for this paper is 30.
- Questions labelled with an **asterisk** (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed
– *you should take particular care on these questions with your use of vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as the clarity of expression.*

Fiction

Read the text in the Reading Text Insert provided, then answer ALL questions.

You should spend 25 minutes on this paper.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

- 1** From the extract, identify **two** pieces of information about Scrooge's appearance. **(2)**

.....

.....

(Total for Question 1 = 2 marks)

- 2** From lines 1–9, give **one** way that the writer shows Scrooge is often alone. Use your own words or a quotation from the extract. **(1)**

.....

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

.....

.....

3 How has the writer used language and/or structure in this extract to present the character of Scrooge?

You could write about:

- the impression the writer creates of Scrooge in these sentences
- how the writer uses language to create that impression
- how the writer uses sentence structure to create that impression. (7)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

(Total for Question 3 = 7 marks)

Imaginative Writing

You should spend 35 minutes on the task below.

Write your answer in the space provided.

EITHER

***1 Imaginative Writing**

Write about a time when you, or someone you know, met someone mean.

Your response could be real or imagined.

In your response you could consider:

- what they said or did that was mean
- the consequences of their actions
- how this made you/the person feel

as well as any other ideas you might have.

**You will receive marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.*

(Total for Question 1 = 30 marks (includes 12 marks for the range of appropriate vocabulary and sentence structures, and accurate use of spelling and punctuation))

A series of 25 horizontal dotted lines spanning the width of the page, intended for writing.

