



# **International British Theatre School**

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**A Christmas Carol.**

**Based on the novel by Charles Dickens.  
Written by Amy Murphy and Ben Whiteside**

## Information for parents:

You do not need to prepare any costume, as we have costumes for each character

However, some students may wish to wear something from home. If you decide to bring in your own costumes or props, please know that any lost property on site will be reimbursed.

**(!) Please do not take costumes home on Friday after the show (!)**

Plays will begin between 14:45 - 15:30, depending on your location. Please check with your ticket and confirmation emails.

We invest a lot of money in quality costumes made in the UK and Germany and all costumes should be returned.

Please return all costumes to the host school location and ask them to contact us.

## Informationen für Eltern:

Sie müssen keine Kostüme vorbereiten, da wir für jede Figur ein Kostüm haben.

Einige Schüler möchten jedoch vielleicht etwas von zu Hause anziehen. Wenn Sie Ihre eigenen Kostüme oder Requisiten mitbringen möchten, sollten Sie wissen, dass verloren gegangene Gegenstände vor Ort erstattet werden.

**(!) Bitte nehmen Sie Ihre Kostüme am Freitag nach der Aufführung nicht mit nach Hause (!)**

Die Aufführungen beginnen zwischen 14:45 und 15:30 Uhr, je nach Ihrem Standort. Bitte überprüfen Sie dies anhand Ihrer Eintrittskarte und der Bestätigungs-E-Mails.

Wir investieren viel Geld in hochwertige Kostüme, die im Vereinigten Königreich und in Deutschland hergestellt werden, und alle Kostüme sollten zurückgegeben

## ***(Stage Directions)***

Stage directions are said by your character. They are notes to help you to know what you need to do on stage. They will appear in *brackets* () like this in the script:

Eg.

Juliet: Romeo, Romeo! I am over here! (*Waves*)

**Who is the most important person in this play?**

**(Answer: The audience)**

## Character List / Played by:

**Ebenezer Scrooge:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Jacob Marley:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tiny Tim:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bob Cratchit:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Ghost of Christmas Past:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Ghost of Christmas Past (2) :** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Ghost of Christmas Present:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scrooge as a child:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scrooge's Wife:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Young Scrooge:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fred Scrooge:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Multi-role ensemble / Narrators:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Multi-role ensemble / Narrators:** \_\_\_\_\_

***Costume checklist:***

- Ebenezer Scrooge - Bag \_\_\_\_
  - Jacob Marley
    - Tiny Tim
    - Bob Cratchit
  - The Ghost of Christmas Past
  - The Ghost of Christmas Past (2)
  - The Ghost of Christmas Present
  - The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come:
    - Scrooge as a child
      - Scrooge's Wife
      - Young Scrooge
    - Multirole ensemble / Narrator
    - Multi-role ensemble / Narrators
    - Multi-role ensemble / Narrators

**Notes / Props:**

- **Top hat**
- The ghost christmas yet to come costume is a hooded cloak with a large blanket on the back - 2-4 other students move this to create the illusion of a black cloud.
- **Long candles**
- **Rope (20m) for Marley's chains**
- **Beard for GOCP**

## **Stage Directions Code (& Puzzle):**

**STR = STAGE RIGHT**  
**STL = STAGE LEFT**  
**UST = UP STAGE**  
**DST = DOWNSTAGE**  
**CC = CENTRE STAGE**

So if..

**STRC = STAGE RIGHT CENTRE**

**USTR = UP STAGE RIGHT**

Therefore...

**USTL = \_\_\_\_\_**

**USTC = \_\_\_\_\_**

**DSTC = \_\_\_\_\_**

**DSTL = \_\_\_\_\_**

**DSTR = \_\_\_\_\_**

**STLC: \_\_\_\_\_**

The stage is dark. Winter Christmas Carolers are on the street. Winter winds are heard over the noise of horse carts and people busy coughing and buying their christmas presents.)

*(Three ensemble characters use black cloaks to hide their other role as they sing silent night)*

*(TINY TIM enters STR)*

The Carolers:

*Silent night*

*Holy Night*

*All is calm*

*All is bright*

Tim: What angelic voices, I didn't feel good but Christmas really raises my spirits.

*(Reaches in their pocket. All are pulled out and are empty except one small coin. He gives the coin to the carolers.)*

Narrator:

*The year is 1843, in London England. The streets are cold in Winter and people must work hard to survive.*



Tim: That was my last coin for today, oh well it was worth it (*He leaves STL*)

The Carolers:

Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

*(Enter SCROOGE STR In a nightgown and umbrella in hand  
+ tophat on wonky)*

Scrooge:

A peaceful nights sleep would be a miracle at this rate! Shut up and move away from my business - you are scaring away my customers!

*(They leave. )*

Narrator 2: Unfortunately, some people don't want to enjoy the traditions that hold a community together.

SCROOGE: *(angrily)* Cratchit, is this how slow you work? You need to be faster!

BOB CRATCHIT: *(trying to explain)* Mr. Scrooge, it's so cold in here, and my hands are almost numb. Perhaps we could light the fire!

SCROOGE: (snarling) Warmth costs money, Cratchit! Do your work and stop complaining.

*(Two charity members knock STL [multirole])*

CM 1: Merry Christmas Mr Scrooge!

CM 2: Can you give some money to the poor? It is such a cold winter this year.

Scrooge: That sounds like a problem for the poor and not a problem for me. Now get out of my sight!

Charity Members: You're a terrible man Mr Scrooge!

BOB CRATCHIT: Sir, I thought I might ask for tomorrow off - with it being Christmas Day.

SCROOGE: (scoffing) And what's this request for a day off on Christmas? You must be out of your mind!

Cratchit: But Christmas is a day for family sir!

Scrooge: You're lucky to have this job Cratchit, and if you want to keep it you will be here at 8am tomorrow!

Bob Cratchit: Very good Mr. Scrooge. See you tomorrow. Merry Christmas.

Scrooge: Bah Humbug!

*(Cratchit exits STR)*

Narrator (Any): But it is known that Christmas is a magical time

Narrator (Any): And who knows may come to visit you on Christmas Eve

Narrator (Any): For Tiny Tim, we hope it will be Santa Claus

Narrator (Any): And for Scrooge, we hope that he will receive the present he needs most...

All: an important lesson.

(From side stage / soundtrack we hear the clicking of chains. Scrooge is sleeping DSTL. Enter MARLEY USTL dressed in a suit with many rope ties around him)

Jacob Marley: Scrooo000o000ooo000ge!

(Groups of 3 students on side stage echo this call like in the mountains)

Scrooge: Ah! What are you?

Jacob Marley: Scrooo000o000ooo000ge! (*Echos*)

Jacob Marley: Don't you remember me? Your old friend Jacob. I've come to warn you Scrooge.

Scrooge: You're not real! I must be dreaming.

Jacob: Tonight you will be visited by three ghosts Scrooge. They are amazing and terrifying. You must... You must

(Echos of "You Must")

You must learn to become a better man - or you'll end up a miserable ghost like me!

Scene 2:

*(The ghost of Christmas Past appears)*

GOCP: Ebenezer Scrooge!

Scrooge: No thank you, I've had quite enough nonsense for one night!

The GOCP: I am the Ghost of Christmas Past. Your past

Scrooge: Are you the spirit I was warned about?

.GOCP: Come with me.

*(GOCP leads SCROOGE downstage into the audience DSTL, they lap around the audience and enter DSTR. Ensemble are prepped in freeze frame)*

Scrooge: These,,, these were schoolmates of mine...

GOCP: Lets add a little magic...

*(snaps fingers and the scene comes to life, 4 children are playing with snowballs / screwed up balls of paper. They are in scarves and hats)*

Child 1: Now lets do it in teams!

Child 2: I'll pick first - Henry I'm with you!

Child 3: We will destroy them!

Child 1: Oh nooo don't put me with Ebenezer

Child Scrooge Scrooge: Hey! I can fight with snowballs better than all three of you combined

Child 1: Oh yeah, prove it!

*(All three throw all their snowballs at him and he curls up in the fetal position. The children leave ad lib. greeting)*

Child Scrooge: (slowly gets up to sit on bum and wrap arms around knees close to the chest. *Singing*)

*Silent night  
Holy Night  
All is calm  
All is bright...*

*(Buries face in knees and arms to show that they are crying)*

Scrooge: Poor, poor boy.

GOCP: Let's see another Christmas... Ebenezer...

*(Christmas song plays and a bit of a party, kids rush the stage GOCP 2 take over)*

The GOCP 2: this is where you were happy Scrooge. Before you became greedy and old and miserable, you were a happy young man. And you were in love.

Scrooge dances with his wife.

*(students begin to circle in the dance almost like a morris dance in the centre of the circle, Young Scrooge & Scrooge's wife are freeze frame in the centre of the circle)*

The GOCP 2: But then it all changed. YOU changed.

*(Music slowly fades)*

*(One of the cast in the circle breaks off and leads the rest off STL)*

Scrooges wife: are you even listening to me?

Young Scrooge: be quiet! I need to focus on my work.

Scrooges wife: And what about what I need! If you don't leave that work alone right now and come with me, then I'm leaving.

Young Scrooge: Fine, go! See if I care.

*(She leaves)*

Scrooge: No don't let her go you fool!

The GOCP 2: Your greed cost you your greatest love. And made you lonely and bitter.

Scrooge: why are you showing me this!

The GOCP 2: To help you see your mistakes Scrooge - and change your ways!

(GOCP 2 exits STR. Groups of 3 students on side stage echo this call like in the mountains)

Offstage: ScrooooOOOooo - ScroooooOOooooOO -  
ScroooooOOOOoOOOgggee

Scene 3/4/5:

Narrator: Scrooge's night was not over yet as the second spirit appeared.

GOCPresent: I am the Ghost of Christmas Present!

Scrooge: Oh not another one!

GOCPresent: I have come to show you how joyful life can be Ebenezer Scrooge.

You have a family that would love to see you at Christmas and instead you choose to be alone.

Fred: I invited my uncle Scrooge for Christmas this year, but he didn't want to come! I wish he would join us and not shut himself away.

Fred's friend: But he hates people, and Christmas!

Fred's friend 2: Exactly! Why would we want to spend time with that miserable man?

Fred: I think he might be lonely - maybe a Christmas with family and friends is just what he needs.

GOCPresent: And let's not forget Bob Cratchit.

Scrooge: Ah yes, my useless worker!

GOCPresent: Maybe to you - but to his family he is a hardworking, kind man. And a great father to tiny Tim.

Tiny Tim: Do you think we will be able to have Christmas dinner together this year father?

Bob Cratchit: I have to work on Christmas Day, sorry Tim.

GOCPresent: Tiny Tim is very sick - this Christmas may be his last.

Scrooge: No!

GOCPresent: But maybe you can change that Scrooge, if you start to treat people with kindness.

Narrator: Scrooge sat and thought about his ways as the ghost of Christmas present disappeared into the air.



Narrator 2: And as he did, the final spirit appeared.

(The ghost of Christmas yet to come appears)

Scrooge: Are you the final ghost? What have you come to tell me?

Narrator 1: But the ghost didn't speak - she only pointed.

Narrator 2: The ghost of Christmas yet to come pointed at a gravestone.

Jacob Marley: You see Scrooge! This is where you'll end up.

The three ghosts speak at the same time:  
And you'll wander the earth a miserable ghost forever!

(All the ghosts start to close in on Scrooge slowly creeping from the edge of the stage chanting:  
Scrooooooooooooooge!)

Scrooge: No, please! I'll change my ways. I'll save Tiny Tim. I'll be kind to my nephew Fred, and to all the people in the town. I promise!

(Everyone is suddenly silent. All exit the stage, except for Scrooge)

Fred enters

Fred: Hello Uncle!

Scrooge: Fred! What day is it?

Fred: It's Christmas day, uncle Scrooge! I just came by to wish you a Merry Christmas.

Scrooge: Oh Fred, it really is a Merry Christmas. I have had such a crazy night.  
I promise to be a better man!

Carol singers sing a Christmas song as the narrators finish our story.

We see Scrooge, giving money to the poor, shaking hands with Bob Cratchit, high fiving Tiny Tim, everyone is happy and smiling at Scrooge and his transformed ways.

Narrator 1: And Scrooge kept his promise. He became a better, kinder man.

Narrator 2: He gave money and food to the poor and to the people in the village.

Narrator: He was a good boss to Bob Cratchit, and made sure that Tiny Tim was looked after.

Narrator 3: And he became loved and appreciated by all who knew him.

The cast line up for a bow as the audience applauds