EPISODE 280

A Christmas Carol

Full transcript · mini-story · vocabulary review

Hi! I'm Georgiana. Thanks for joining me for another episode of the podcast. My mission is to help you improve your fluency.

Today, we will discuss "A **Christmas Carol**" by **Charles Dickens**. This story is about kindness and how people can change, especially during **Christmas**. So, let's dive into Ebenezer Scrooge's story together!

Ok, let's start!

"A **Christmas Carol**" is about a man named Ebenezer Scrooge. He doesn't like Christmas, and he's mean to everyone, even his worker, Bob Cratchit.

One cold **Christmas Eve**, Scrooge gets a visit from the **ghost** of his old partner, Jacob Marley, who is wrapped in chains. Marley tells Scrooge that he'll be in chains, too, if he doesn't change his ways.

Scrooge is visited by three more ghosts—the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present, and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. They show him his past, his present, and a scary future.

In the past, Scrooge sees when he was young and kinder. In the present, he sees people enjoying Christmas, even if they don't have much money. He especially sees Bob Cratchit and his family, who are poor but happy.

The scariest part is when he meets the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. This ghost shows him a future where nobody cares about Scrooge because he's so mean. Scrooge realizes he doesn't want this future.

He wants to change and feels happy when he wakes up on Christmas morning. He starts being kind and helps people. Not only that, but he gives money to charity, gives more money to Bob Cratchit, and takes care of **Tiny Tim**, who is very sick.

"A Christmas **Carol**" shows us that we can always choose to be kind, and Christmas is a time to love and share.

Here are the themes of the novel:

Change and Kindness: This story shows us that people can change and become kinder if they want to.

Family and Togetherness: The Cratchit family's love reminds us that family is important even when they don't have much.

Giving and Joy: Christmas is about giving and making others happy.

"A Christmas Carol" is a story that reminds us to be kind, especially during Christmas. Whether you hear it for the first time or again, it's a story that warms our hearts.

Now, let's practice.

Mini-Story

Speaking Practice

Answer the questions aloud with short and quick responses. Repeat the Mini-Story several times to improve your speaking and listening.

The story 'A Christmas Carol' is about Ebenezer Scrooge, an older man who doesn't like Christmas and being kind.

Is "A Christmas Carol" about a generous young man who loves Christmas?
No. No. "A Christmas Carol" is not about a generous young man but, an old, stingy man who despises Christmas and kindness.

Does Ebenezer Scrooge adore Christmas in "A Christmas Carol"?
No. He does not adore Christmas. He is known for despising Christmas and kindness.

On Christmas Eve, the ghost of Scrooge's old business partner, Jacob Marley, appears to him.

Did Scrooge's young business partner visit him on Christmas Day?

No. No. On Christmas Eve, the ghost of Scrooge's old business partner, Jacob Marley, appeared to him.

Does Jacob Marley visit Scrooge on New Year's Eve?

No. Jacob Marley doesn't visit Scrooge on New Year's Eve. He appears to him on Christmas Eve.

Marley tells Scrooge to be kinder and nicer, or he will have a sad future.

Does Marley tell Scrooge to continue his mean ways?

No. No. Marley tells Scrooge to be kinder and nicer, not continue his mean ways.

Does Marley want Scrooge to be even meaner?

No. He tells him to stop being mean and unkind to avoid a sad future.

What does Marley warn Scrooge about?

He warns Scrooge to change his mean-spirited ways, or he will face a sad future.

Marley tells Scrooge that three spirits will visit him: the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future.

Does Marley tell Scrooge three witches will visit him?

No. No. He tells him that three spirits will visit him: the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future.

Are the spirits visiting Scrooge related to Easter?

No. They are the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future.

The Ghost of Christmas Past takes Scrooge on a journey through his own life, helping him understand why he became bitter.

Does the Ghost of Christmas Future show Scrooge his past?

No. No. It's not the Ghost of Christmas Future, but the Ghost of Christmas Past, who takes Scrooge on a journey through his life, helping him understand why he became bitter.

Is Scrooge taken on a journey through his future life by the Ghost of Christmas Past?

No. The Ghost of Christmas Past does not take Scrooge through his future life. It takes him through his past life, helping him understand why he became bitter.

The Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge people joyfully celebrating Christmas.

Does the Ghost of Christmas Present show Scrooge people being sad during Christmas?

No. No. The Ghost of Christmas Present shows him people joyfully celebrating Christmas.

Does the Ghost of Christmas Past show Scrooge's miserable Christmas celebrations?

No. The Ghost of Christmas Present shows him people joyfully celebrating Christmas.

The Ghost of Christmas Future shows a sad future where Scrooge dies alone and unloved.

Does the Ghost of Christmas Past reveal a bright future for Scrooge?

No. No. It's not the Ghost of Christmas Past, but the Ghost of Christmas Future that shows a sad future where Scrooge dies alone and unloved.

Does the Ghost of Christmas Future show Scrooge a future filled with love and companionship?

No. The Ghost of Christmas Future shows a sad future where he dies alone and unloved.

Scrooge becomes kinder and more loving, and he starts to embrace the Christmas spirit.

Does Scrooge become more miserly?

No. No. He doesn't become more **miserly**. He *becomes kinder*.

Does he continue to despise Christmas?

No. He does not continue to despise Christmas.

He becomes kinder, more loving, and embraces the

Christmas spirit.

Thanks for listening, and I'll see you in the next episode.

Review

Vocabulary from This Episode

Review the most useful words and expressions before listening again.

01 miserly unwilling to spend money or share with others.	**05 generosity** willingness to give or share freely.
02 Christmas Eve the day or evening before Christmas Day.	**06 transformation** a major change in character or appearance.
03 ghost the spirit of a dead person.	**07 Tiny Tim** the ill but cheerful child in A Christmas Carol.
04 chain a connected series of metal rings.	**08 redeem** change for the better after behaving badly.

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