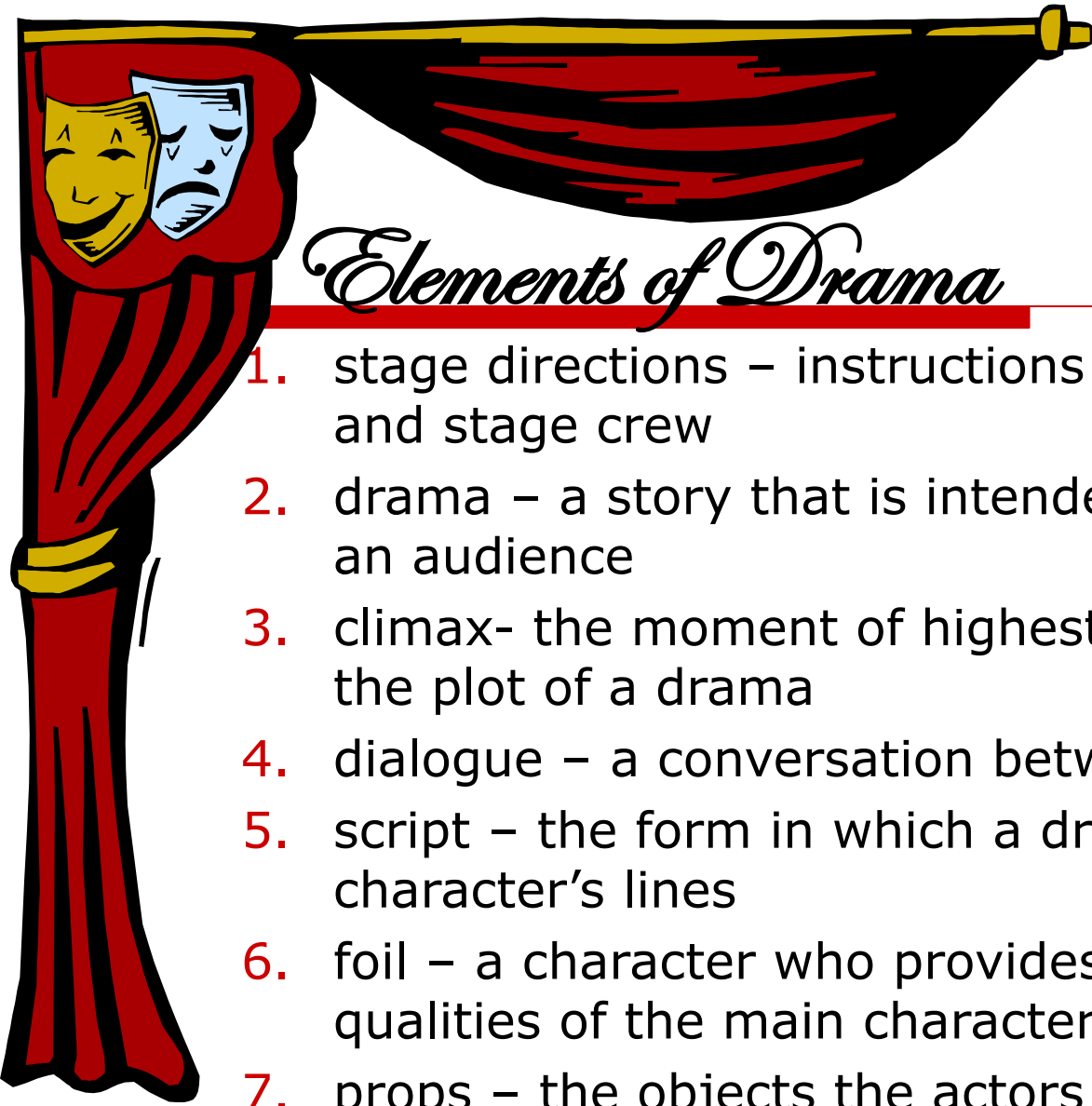


A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens





Elements of Drama

1. stage directions – instructions for the director, actors, and stage crew
2. drama – a story that is intended to be performed before an audience
3. climax- the moment of highest tension and excitement in the plot of a drama
4. dialogue – a conversation between characters in a drama
5. script – the form in which a drama is written, including character's lines
6. foil – a character who provides a sharp contrast to the qualities of the main character
7. props – the objects the actors use during the play (cup, chair, book)
8. scenes & acts – divisions in a drama (similar to chapters in a novel)

CHARLES DICKENS'
A CHRISTMAS
CAROL



A Quick Review

- ❑ **Setting- The time and place of a story**

Example: It was December 24th, 1824, on a snowy Christmas eve in Victorian London.

- ❑ **Personification- Giving human characteristics to non-human things**

Example: The knife and fork looked on happily as father began to carve the turkey.

- ❑ **Foreshadowing- Hinting at things to come**

Example: Scrooge wished he could rid himself of the sick feeling in his gut that told him something terrible was going to happen.

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

□ **Overview--Ebenezer Scrooge, a tight-fisted and bitter man, is visited by three spirits (symbols!) to bring about his redemption before his death. He learns to love his fellow man after being shown love and generosity from others.**



A Christmas Carol

The Ultra Condensed Version



Ebenezer Scrooge

Bah, humbug. You'll work thirty-eight hours on Christmas Day, keep the heat at five degrees, and like it.

Ghost of Jacob Marley

Ebenezer Scrooge, three ghosts of Christmas will come and tell you you're mean.

Three Ghosts of Christmas

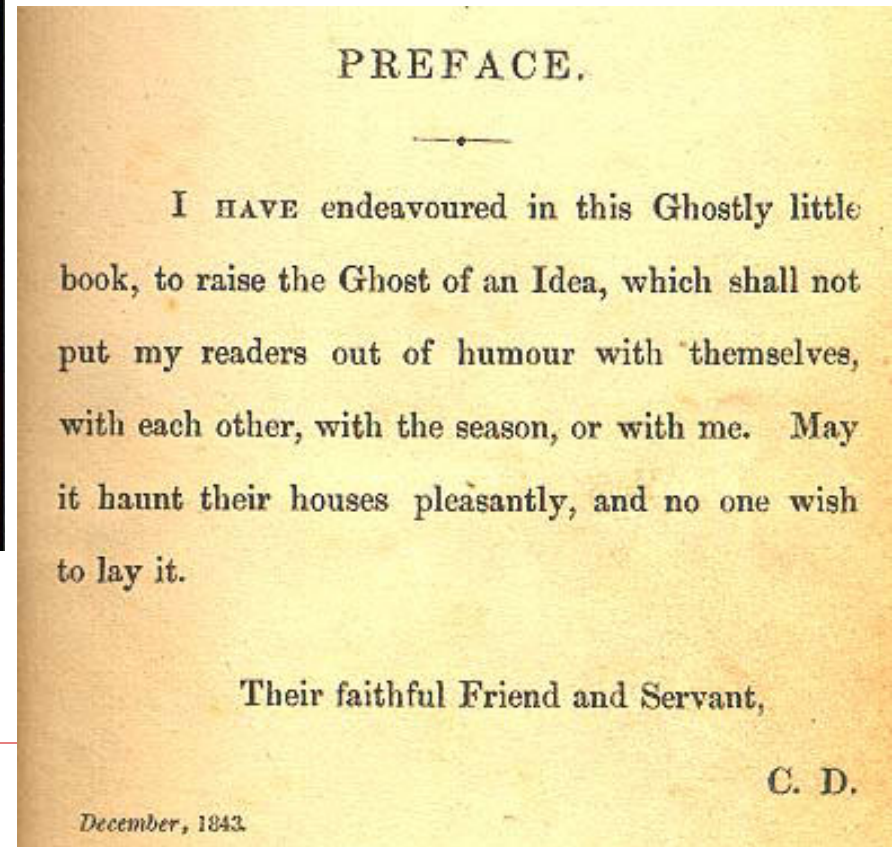
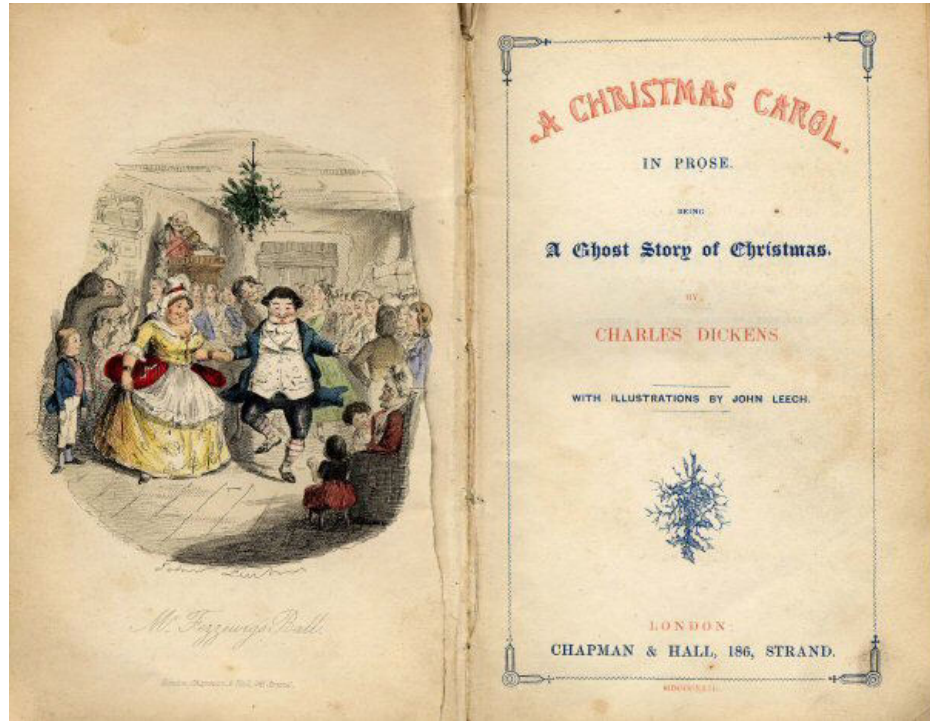
You're mean.

Ebenezer Scrooge

At last, I have seen the light. Let's dance in the streets. Have some money.

THE END

Introduction by Charles Dickens

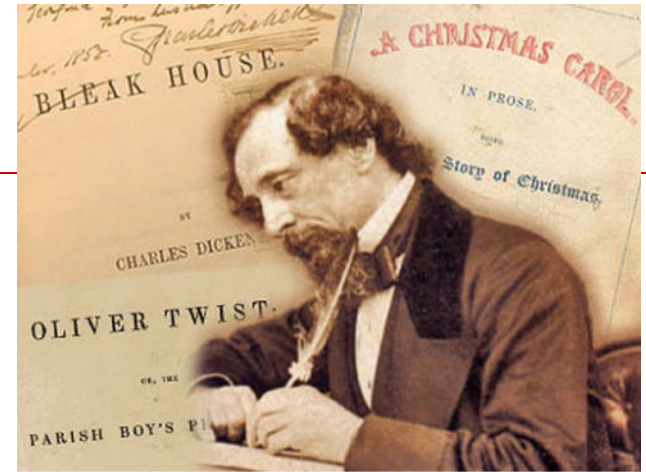


foreshadowing

Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens (1812-1870), English Victorian era author wrote numerous highly acclaimed novels.

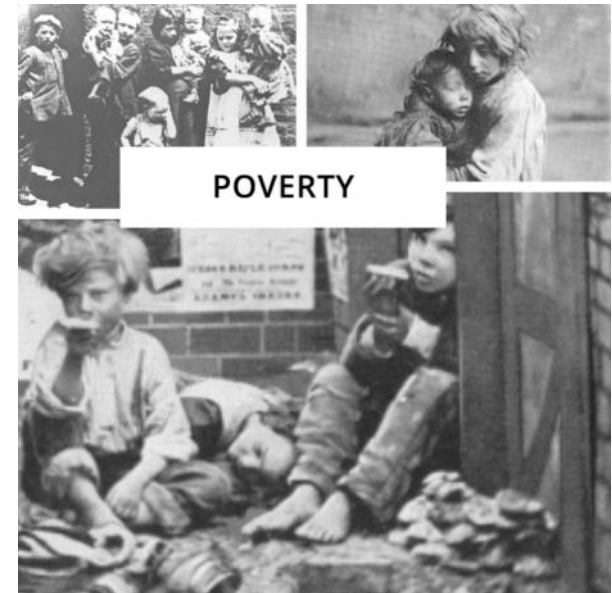
- Dickens' writing style is flowing and poetic, with a strong comic touch.
- Many people thought of Dickens as an advocate for the poor, at a time when there was little sympathy towards those in poverty.
- Dickens other works include: *Great Expectations*, *David Copperfield*, *Oliver Twist*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Bleak House*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *The Pickwick Papers*



"It was the best of rides, it was the worst of rides"

A Christmas Carol

- At the time this story was written (1843), the generous spirit of Christmas charity didn't exist in England. Many people did not believe in generosity to the poor. Instead, they believed the poor somehow brought poverty upon themselves.



Protagonist & Antagonist

A Christmas Carol" is unusual because Scrooge, the Protagonist (usually the good guy), is a very BAD guy. The antagonist (usually the bad guy) is the good guy. Remember that the antagonist is the person who causes the conflict for the protagonist. They are not always good guys or bad guys.



Stave 1 - opening



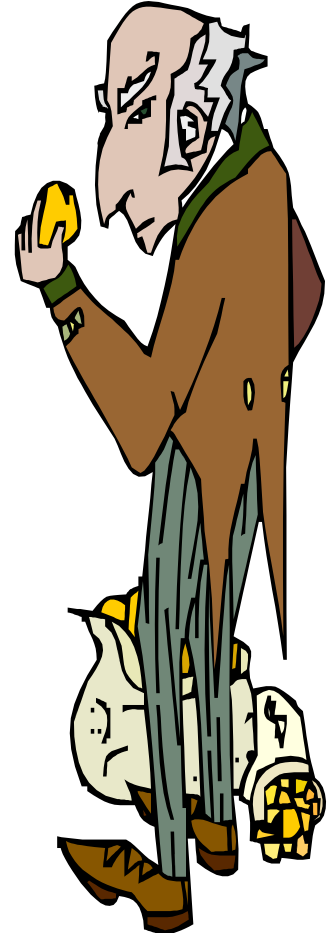
A Christmas Carol

- ❑ Jacob Marley, Scrooge's partner has been dead, 7 years to the day that our story begins.
- ❑ The first scene unfolds in the cold, cheerless office of Scrooge's counting house.



A Christmas Carol

- ❑ As his faithful clerk Bob Cratchit toils, Scrooge is visited by his nephew and invited to Christmas dinner the next day. Scrooge declares that those who celebrate Christmas should be boiled in their own pudding and dismisses him.
- ❑ Two men who come seeking donations for the poor are dismissed with Scrooge's wish that the poor would die and "decrease the surplus population."



A Christmas Carol

- Jacob Marley's visit is dismissed as "more gravy than grave" by Scrooge, but it ends up setting the stage for the three ghosts. Which ghost's message most resembles that of Jacob Marley's?



A Christmas Carol

- ❑ Pay careful attention to the three ghosts. Each message has a specific effect on Scrooge.
- ❑ What does the ghost of Christmas past remind Scrooge of?
- ❑ Whose generous heart touches Scrooge in the present?
- ❑ What does Scrooge's future hold if he continues to be greedy and self-absorbed?



Personification

- ❑ Dickens portrays Ignorance and Want as two frail, ghastly children.
- ❑ Do you think the main causes of poverty are ignorance and want? Explain why or why not.



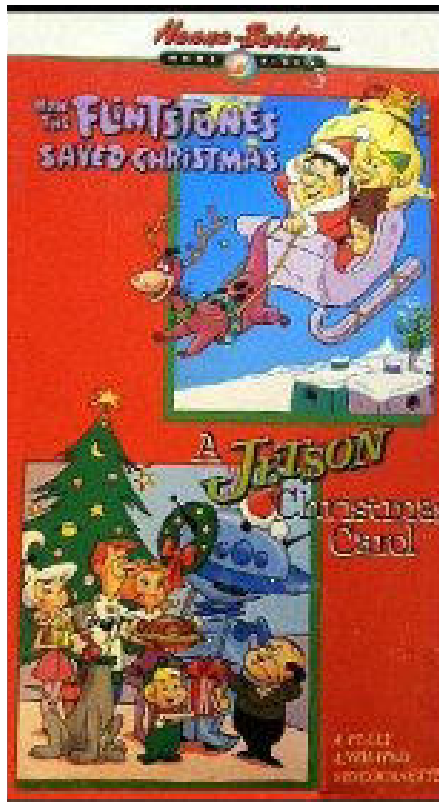
A Christmas Carol

- ☐ Please summarize the story, in three or four paragraphs, paying careful attention to:
- ☐ S—Setting (where and when the story takes place)
- ☐ P—People (describe the main characters)
- ☐ A—Action (summarize the plot)
- ☐ C—Climax (the most dramatic part of the story)
- ☐ E-- Ending



[illegible]

Cartoon Versions



Flintstones, Mickey Mouse,
Ghostbusters, Family Guy,
Bugs Bunny, Jetsons,
Muppets

