

Module Three: The First of the Three Spirits



Weekly Overview & Objectives

This week we'll have the opportunity to become acquainted with Scrooge's first life changing spirit. However, it's not always easy to get a clear picture of what this ghost actually looks like which you'll soon learn from the additional commentary in your text. This ambiguity is reaffirmed via the mash-up you'll view below that showcases this character's various appearances in film and television. You'll also have an opportunity to weigh in on this array of artistic liberties by creating your own rendition of this literary shapeshifter.

Next, we'll do a little research practice housekeeping by reviewing our use and creation of various in-text citation types and last but not least you'll select a character for your Pinterest Unit Project and begin formulating your specialized character boards.

Objectives:

- Students will express a thorough understanding of A Christmas Carol's storylines, characters, conflicts, and symbolism
- Students will demonstrate their new knowledge via a series of Internet search/research and social media tool based assessment
- Students will examine the myriad of ways that Charles Dickens's novel has been adapted since its publication in 1843
- Students will review research and writing best practices



Readings & Media

Note: Whenever possible any web based resources have also been uploaded as PDFs just in case one of those pesky domains goes down while you're trying to do your homework.

Please Read or Watch the Following Required Items:

- Stave Two: The First of the Three Spirits in The Annotated Christmas Carol (Pages 49 – 78)
- Pay close attention to the annotations on pages 51 – 53 which pertain to additional information on the first of the three spirits
- [A Christmas Carol Mashup: The First of the Three Spirits](#)



Prove It: The Citation Scavenger Hunt

This citation “hunt” is meant to be a brief refresher on the proper use of MLA or APA citations. If you need to brush up on this skill please review some of the following resources. We’ll be researching and using citations in another project next week so you’ll be right on top of the process after this practice exercise.

- [MLA Formatting and Style Guide](#)
- [Basics of MLA Citing \[Video\]](#)
- [APA Formatting and Style Guide](#)
- [Using APA Style for References and Citations](#)

After downloading the [Citation Hunt worksheet](#), use your text to find examples from the reading that support or speak to the phrases listed in the “Assertion” column. In parenthesis within the “Assertion” column you’ll also find [the type of citation you should create](#).

Next, type the quote you would like to use as your evidence in the “Citation” column and note the “Page Number” as it appears in the book. The final column will house the full citation you’ve been prompted to craft as well as any commentary you may need to add to round out and ground your efforts. Essentially you’re adding context to your selection from the novel just as you would if you were using these quotes in an essay or research paper. You context can take on any form you wish. To clarify, I’ve included an example of this activity below:

Assertion	Citation	Page #	Full Citation (Note: For reference purposes only I've made my additional commentary to the citation bold).
Weather (Direct Quotation)	Meanwhile the fog and darkness thickened so, that people ran about with flaring links proffering their services to go before horses in carriages, and conduct them on their way	24	Mentions of poor weather often foreshadow ominous events in literature. For example, Marley's Ghost's appearance is preceded by the following forecast, "meanwhile the fog and darkness thickened so, that people ran about with flaring links proffering their services to go before horses in carriages, and conduct them on their way" (Dickens 24).

Once you've completed your worksheet please submit it to me via the assignment tool **by Friday**.

Note: This activity is inspired by the [Prove It! Citations Scavenger Hunt](#) found on ReadWriteThink.org.



Artistic Liberties: The First of The Three Spirits

Please review pages 51- 54 of the Annotated Christmas Carol and make sure to also take a look at the accompanying commentary on the appearance of Scrooge's first ghostly visitor. At this point I'm sure you've watched the mash-up video that appears above and have been exposed to the dizzying disparities between various artists, directors, and costumers ideas on what this spirit should look like. Some definitely seem more plausible than others.

But let's turn the tables a bit. Imagine for a moment that you're in the running to score a job directing your own version of a Christmas Carol for the local theater company in your hometown. You've been told that if you get the job you'll have total creative control over the way the characters look, what they wear, how they speak, where the action takes place, how they move etc... Essentially the sky's the limit. The board of directors are hoping to see something new and unexpected. Of course, let's be honest, your first impressions of the hiring committee during the initial interview were that they definitely gave off some slightly conservative vibes so you probably shouldn't be too avant-garde, right? Or should you? Hmm...

Your final opportunity to impress the board is to create and present a thorough character sketch of the Ghost of Christmas Past. You are free to use any medium, Internet tools, writing implements, or other household items you deem appropriate to craft your ghost. Keep in mind that if you make a physical drawing or build a model you'll need to scan the item or upload a photograph so that you can share your vision with



your classmates.

the class.

Your Ghost of Christmas Past Character Sketch is due **by Saturday**. Please upload your work to the discussion board and write a brief narrative (300 or so words should do the trick) explaining your reasoning for presenting this character in the manner in which you did.

Then take the time to visit the work of your classmates and comment on at least 3 of the presented projects by Sunday.



Pinterest Character Board Project: Part III

This week you'll sign-up for the character you would like to build Pinterest boards for. You'll find the sign-up sheet on the class sidebar. Only one person per character will be allowed so if you have your heart set on someone special make sure you claim your person quickly. You'll be able to choose from the following people:

Marley's Ghost, Christmas Past, Christmas Present, Christmas Future, Bob Cratchit, Scrooge, Mrs. Cratchit, Peter Cratchit, Belinda Cratchit, Martha Crathcit, Tiny Tim, Young Scrooge, Fan, Belle, Mr. Fezziwig, Mrs. Fezziwig, Charity Fezziwig, Felicity Fezziwig, Dick Wilkins, Fred, Ann (aka Mrs. Fred), Mr. Johnson and Mr. Boswell (aka The Portly Gentleman).

Next, begin to create your 3 boards (collections) specific to your character choice and start compiling and pinning items. These boards could be collections of clothing your character might wear, a party they'd throw, books they would read, what their bedroom might look like, places they might have visited etc... Make sure to review/ keep in mind the historical context of the Victorian era, especially if you are unsure if your character would eat, wear, use etc...a certain item.

For your information, the overarching schedule for this project will work as follows. This week's portion of the activity is shaded in green:

Week	Portion of the Activity Due
Week One <input type="checkbox"/>	Review the recommended Pinterest board examples referenced in the module.
Week Two <input type="checkbox"/>	Sign-up for a Pinterest account and practice pinning items if you are not familiar with the tool. Start to begin thinking about which character in the book you'd like to work with and portray. Share the url of your Pinterest Profile in the indicated class discussion forum. Follow all of your classmates' accounts.

Week Three <input type="checkbox"/>	Select the character you will work with via the sign-up sheet provided in the class wiki. Begin to create boards (collections) specific to your choice and start pinning items. Make sure to review/ keep in mind the historical context of the Victorian era, especially if you are unsure if your character would eat, wear, use etc...a certain item.
Week Four <input type="checkbox"/>	Finalize your collection of boards on Pinterest and post the URL of the items to the appropriate forum in the class discussion board. Prepare a short narrative to include with your project where you discuss your thinking and rationale for the items you selected for your character.
Week Five <input type="checkbox"/>	Review the boards of your classmates and select 3 to respond to in character. Be sure to sign each of your comments to your classmates with the name of your character. You'll want to make it clear that you're "being" Tiny Tim or Scrooge and not Katherine Jones or Patrick Smith.



Checklist

- Sign-Up for your Pinterest Unity Activity character via the link in the course menu (the sooner the better)
- Begin deciding on board themes and gathering pins for the character you selected
- Complete the required readings by Friday
- Submit your citations worksheet to me by Friday
- Post your artistic vision of Scrooge's First Spirit on the discussion board by Saturday

Respond to your classmate's efforts by Sunday