

QUESTIONS

1. (a) What is most noticeable in the appearance and character of "the last of the Spirits"?

(b) How does the presence of this Spirit affect the feelings of Scrooge?

2. How does the death of Scrooge, as revealed by the Phantom, affect (a) his business associates, and (b) those who are in Scrooge's debt?

3. (a) The Phantom gives Scrooge a picture of the room in which he lay dead and of the place in which he was buried. What was there in the case of both these scenes to appeal to the feelings of Scrooge?

(b) Why does the writer give us each a detailed account of the scene and conversation in the second-hand shop (pages 81-86)?

4. (a) For what purpose is the imaginary scene in Bob Cratchit's house (pages 90-94) introduced?

(b) Contrast the effect produced by the death of Tiny Tim, in the Spirit's picture, with that produced by the death of Scrooge.

5. "The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach" (page 96). What are these lessons?

STAVE FIVE

97. making a perfect Laocoön of himself. Twisting himself into an unusual shape in pulling on his stockings.

Laocoön was a priest of Apollo, at Troy, who with his two sons was strangled and bitten to death by serpents. A famous group of statuary in the Vatican at Rome represents Laocoön and his sons writhing in their struggle with the serpents.

98. transports. Outbursts of joy.

99. my buck. My fine fellow.

WALKER. A slang word expressing surprise or incredulity.

100. Joe Miller. A comedian of the eighteenth century. "Joe Miller's Jest Book" was a well-known book containing a collection of stories and jokes.

103. unanimity. Agreement.

104. strait-waistcoat. A strong, tight-fitting jacket which is placed about the bodies of the violently insane to prevent them from using their arms.