***A Christmas Carol:* Essay Assignment**

Name:

Communications 11

Question: **How do the four ghosts contribute to the changes in Scrooge’s attitudes towards the poor, Christmas, and life in general?**

**Paragraph 1: Introduction**

Introduce the novel; who wrote it, when it was written, etc. Explain the type of person Scrooge was **at the start of the novel**. Discuss his personality, as well as how Scrooge **initially** feels about how the **poor should be treated** and about **Christmas**. Briefly discuss how he changes by the end of the novel. Your **THESIS** should be a sentence summarizing your main point, and goes at the end of this paragraph. (e.g. Scrooge’s life experiences have made him a bitter and cynical old man; however, his experiences with the four ghosts that visit him prompt him to reflect on his life, and change his attitude and actions positively.)

**Paragraph 2: The Ghost of Marley**

Explain **who** the first ghost is, what he says and does, as well as Scrooge’s **reaction** to him. How is Scrooge affected by this ghost? Does he change?

**Paragraph 3: The Ghost of Christmas Past**

Write about what this ghost **shows** and **tells** Scrooge, and how Scrooge **reacts**. How is Scrooge affected by this ghost? Does he change?

**Paragraph 4: The Ghost of Christmas Present**

Explain what this ghost **shows** and **tells** Scrooge, and explain how Scrooge reacts. How is Scrooge affected by this ghost? Does he change?

**Paragraph 5: The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come**

Explain what the final ghost **shows** Scrooge, and explain how Scrooge reacts. How is Scrooge affected by this ghost? Does he change?

**Paragraph 6: Conclusion**

Sum up what kind of man Scrooge is at the **end** of *A Christmas Carol*. Briefly explain how the ghosts have helped change his attitudes towards the **poor**, **Christmas**, and **life.**

**How will I be assessed?**

**Marking Guide: Your essay will be based on the following criteria**

5 - Outstanding, free from errors.

4 - Good job. Few minor mistakes

3 - O.K. Effort is evident

2 - Needs Work. Many mistakes.

1 - Little effort is evident

0 - Unacceptable/Incomplete

Total= \_\_\_\_\_\_/30

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***Review these guidelines before you hand in your essay:***

1. Does your essay have all five sections?

(Introduction, 3-4 Supporting Paragraphs, and Conclusion)

1. In your first paragraph, is your **thesis** clearly stated?
2. Do your three paragraphs all have separate ideas that support your thesis?
3. Do you use and explain at least one relevant quotation in each paragraph?
4. Is your writing free from obvious spelling, grammar, and sentence mistakes?
5. Is your essay organized well, easy to understand, and does it contain relevant concise ideas?