Easter school- 'A Christmas Carol'

The following extract comes from stave 4. A group of	Plan
businessmen discuss the death of another businessman.	i Plan
"Why, what was the matter with him?" asked a third, taking a	
vast quantity of snuff out of a very large snuff-box. "I thought	
he'd never die."	
"God knows," said the first, with a yawn.	
"What has he done with his money?" asked a red-faced	
gentleman with a pendulous excrescence on the end of his nose,	
that shook like the gills of a turkey-cock.	
"I haven't heard," said the man with the large chin, yawning	
again. "Left it to his company, perhaps. He hasn't left it to me.	
That's all I know."	
This pleasantry was received with a general laugh. "It's likely to be a very cheap funeral," said the same speaker;	
"for upon my life I don't know of anybody to go to it. Suppose we	
make up a party and volunteer?"	
"I don't mind going if a lunch is provided," observed the	
gentleman with the excrescence on his nose. "But I must be fed,	
if I make one."	
Another laugh.	
"Well, I am the most disinterested among you, after all," said the	
first speaker," for I never wear black gloves, and I never eat	
lunch. But I'll offer to go, if anybody else will. When I come to	
think of it, I'm not at all sure that I wasn't his most particular	
friend; for we used to stop and speak whenever we met. Bye,	
bye."	
Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents	
ideas about the upper classes in A Christmas Carol.	

The following extract comes from stave 3. The Ghost of	Plan
Christmas Present shows the Cratchit family at Christmas.	Plan
At last the dinner was all done, the cloth was cleared, the hearth	
swept, and the fire made up. The compound in the jug being	
tasted, and considered perfect, apples and oranges were put upon	
the table, and a shovel-full of chestnuts on the fire. Then all the	
Cratchit family drew round the hearth, in what Bob Cratchit called	
a circle, meaning half a one; and at Bob Cratchit's elbow stood the	
family display of glass. Two tumblers, and a custard-cup without a handle.	
These held the hot stuff from the jug, however, as well as golden	
goblets would have done; and Bob served it out with beaming looks,	
while the chestnuts on the fire sputtered and cracked noisily. Then	
Bob proposed:	
"A Merry Christmas to us all, my dears. God bless us."	
Which all the family re-echoed.	
"God bless us every one!" said Tiny Tim, the last of all.	
He sat very close to his father's side upon his little stool. Bob held	
his withered little hand in his, as if he loved the child, and wished	
to keep him by his side, and dreaded that he might be taken from him.	
"Spirit," said Scrooge, with an interest he had never felt before, "tell	
me if Tiny Tim will live."	
"I see a vacant seat," replied the Ghost, "in the poor chimney-	
corner, and a crutch without an owner, carefully preserved. If these	
shadows remain unaltered by the Future, the child will die."	
"No, no," said Scrooge. "Oh, no, kind Spirit. Say he will be spared."	
Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents	
the importance of family in A Christmas Carol.	

The following extract comes from stave 5. Scrooge sees the	Ma
charity collector on Christmas day.	Plan
It sent a pang across his heart to think how this old gentleman	
would look upon him when they met; but he knew what path lay	
straight before him, and he took it.	
"My dear sir," said Scrooge, quickening his pace, and taking the old	
gentleman by both his hands. "How do you do. I hope you	
succeeded yesterday. It was very kind of you. A merry Christmas	
to you, sir!"	
"Mr Scrooge?"	
"Yes," said Scrooge. "That is my name, and I fear it may not be	
pleasant to you. Allow me to ask your pardon. And will you have	
the goodness" here Scrooge whispered in his ear.	
"Lord bless me!" cried the gentleman, as if his breath were taken	
away. "My dear Mr Scrooge, are you serious?"	
"If you please," said Scrooge. "Not a farthing less. A great many	
back-payments are included in it, I assure you. Will you do me that	
favour?"	
"My dear sir," said the other, shaking hands with him. "I don't know	
what to say to such munificence."	
"Don't say anything please," retorted Scrooge. "Come and see me.	
Will you come and see me?"	
"I will!" cried the old gentleman. And it was clear he meant to do	
it.	
"Thank you," said Scrooge. "I am much obliged to you. I thank you	
fifty times. Bless you!"	
Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents	
ideas about charity and generosity in A Christmas Carol.	

The following extract comes from stave 2. Scrooge sees	Plan
Belle and her husband discussing seeing Scrooge alone.	plan
"Mr. Scrooge it was. I passed his office window; and as it was not	
shut up, and he had a candle inside, I could scarcely help seeing	
him. His partner lies upon the point of death, I hear; and there he	
sat alone. Quite alone in the world, I do believe."	
"Spirit!" said Scrooge in a broken voice, "remove me from this	
place."	
"I told you these were shadows of the things that have been," said	
the Ghost. "That they are what they are, do not blame me!"	
"Remove me!" Scrooge exclaimed, "I cannot bear it!"	
He turned upon the Ghost, and seeing that it looked upon him with	
a face, in which in some strange way there were fragments of all	
the faces it had shown him, wrestled with it.	
"Leave me! Take me back. Haunt me no longer!"	
In the struggle, if that can be called a struggle in which the Ghost	
with no visible resistance on its own part was undisturbed by any	
effort of its adversary, Scrooge observed that its light was burning	
high and bright; and dimly connecting that with its influence over	
him, he seized the extinguisher-cap, and by a sudden action pressed	
it down upon its head.	
The Spirit dropped beneath it, so that the extinguisher covered its	
whole form; but though Scrooge pressed it down with all his force,	
he could not hide the light, which streamed from under it, in an	
unbroken flood upon the ground.	
Starting with this extract, explore how Dickens presents	
ideas the influence of the ghosts in A Christmas Carol.	