***Before you start, join the vocabulary.com classroom for helpful definitions ☺ see pg. 4!***

***“A Christmas Carol”* Quotes & Vocabulary:**

**Connotation & Denotation**

* "There are some upon this earth of yours," returned the Spirit, "who lay claim to know us, and who do their deeds of **passion, pride, ill-will**, hatred**, envy, bigotry**, and selfishness in our name, who are as strange to us and all out **kith and kin**, as if they had never lived. Remember that, and charge their doings on themselves, not us."

Passion = with great emotion, ill-will= bad feelings toward someone/something, envy= jealousy, bigotry= prejudice against someone/something “different” from myself, kith & kin= family/close acquaintances

This quote has a mixed connotation because it is talking about negative emotions but also mentions people who are loved ones.

Dickens is comparing Scrooge’s attitude and character to a “bitter cold wind, to falling snow, and to pelting rain”—showing that he is cold-hearted and doesn’t let up with his nastiness. This is a metaphor and also imagery that Dickens is using to show how “cold” and mean Scrooge is.

* "External heat and cold had little influence on Scrooge. No warmth could warm, no **wintry** weather chill him. No wind that blew was **bitterer** than he, no falling snow was more intent upon its purpose, no **pelting** rain less open to entreaty."
* "Darkness is cheap, and Scrooge liked it."

**Denotation (literal meaning you apply to the quote—be sure to look up unknown bolded words) & Connotation (perceived feeling/tone of the words). Also, identify any figurative language (type & purpose) that you see.**

[After a moment’s pause] I present him to you: Ebenezer Scrooge: England’s most tightfisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner! Secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster. The cold within him freezes his old features, nips his pointed nose, shrivels his cheek, stiffens his gait; makes his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and speaks out shrewdly in his grating voice. Look at him Look at him…

Marley: Why doubt your senses?

Scrooge: You may be an undigested bit of beef, a blot of mustard, a crumb of cheese, a **fragment** of underdone potato. There's more of gravy than of grave about you, whatever you are!

Marley: It is required of every man, the ghost returned, that the spirit within him should walk abroad among his fellow-men, and travel far and wide; and, if that spirit goes not forth in life, it is **condemned** to do so after death. I wear the chain I forged in life. I made it link-by-link, and yard-by-yard. Is its pattern strange to you? Or would you know, you, Scrooge, the weight and length of the strong coil you bear yourself? It was full as heavy and long as this, seven Christmas Eves ago. You have labored on it, since. It is a **ponderous** chain.

“Only three! And quite dark outside already: it has not been light out all this day.”

Cratchit: Well, I don’t know sir… (The clock’s bell strikes six o’clock.) Well, there it is, eh, six?

Scrooge: Saved by six bells, are you?

Scrooge: What else can I be? Eh? When I live in a world of fools such as this? Merry Christmas? What’s Christmas-time to you but a time of paying bills without any money; a time for finding yourself a year older, but not an hour richer. If I could work my will, every idiot who goes about with “Merry Christmas” on his lips, should be boiled with his own pudding, and buried with a stake of holly through his heart. He should!

Scrooge: I’d rather see myself dead than with your family!

Scrooge: It isn’t that! It isn’t that, Spirit. Fezziwig had the power to make us happy or unhappy; to make our service light or burdensome; a pleasure or a toil. The happiness he gave us is a great as if it cost him a fortune.

"Ghost of the Future," he exclaimed, "I fear you more than any **specter** I have seen. But as I know your purpose is to do me good, and as I hope to live to be another man from what I was, I am prepared to **bear** you company, and do it with a thankful heart. Will you not speak to me?"

Past: Always a delicate creature, whom a breath might have withered, but she had a large heart…

Scrooge: So, she had.

Past: She died I woman, and had, as I think, children

Scrooge: One child.

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall **strive** within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach. Oh, tell me I may s**ponge**

away the writing on this stone!"

