Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Stave One-pg 620

Direction: Read the selected reading from the beginning of “A Christmas Carol” and answer the following questions:

1. What is the pattern at the beginning of the story? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Marley was dead, to begin with. There is no doubt whatever about that. The register of his burial was signed by the clerk, the undertaker, and chief mourner. Scrooge signed it. And Scrooge’s name was good upon it for anything he chose to put his hand to. Old Marley was as dead as a doornail.

Mind! I don’t mean to say that I know of my own knowledge, what there is particularly dead about a doornail. I might have been inclined, myself, to regard a coffin nail as the deadest piece of ironmongery in the trade. But the wisdom of our ancestor is in the simile; and my unhallowed hands shall not disturb it, or the country’s done for. You will therefore, permit me to repeat, emphatically, that Marley was as dead as a doornail.

Scrooge knew he was dead? Of course he did. How could it be otherwise? Scrooge and he were partners for I don’t know how many years. Scrooge was his sole executor, his sole administrator, his sole assign, his sole legatee, his sole friend and sole mourner. And even Scrooge was not so dreadfully cut up by the sad event but he was an excellent man of business on the very day of the funeral, and solemnized it with an undoubted bargain.

The mention of Marley’s funeral brings me back to the point I started from. There is no doubt that Marley is dead. This must be distinctly understood, or nothing wonderful can come of the story I am going to relate. If we were not perfectly convinced that Hamlet’s father died before the play began,…

2. How many times does Dickens make reference to death in some form? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3 In fifteen to twenty-five words compare the beginning of “A Christmas Carol” to “A Scarlet Ibis”

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4. In twenty words to forty what inference can be made about the theme “A Christmas Carol”

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