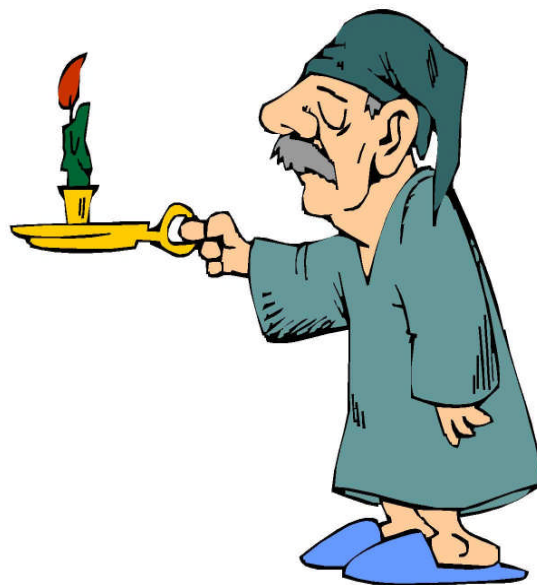




**Playstage
Junior**

www.schoolplaysandpantos.com

A CHRISTMAS CAROL



Adapted from the story by Charles Dickens



**Written by
Lynn
Brittney**

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

CAST LIST

** denotes characters that could double up*

Tramp*
Ragged child*
Woman with baby*
Man*
Scrooge
Bob Cratchit
Fred
1st Lady*
2nd Lady*
Mrs Dilber
Ghost of Jacob Marley
Spirit of Christmas Past
Boy Scrooge*
Fan*
Mr Fezziwig*
Mrs Fezziwig*
Young Scrooge
Belle*
Belle's Husband*
Spirit of Christmas Present
Mrs Cratchit
Belinda
Martha
Tiny Tim
Alice*
Aunt Louise*
Mary*
Ignorance*
Want*
Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come*
Pawnbroker*
Mrs Fellowes*
Boy's voice offstage*

Possible 30 speaking parts. Could be less with doubling. 3 Non-speaking parts. Other non speaking parts could be added.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

SCENE 1

(The scene is a London street on the afternoon of Christmas Eve. Church bells begin to ring. There are some ragged children warming their hands round a brazier. A woman with a baby is begging in the street. A man and woman are window shopping. A tramp enters and comes forward to address the audience.)

TRAMP

It is just past three o'clock on Christmas Eve but it is quite dark already. The brightness of the shops where holly sprigs and berries crackle in the lamp heat of the windows makes pale faces red as they pass. In the main street some labourers are repairing gas pipes and they have lit a great fire in a brazier, around which ragged children are gathered, warming their hands.

RAGGED CHILD

The Lord Mayor, in his mighty Mansion House, gives orders to his fifty cooks and butlers to keep Christmas as a Lord Mayor's House should; and even the little tailor whom he fined five shillings on Monday last for being drunk in the streets, is stirring up the Christmas pudding in his bare house, while his wife and baby go and buy a small joint of beef.

WOMAN WITH BABY

Christmas Eve, a time when all men, rich or poor, rejoice in the fellowship of man. All men except one.

Here we have the offices of Scrooge and Marley. Let it be understood from the beginning that Marley is dead. There can be no doubt of that. Seven years ago this very night he died, and this must be distinctly understood or nothing wonderful can come from the story that is about to unfold.

MAN (*Shopping with his wife*)

Scrooge and Marley were partners for many years. Ebenezer Scrooge - a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner. Hard and sharp as flint. It is his story that we tell tonight. Hush now, here he comes.

(Ebenezer Scrooge enters)

TRAMP

Merry Christmas sir. Spare a penny for an unfortunate destitute.

SCROOGE

Get out of my way man. I do not give charity to you or anyone else, whether it be Christmas or not.

TRAMP

Yes sir. Merry Christmas anyway sir.

SCROOGE

Christmas! Bah! Humbug!

(Scrooge goes into his office)

END OF SCENE 1.