

# Bob Cratchit

THEME	Stave	QUOTES	ANALYSIS
Selfishness/ Materialism	3	<b><u>Mrs Cratchit “dressed out but poorly in a twice-turned gown, but brave in ribbons,”</u></b>	The Cratchits are the antithesis of materialistic as they <b>admirably</b> make the best out of the little they have. The alliteration on <b><u>“twice-turned gown”</u></b> emphasises their poverty; Mrs Cratchit is not able to afford new clothes. The festivity of <b><u>“ribbons”</u></b> being all over her dress highlights how the foundations of the Cratchits, alike to the “twice turned gown”, may be <b>impoverished</b> . However, they celebrate and glorify the little they have, symbolised by the ribbons, as they <b>display gratitude and love</b> for one another.
Social injustice/ Poverty	1	<b><u>“If quite convenient, sir”</u></b>	Bob’s <b>short exchange of dialogue</b> in Stave 1 represents how poor lower classes were <b>silenced and oppressed</b> by the upper classes.
	1	<b><u>“clerk”</u></b>	His lack of a name highlights how the poor <b>were stripped of their individual identities</b> , consequently causing them to all be seen as one by the upper class- the upper class don’t see them as individual humans, rather a group of lazy people who don’t contribute enough to the economy ( <b>Malthusian views</b> ).
	3	<b><u>“I’ll give you Mr. Scrooge, the Founder of the Feast!”</u></b>	<b><u>“Founder”</u></b> connotes creator, alluding to how Bob sees Scrooge in a God like way as he believes Scrooge is the creator of Bob’s ability to have what he sees as luxuries. This highlights how the <b>poor are blindly grateful</b> to the same individuals who <b>exploit</b> them- this being a key indictment of Dickens in his <b>political diatribe</b> as Dickens <b>exposes that it is the rich who propagate poverty by preserving their own wealth</b> .
	4	<b><u>“My little, little child!” cried Bob. “My little child!”</u></b>	<b>Pathos</b> and compassion is evoked for Bob. The repeated adjective <b><u>“little”</u></b> connotes <b>fragility and innocence</b> , reinforcing that innocent and fragile children are frequently victims to the <b>belligerent cycle of poverty</b> - without <b>social change</b> , the unjust issues of poverty will continue.

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Kindness/ Family	4	<u><i>"My little, little child!" cried Bob. "My little child!"</i></u>	Bob's distress, despite him being an moralistic family man, makes the reader see the <b>unjust punishments</b> the poor face because of <b>societal misconceptions</b> . It is also reinforces how the poor value their family tremendously, as this is all they have.
	3	<u><i>"such a bustle ensued that you might have thought a goose the rarest of all birds; a feathered phenomenon".</i></u>	The <b>colloquial</b> phrase highlights the elation and commotion around being able to share this <b>"phenomenon"</b> together. The <b>superlative "rarest"</b> serves as irony as within the Victorian period, as it was a <b>cheap bird that was a replacement for turkey</b> . This compounds their gratitude as they celebrate the small amount they can share together- the antithesis to Scrooge who has ungrateful for the abundance of wealth he has.
Religion		Any quotes about their gratitude and benevolence can be included in this.	Bob, and the Cratchits', are the <b>epitome of moralistic, virtuous and religious members of society</b> . They provide the reader a model example of morality and show that an <b>abundant lifestyle does not come from materialism but unity and benevolence</b> .