

Essay Plan - Supernatural

‘How is the power of the supernatural presented?’

Overview of Plan:

- **Marley has no power as Scrooge is in disbelief**
- **Ghost of Christmas present has power to change Scrooge’s attitude towards the poor**
- **Ghost of Christmas yet to come personifies menacing power of the supernatural**

Key:

- ***Purple words = my point for that paragraph***
- ***Orange words = linking back to the question***
- ***(make sure you have 1 point per paragraph constantly link back to, this can normally be another key theme but if not use a word/phrase, and then the word from the question)***

Point 1

Despite Marley's **archetypal** (typical) ghostly portrayal, Marley's **supernatural power** is **diminished** as Scrooge actively rejects his message and teachings about the eternal consequences of **avariciousness** (greed).

- **Evidence:** *"I wear the chain I forged in life...I made it link by link" (stave 1)*
- **Symbolism of chains:** as chains are made of links, which are all interconnecting, this is alike to how Marley is warning Scrooge that his **covetousness (desire for wealth)** is interconnected **to his anguish** - Scrooge **doesn't respond** to this **powerful supernatural** insight due to being in denial.
- Chain symbolises **restriction and entrapment**. Marley displays to Scrooge using **supernatural powers** the restricting and eternal consequences of being **parsimonious** (stingy), yet **Scrooge's ignorance** prevents him from learning from these teachings.
- **Personal pronoun:** "I" implies that Marley acknowledges with remorse the consequences of his own **personal and selfish pursuit of material wealth**, using his **supernatural powers** to warn Scrooge of this **eternal and spiritual poverty**

Point 2

In Dickens' **allegorical novella** (intending to teach), he constructs the ghost of Christmas present to be his **mouthpiece** to be **scathing** (critical) of the exploitation the poor undergo as a result of the upper classes' ignorance. Thus, the ghost's **supernatural power** is used to **shatter Scrooge's ignorant attitude towards the destitute** (poor).

- **Evidence:** *"If he be like to die, he had better do it, and decrease the surplus population."* (stave 3)
- **Repetition:** The ghost repeats Scrooge's earlier quote from Stave 1, using its **supernatural powers** to emphasise Scrooge's callous (cruel) **neglect and ignorance** towards the **plight** of the lower classes. Through Scrooge's adoption of **Malthusian ideology** (check context), the Ghost **shatters the ignorant idea** that poverty and starvation are dismissed as inevitable outcomes of a "*surplus population*."
- The ghost, a symbol of **abundance and equality**, repeats it back as its **supernatural powerful** message illustrate the inhumanity inherent in such **apathetic** (unemotional) and **ignorant perspectives**.
- **Plosives:** Plosives litter the speech, the harshness of the plosives accentuates the **harsh callousness** (cruelness) of upper class views towards the **destitute** (poor) – the **ghosts' supernatural powers** exemplifies **these ignorant attitudes** cause the suffering of not only the destitute, but also innocent children.

Point 3

Dickens portrays the ghost of Christmas yet to come as a **personification of this menacing and depraved supernatural power**. The ominous faceless portrayal is used to **catalyse transformation** in Scrooge, making him realise his need for **redemption** (being saved from sin) and **salvation**.

- **Evidence:** *"shrouded in a deep black garment"*
- **Symbol of death:** reminiscent of the **Grim Reaper**, a symbol of death – the Ghost **personifies menacing supernatural power** and creates an ambience (atmosphere) of **foreboding and finality**. A reminder of the consequences of Scrooge's past immoralities and the urgency of his need for **repentance** (feeling remorse).
- **Image on 'black':** The dark ominous image created by black juxtaposes the motif of light seen with the ghost of Christmas past and present.
- The **archetype (perfect example)** of the **menacing, faceless ghost** haunting Scrooge symbolises the **justly supernatural power** needed to **catalyse his transformation**.