

Essay Plan - Transformation

‘How is transformation presented in A Christmas Carol?’

Overview of Plan:

- Transformation is illustrated by his rebirth
- Rejects his transformation and redemption - ghost of christmas past
- Pleads for chance of transformation and redemption - ghost of christmas yet to come

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

Scrooge **transforms** into a compassionate and benevolent (loving) and kind member of society as he experiences redemption. He undergoes a **rebirth**, both morally and spiritually, making him epitomise kindness and generosity by stave 5.

- **Evidence:** *"Quite a baby" "merry as a schoolboy"*
- **Infantile language:** This indicates his **rebirth**, as both a "baby" and "schoolboy" connote **innocence and youth**, Scrooge is showcasing how through him **repenting for his sins**, he has **transformed** and regained his youthful innocence.
- As being a "baby" is the start of life, this signifies that Scrooge has been **reborn** as he has gone from a selfish "old sinner" and **transformed** into most innocent form of human life- he has had the **ultimate rebirth**.
- **Christian ideas of rebirth:** In Christianity, **rebirth** is a **spiritual renewal and connection with God**. This is deeply intertwined with the belief in **Jesus Christ's rebirth**, which offered **salvation to humanity** - Scrooge holds promise of salvation for the poor through his **transformation**

Point 2

Scrooge **rejects** redemption and **transformation** in the beginning, he refuses to acknowledge the **detrimental** (harmful) consequences of his **parsimonious** (stingy) nature. He wants to remain isolated in his **self-destructive cocoon of sin**, shunning any idea of change or **enlightenment and transformation**

- **Evidence:** *"he seized the extinguisher-cap, and by a sudden action pressed it down upon its head"* stave 2
- Verb "**pressed**" and adverb "**sudden**" delves into Scrooge's immersion in deeply **suppressed emotions**. He reacts irrationally out of sheer panic, **rejecting** the prospect of confronting these **stifled memories from his past** so he can **transform**.
- **Symbolism of the ghost:** *"bright clear jet of light"*.- ghost aspires to illuminate both the **literal and metaphorical darkness in Scrooge's life through revelation** (revealing his past) and reflection to catalyse his **transformation**.
- The ghosts illumination of the past and its **interconnected nature to the present**, offers Scrooge the chance to **embark on a pathway of redemption** (save from sin) and **transformation**. However, his attempt to cover the ghost with the 'cap' signifies his **rejection** to embrace this opportunity for redemption and **transformation**.

Point 3

Scrooge **pleads** for **redemption** (save from sin) and the ability to **transform** when he sees his **proleptic** (flash-forward) grim fate. His abandoned, and ironically "solitary" death, reinforces his desperate **plea** to be cleansed of the sins of **greed and misanthropy** (disliking people)

- **Evidence:** *"I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me"* (stave 4)
- **Religious allusions:** biblical allusion to the three different forms of God within the **holy trinity: the father, the son and the holy spirit** - the three ghosts almost acted as **incarnations of God** himself relaying a moral and religious message that makes him realise the need for him to **plead** for his **transformation**.
- "within me," signifies his **internalisation** of their moral teachings and his desperate **plea** to be given the opportunity to embark on the path of **salvation** (save from sins) and **transformation**.
- **Juxtaposition between 'past, present and future':** symbolic reflection of the stark contrast between Scrooge's former **avaricious** (greedy) self and his **transformation** into a person dedicated to **redemption, moral and spiritual enlightenment**.