

**PSJA-ISD**  
**8<sup>th</sup> GRADE**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**  
**STAAR-LIT**

Genres: Drama

Selections: "A Christmas Carol"

**Use "A Christmas Carol" to answer questions 33 – 39. Then fill in the answers on your answer document.**

**8.2B** [Context Clues]

**33** Which words from line 29 help the reader understand the meaning of procession?

- A** A world away
- B** a child's coffin
- C** who are singing
- D** followed by the poorhouse children

**8.2E** [Dictionary]

**34** Read the following dictionary entry.

**Draft** \draft\ n

- 1.a preliminary version of a piece of writing
- 2. a current of cool air in a room or other confined space
- 3. the action or act of pulling something along
- 4. a written order to pay a specified sum

Which definition best matches the way the word draft is used in line 32?

- F** Definition 1
- G** Definition 2
- H** Definition 3
- J** Definition 4

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**8.5 Fig19D** [Inference Elements of Drama]

**35** Which event during the visit at Cratchit's house does the playwright include to create sorrow?

- A** Mrs. Cratchit complaining about how horrible of a person Scrooge is
- B** Second Spirit explaining to Scrooge that Tiny Tim will most likely die
- C** The Cratchit family enjoying their Christmas dinner
- D** Bob talking about how thoughtful and good Tim's behavior and attitude is

**8.5 Fig19D** [Inference Elements of Drama]

**36** Which line from the selection helps portray Scrooge as evil?

- F** He'll be very merry and very happy.
- G** Long life to him!
- H** My dear, to Mr. Scrooge.
- J** Such an odious, stingy, hard, unfeeling man.

**8.5A** [Protagonist/Antagonist]

**37** Scrooge's dialogue from the play shows that his feelings about mankind change from—

- A** contentment to dissatisfaction
- B** indifference to compassionate
- C** frustration to sorrow
- D** hateful to apathetic

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**8.5A** [Protagonist/Antagonist]

**38** What do lines 62-68 suggest about Second Spirit?

- F** He is trying to get Scrooge to realize how cruel he has been
- G** He believes that Tiny Tim does not have a good chance of surviving
- H** He agrees with the things that Scrooge has said in the past
- J** He has been studying Scrooge for a long while now

**8.8A** [Sensory Language]

**39** Read this line of the dialogue from the play.

**MRS. CRATCHIT:** The founder of our feast indeed! I wish I had him here! I'd give him a piece of my mind to feast upon, and hope he'd have a good appetite for it.

Mrs. Cratchit says this to Bob because she-

- A** feels Scrooge did not provide enough food for the feast
- B** is trying to show her gratitude toward Scrooge
- C** knows that Scrooge is listening to her talk
- D** thinks that Scrooge is not worthy of praise