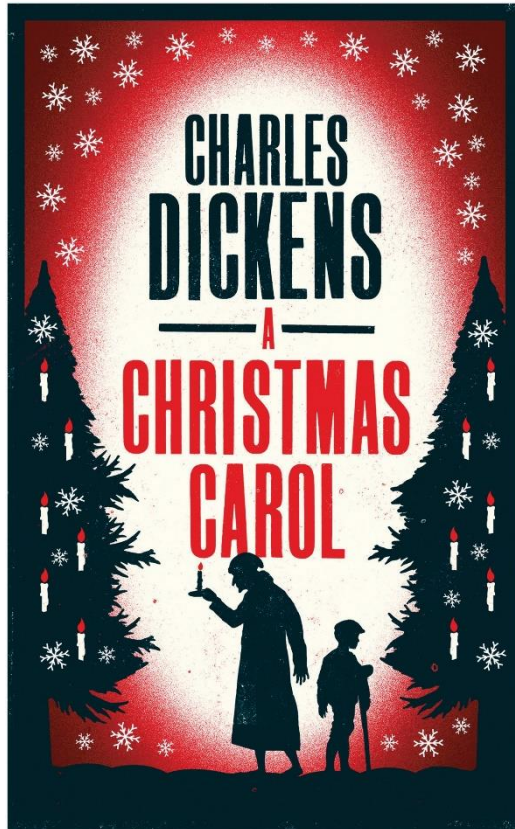




A CHRISTMAS CAROL



HVX
Mrs Wams

Contents week 1

1. Preparation: discussion
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3. Reading *A Christmas Carol*: part 1
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Preparation: Discussion



Beantwoord de volgende vragen voor jezelf op papier, of bespreek ze met een groepje.

1. Vier jij graag kerst? Waarom wel/niet?
2. Ken je mensen die heel gierig zijn? Wat voor soort mensen zijn dat? Ben je zelf wel eens gierig? Of deel je juist heel graag?
3. Ken je mensen die heel arm zijn? Of heb je er wel eens over gelezen/gehoord? Hoe zou het moeilijk kunnen zijn voor arme mensen om kerst te vieren? Wat zou jij van kerst vinden als je zelf arm zou zijn?

Vocabulary



Match the English words 1-11 to the Dutch translations a-k.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. dead as a doornail | a. geest |
| 2. stingy | b. slepen |
| 3. cheerful | c. werknemer (op kantoor/in een bank) |
| 4. humbug | d. kettingen |
| 5. invite | e. onzin |
| 6. collect money | f. gierig |
| 7. clerk | g. kluisjes, sleutels en portemonnees |
| 8. drag | h. geld ophalen (voor goede doelen) |
| 9. cash-boxes, keys and purses | i. morsdood |
| 10. chains | j. vrolijk |
| 11. spirit | k. uitnodigen |

Reading *A Christmas Carol*

Chapter 1 - Marley's Ghost

Marley was dead, to begin with – there's no doubt about that. He was as dead as a doornail.

Marley and Scrooge were business partners once. But then Marley died and now their firm belonged to Scrooge, who was a stingy and heartless old man. Once upon a time, on Christmas Eve, old Scrooge sat busy in his office. It was very cold outside and in Scrooge's office it was not much warmer either. Suddenly, a cheerful person entered the office. It was Scrooge's nephew.

"A merry Christmas, uncle! God save you!" Fred said.

"Bah!" said Scrooge, "Humbug!"

"Christmas a humbug, uncle!" said Scrooge's nephew. "You don't mean that, I am sure?"

"I do," said Scrooge. "What's Christmas time to you? You have to pay bills without money! You're a year older but not an hour richer! Keep Christmas in your way, and let me keep it in mine."

"Keep it? But you don't keep it," said Scrooge's nephew, who was a very friendly young man. He even tried to cheer Scrooge up and invited him for dinner on Christmas Day. But Scrooge said no and sent him out.

When Scrooge's nephew left, two gentlemen came in to collect money for the poor who had no place they could go. Stingy Scrooge, however, didn't give the gentlemen any money.

"Are there no prisons? Are there no workhouses?" he asked sarcastically and told them to leave the office.

When it was time to close the office, Scrooge talked to his clerk, Bob Cratchit.





"You want all day off tomorrow, don't you?" said Scrooge.

"If that is okay, Sir," answered the clerk.

"It's not okay," said Scrooge, "and it is not fair. After all, I have to pay you for the day although you don't work. But if it must be, I want you to start work even earlier the following morning."

Cratchit promised that he would; and the two went home.

Scrooge lived all alone in an old house. The yard was very dark and scary that night and when Scrooge wanted to unlock the door, he had the feeling that he saw Marley's face there. This was rather spooky, but Scrooge was not frightened easily. "Humbug," he said, opened

the door and walked in. He locked himself in, however, which he usually didn't do. But then he felt safe again and sat down before the fire.

Suddenly, Scrooge heard a noise, deep down below, as if somebody was dragging a heavy chain. The noise came nearer and nearer, and then Scrooge saw a ghost coming right through the heavy door. It was Marley's ghost, and his chains were long; they were made of cash-boxes, keys and heavy purses.

"Who are you?" said Scrooge

"In life I was your partner, Jacob Marley."

"But why do you come to me now?"

"I must wander through the world and I wear the chains because I was so stingy in life. I only cared about business but not about the people around me. Now, I am here to warn you. You still have a chance, Ebenezer. Three spirits will come to you. Expect the first tomorrow, when the bell tolls one."

When he had said these words, Marley's ghost disappeared; and the night became quiet again. Scrooge went straight to bed, without undressing, and fell asleep immediately.



Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Who is who? Match the names 1-5 to the descriptions a-e

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Jacob Marley | a. a stingy old business man |
| 2. Fred | b. Scrooge's cheerful nephew |
| 3. Bob Cratchit | c. Scrooge's dead business partner |
| 4. Ebenezer Scrooge | d. Collecting money for the poor |
| 5. The two gentlemen | e. Scrooge's employee |

2. What happens first, and what comes next? Put the sentences a-h in the right order.

- a. Fred, Scrooge's nephew, comes in to wish him a merry Christmas and invite him for dinner.
- b. Scrooge sends the two gentlemen away without giving them anything.
- c. Scrooge goes home and thinks he sees his dead partner Jacob Marley in the yard.
- d. The ghost of Jacob Marley appears.
- e. Two gentlemen come to Scrooge asking him to give money to the poor.
- f. Ebenezer Scrooge is sitting in his office on Christmas Eve.
- g. Bob Cratchit asks if he can have a day off to celebrate Christmas.
- h. Marley's ghosts warns Scrooge that he will be visited by three spirits that night.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Listening to *A Christmas Carol*



Audiobook Listening Comprehension Questions

Answer these multiple choice questions about the fragment you'll listen to in class.

1. Everybody knew Ebenezer Scrooge, because...
 - a. ... he was so greedy and selfish.
 - b. ... he was so popular and generous.
 - c. ... he had a really cool hat.
2. How did Scrooge and Marley earn their money?
 - a. They made candles and sold them.
 - b. They were lawyers and defended criminals in court.
 - c. They lent money to people who needed it, and took everything from them if they were late in paying them back.
3. Why hasn't Bob Cratchit finished filing those papers yet?
 - a. His dog ate the papers.
 - b. It was too cold in the office to work fast.
 - c. Bob Cratchit didn't understand the papers.
4. When Scrooge first hears the jingling noise, he thinks it is...
 - a. ... sleigh bells on the street.
 - b. ... his cat's collar.
 - c. ... a ghost.
5. Why does Jacob Marley come to warn Ebenezer Scrooge?
 - a. That he needs to change his ways, or he will be cursed.
 - b. That he left the stove on.
 - c. That Christmas this year is going to be very expensive.

Song: *There Goes Mr Humbug*



Complete the lyrics of the refrains below using words from the box.

Refrain 1

Oh, there goes Mr. _____
There goes Mr. _____
If they gave a prize for bein' mean
The winner would be _____
Oh, Scroogey loves his money
'Cause he thinks it gives him _____
If he became a flavor you can bet he would be _____

sour
Grim
Humbug
him
power

Refrain 2

There goes Mr. _____
There goes Mr. _____
He has no time for friends or _____
His anger makes that clear
Don't ask him for a _____
'Cause his nastiness increases
No crust of _____ for those in need
No _____ for us meeses

Sneer
favor
bread
cheeses
fun
Outrage

Refrain 3

There goes Mr. _____
There goes Mr. _____
He never gives
He only takes
He lets this _____ rule
If bein' mean's a way of _____ you
Practice and rehearse
Then all that work is _____
'Cause Scrooge is getting _____
Every day
In every _____
Scrooge is getting worse

hunger
life
worse
paying off
Cruel
way
Heartless

Reflection: Change your Ways...

What about you? If a ghost were to appear to you to warn you to change your ways, what would it look like? And what bad habits of yours would they warn you about? In the box below, draw how the ghost appears to you and what their warning would be...



Contents week 2

1. Preparation: discussion
2. Vocabulary
3. Reading *A Christmas Carol*: part 2
4. Listening to *A Christmas Carol*: part 2
5. Song: *It feels like Christmas*
6. Reflection: *In someone else's shoes*

Preparation: Discussion



Beantwoord de volgende vragen voor jezelf op papier, of bespreek ze met een groepje.

1. Geloof je in spoken en geesten? Waarom wel/niet?
2. Stel, je zou moeten kiezen tussen heel rijk zijn, maar wel alleen blijven, of heel gelukkig in de liefde en je familie zijn, maar wel in armoede leven. Waar kies je dan voor en waarom?
3. Ken je een kind dat heel ernstig ziek/gehandicapt is? Kun je je indenken hoe het is voor dat kind om zo ziek te zijn? En voor zijn/haar ouders?

Vocabulary



Match the English words 1-11 to the Dutch translations a-k.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. foggy | a. krukje (om op te zitten) |
| 2. wrinkle | b. de plaats innemen van |
| 3. bother | c. vervagen |
| 4. warehouse | d. mistig |
| 5. displace | e. kwellen, martelen |
| 6. torture | f. kruk (voor onder je arm) |
| 7. snore | g. lastig vallen |
| 8. dwelling | h. rimpel |
| 9. crutch | i. onderkomen, verblijf |
| 10. stool | j. magazijn |
| 11. fade | k. snurken |

Reading *A Christmas Carol*

Chapter 2 - The first and second ghost



When Scrooge awoke, it was still very foggy and extremely cold, and there was no noise of people in the streets.

Marley's ghost bothered him. He didn't know whether it was a dream or not. Then he remembered that a spirit should visit him at one o'clock. So Scrooge decided to lie awake and wait what happens.

Suddenly, the clock struck one. Light flashed up in the room and a small hand drew back the curtains of his bed. Then Scrooge found himself face to face with the visitor. It was a strange figure – like a child: yet

not so like a child as like an old man. Its hair, which hung about its neck and down its back, was white as if with age; and yet the face had not a wrinkle in it.

"Who, and what are you?" Scrooge asked the ghost.

"I am the Ghost of Christmas Past. Rise and come with me."

The ghost took Scrooge back in time, to a place where Scrooge was a boy. There Scrooge could see his younger self playing with other children. They were cheerfully running around the Christmas tree; and although they were poor, they had lots of fun.

The spirit also took Scrooge to a warehouse, where Scrooge worked. Scrooge saw the merry Christmas Eve they spent in the office with their boss Mr Fezziwig and his family. There was food and music and dancing and everybody was happy.

Then the spirit took Scrooge to yet another place. Scrooge was older now. He was not alone, but sat by the side of a beautiful young girl, Belle. There were tears in her eyes.

"It is sad to see," she said, softly. "that another love has displaced me – the love of money. Your heart was full of love once, but now ...? I think it is better for us to part. May you be happy in the life you have chosen."

"Spirit," said Scrooge, "show me no more. Take me home. Why do you torture me? Take me back! I cannot bear it any longer."

And suddenly, Scrooge found himself in his own bed again. He was very tired and sank into a heavy sleep.

Scrooge woke up in the middle of a snore, just before the clock struck one again. He sat up in his bed and waited for the second ghost to come. And there it was – the Ghost of Christmas Present. It had curly brown hair, sparkling eyes and it wore a simple green robe with white fur. Its feet were bare and on its head it wore a holly wreath.



The ghost took Scrooge to Bob Cratchit's house – a very poor little dwelling. In the kitchen you could see Mrs Cratchit preparing Christmas dinner. Her children were cheerfully running around. Then the door opened and Bob Cratchit came in with Tiny Tim upon his shoulders.

Tiny Tim was Bob Cratchit's youngest son. He bore a little crutch and had an iron frame around his limbs. He was a very sweet boy, although he was not very fit or healthy. His parents worried about him a lot.

Then Christmas dinner was ready, and everyone sat down at the table. As the Cratchits were very poor, it was not much they had for Christmas dinner. But still everyone was joyful and you could feel that they all had the Christmas Spirit in their hearts.



"A Merry Christmas to us all, my dears! God bless us!" said Bob Cratchit.

"God bless us every one!" said Tiny Tim.

He sat very close to his father's side upon his little stool. Bob held his little hand, as if he feared to lose him.

"Spirit," said Scrooge, who felt sorry for the boy, "tell me if Tiny Tim will live."

"I see an empty seat," replied the ghost, "and a crutch without an owner. If these shadows don't change in the future, the child will die."

This made Scrooge very sad, but the spirit went on and took Scrooge to his nephew's house. Fred and his friends had a very cheerful party and played games. Scrooge really enjoyed their party and wanted to stay for another while but in a second it all faded and the spirit took Scrooge home, where it was cold, and empty.

The bell struck twelve. The Ghost of Christmas Present disappeared. And at the last stroke of the bell, Scrooge saw the third ghost coming towards him.

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Finish the beginnings 1-5 with the endings a-e to form true sentences about the text.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. When Scrooge was a boy, he... | a. ... Tiny Tim is going to be okay. |
| 2. Belle left Scrooge because... | b. ... is a sweet but unhealthy young boy. |
| 3. Bob Cratchit... | c. ... he loved making money more than he loved her. |
| 4. Tiny Tim... | d. ... loved Christmas. |
| 5. Scrooge asks the ghost of Christmas Present if... | e. ... lives in a small but happy house. |

2. Scrooge is visited by two spirits: the Ghost of Christmas Past and the Ghost of Christmas Present. Look at the descriptions in the box below: which belong to which ghost? Sort them in the right boxes.

a small hand – holly wreath – curly brown hair – long white hair – green robe with white fur – bare feet – childlike face – sparkling eyes

Ghost of Christmas Past

Ghost of Christmas Present

3. Which Ghost does what? Circle the correct answer.
- This Ghost shows Scrooge how he used to celebrate and enjoy Christmas when he was younger → *The Ghost of Christmas Past / Present*
 - This Ghost shows Scrooge how the people he now knows celebrate and enjoy Christmas → *The Ghost of Christmas Past / Present*

Listening to *A Christmas Carol*



Audiobook Listening Comprehension Questions

Answer these multiple choice questions about the fragment you'll listen to in class.

1. How does Scrooge react when he first sees the Ghost of Christmas Past?
 - a. He is scared and hides under the bed.
 - b. He falls in love with her.
 - c. He is angry because he thinks she wants money from him.
2. What is the first vision the Ghost of Christmas Past shows Scrooge?
 - a. A random poor boy opening his presents.
 - b. Scrooge as a young boy opening his presents.
 - c. Scrooge's old boss celebrating Christmas with his employees.
3. Where does Scrooge find the Ghost of Christmas Present?
 - a. At the end of his bed.
 - b. In the kitchen.
 - c. In the garden.
4. What does the Cratchit family eat for Christmas dinner?
 - a. A very small turkey.
 - b. A pigeon.
 - c. A pumpkin pie.
5. What does Mrs Cratchit think of Scrooge?
 - a. That he is a great boss.
 - b. That he is rather handsome.
 - c. That he is a very bad boss and human being.

Song: *It feels like Christmas*



Complete the lyrics of the refrains below using words from the box.

Refrain 1

It's in the singing of a street corner _____
It's going home and getting warm by the _____
It's true, wherever you find love
It feels like _____

A cup of kindness that we _____ with another
A sweet reunion with a friend or a _____
In all the places you find love
It feels like _____

fire
share
Christmas (x2)
choir
brother

Chorus

It is the season of the _____
A special time of caring
The ways of love made _____
It is the season of the _____
The message, if we hear it
Is make it _____

clear
favor
last all year
heart

Refrain 3

It's in the giving of a _____ to another
A pair of mittens that were made by your _____
It's all the ways that we show love
That feel like Christmas

A part of _____ we'll always remember
It is the summer of the soul in _____
Yes, when you do your _____ for love
It feels like Christmas

mother
childhood
December
best

Reflection: In someone else's shoes...

Christmas is traditionally seen as the time of year when you look out for people who are less fortunate than you; by giving money to charities, helping out at food banks or care homes, or giving presents to those in need.

But doing so will only feel natural if you can feel empathy for those in need: that you can imagine how it feels to be in their shoes.

Below, you will find a few imaginary situations. Choose two or three and write down how you would feel if you were in their shoes. The more you write down, the more you practise being empathetic!



How would you feel if... you were a child whose parents have just got divorced, and now they are fighting over where you spend your Christmas holiday...?

How would you feel if... you were the least popular student in school ... or the most popular student in school...?



How would you feel if... you had an illness and felt sick most of the time...?

How would you feel if... you had very little money but wanted to give your children a Christmas present...?



How would you feel if... you had to start at a new school after the Christmas holidays...?

Contents week 3

1. Preparation: discussion
2. Vocabulary
3. Reading *A Christmas Carol*: part 3
4. Listening to *A Christmas Carol*: part 3
5. Song: *Thankful Heart*
6. Reflection: *Making Things Right*

Preparation: Discussion



Beantwoord de volgende vragen voor jezelf op papier, of bespreek ze met een groepje.

1. Wat is volgens jou de essentie van het kerstfeest?
2. Geloof je in een leven na de dood? Heeft dat ook invloed op hoe je nu in het leven staat?
3. Hou je van verhalen met een *happy end*, of hou je juist meer van donkere, duistere verhalen?

Vocabulary



Match the English words 1-11 to the Dutch translations a-k.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. cover | a. zondagse kleren (=hele nette kleren) |
| 2. yet | b. graf |
| 3. fear | c. paal/poot van een bed |
| 4. churchyard | d. bedekken |
| 5. grave | e. iemands loon verhogen |
| 6. honour | f. eren |
| 7. ignore | g. vrezen |
| 8. fate | h. kerkhof |
| 9. bedpost | i. nog |
| 10. Sunday clothes | j. negeren |
| 11. raise someone's salary | k. noodlot, lotsbestemming |

Reading *A Christmas Carol*

Chapter 3 - The last ghost and the end of it

Slowly and silently the ghost came nearer. It was very tall and wore a deep black piece of clothing, which covered its whole body and left nothing of it visible but one outstretched hand.

"Are you the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come?" asked Scrooge, "I fear you more than any other spirit."

The ghost did not say a word, and Scrooge was really scared. They wandered through the city and Scrooge heard some men talking about a person who had died. "Ha, ha!" laughed one of them, "He frightened everybody away from him when he was alive, I'm glad he's dead! Ha, ha, ha!" Scrooge knew the men and wanted to find out who they were talking about. But the spirit moved on.

The ghost took Scrooge to a churchyard. The spirit stood among the graves and pointed down to one. Scrooge slowly went towards it and following the ghost's finger read upon the stone of the grave his own name, Ebenezer Scrooge.



"Spirit!" Scrooge cried, "hear me. I am not the man I was! I will not be the man I have been so far! Why show me this if I am past all hope? Good Spirit, I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will not ignore the lessons that the spirits have taught me. Oh, tell me that I may change my fate!"

Full of fear, Scrooge caught the spirit's hand. But the spirit suddenly changed - it shrunk and faded and finally turned into a bedpost.

Yes! And the bedpost was his own. The bed was his own, the room was his own. Best and happiest of all, the time before him was his own, and he could make the best of it.

Scrooge got out of bed. "I don't know what to do! I am as happy as an angel!" he said. "I don't know what day of the month it is. I don't know how long I've been among the spirits. Hello! Hey there!"

He ran to the window, opened it, and put out his head.

"What's today?" cried Scrooge, calling downward to a boy in Sunday clothes.

"Today?" replied the boy. "Why, Christmas Day!"

"It's Christmas Day!" said Scrooge to himself. "I haven't missed it! The spirits have done it all in one night. Hey, boy! Here is a coin for you. Go and buy the biggest turkey you can find! Come back with the turkey and the man who sold it and you'll get another coin!"

The boy ran off like a shot.

"I'll send it to Bob Cratchit," whispered Scrooge cheerfully. "It'll be twice the size of Tiny Tim."

He dressed himself all in his best, and at last got out into the streets. Scrooge then went to church, and walked through the streets, and watched the people. He had never dreamed that anything could give him so much happiness. In the afternoon he went to his nephew's house, where they all had a wonderful party.

The next day, Scrooge was not angry at Bob Cratchit for wanting the day off for Christmas. Instead, he raised his salary!

Bob Cratchit was very surprised, and so were many people who found Scrooge so changed. Scrooge became a better person. To Tiny Tim, who did not die, he was a second father.

It was always said of Scrooge, that he knew how to keep Christmas well. May that be truly said of us, and all of us! And so, as Tiny Tim would say, God bless us, every one!



Reading Comprehension Questions

1. Finish the beginnings 1-5 with the endings a-e to form true sentences about the text.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come is... | a. ... honour Christmas and keep it all the year. |
| 2. The men in the street are glad because... | b. ... his nephew Fred. |
| 3. Ebenezer Scrooge promises the ghost to... | c. ... quiet and rather scary. |
| 4. Scrooge asks a boy in the street to... | d. ... Scrooge is dead. |
| 5. Scrooge celebrates Christmas with... | e. ... buy a turkey for the Cratchit family. |

2. Look at the sentences below. Are they true or false?

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| a. The three ghosts have visited Scrooge in the same night. | true / false |
| b. Scrooge buys a big turkey for Fred's family. | true / false |
| c. Scrooge goes to church on Christmas morning. | true / false |
| d. The day after Christmas Day, Scrooge is angry with Bob Cratchit because he is wanted the day off for Christmas. | true / false |
| e. In the end, Scrooge still thinks that Christmas is 'humbug'. | true / false |



Listening to *A Christmas Carol*



Audiobook Listening Comprehension Questions

Answer these multiple choice questions about the fragment you'll listen to in class.

1. The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come looks like...
 - a. Santa Claus
 - b. The Grim Reaper
 - c. The Easter Bunny
2. What were the two women discussing?
 - a. How sad they were that the man had died.
 - b. That they had just bought new shoes.
 - c. That one of them had taken the shoes from the man who had just died.
3. What does the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come do at the graveyard?
 - a. He points in the general direction of the graves.
 - b. He tells Scrooge where to look.
 - c. He takes Scrooge to his grave.
4. What does Bob Cratchit find when he opens the door?
 - a. A pile of presents.
 - b. A line of people delivering food to him.
 - c. An envelope with cash.
5. What does Scrooge tell Cratchit at the Christmas feast?
 - a. That he is actually his father.
 - b. That Bob Cratchit would get a promotion and be his new partner.
 - c. That he thinks his hair is a nice colour.

Song: *A Thankful Heart*



Complete the lyrics of the refrains below using words from the box.

With a thankful heart, with an endless _____
With a growing family, every girl and _____
Will be nephew and niece to me (2x)
Will bring love, hope and _____ to me (2x)
Yes and every night will end, and every day will _____
With a grateful prayer and a thankful heart

boy
start
peace
joy

With an open smile and with open _____
I will bid you welcome, what is mine is yours
With a glass raised to toast your _____ (2x)
And a promise to _____ the wealth (2x)
I will sail a friendly course, file a friendly chart
On a _____ of love and a thankful heart

health
sea
doors
share

Life is like a journey, who knows when it _____?
Yes and if you need to know the measure of a man
You simply count his _____
Stop and look around you, the _____ that you see
Is born again each day, don't let it _____ away
How precious life can be

slip
glory
friends
ends

With a thankful heart that is wide awake
I do make this _____, every breath I take
Will be used now to sing your _____ (2x)
And to beg you to share my days (2x)
With a loving guarantee that even if we _____
I will hold you _____ in a thankful heart (2x)

promise
part
praise
close

Reflection: Making things right...



In the story, Ebenezer Scrooge is inspired by the visions he is shown by the three Ghosts to change his ways and make things right: he buys a giant turkey for Bob Cratchit, goes to his nephew's Christmas party and makes sure that Bob Cratchit is paid better. What about you? Do you have any bad habits or have you made any bad decisions that you could make right? Create a mindmap using the template below (or make your own version).

