# Vocabulary for Act One – A Christmas Carol: Scrooge & Marley

#### Scene One

- 1. counting-house (pg 3) an office used for accounting
- 2. sole residuary legatee (pg 3) person named in the will to receive any residue left in the will
- 3. solemnized (pg 3) to do so with ceremony
- 4. implored (pg 3) ask in earnest; beg

### Scene Two

- 5. comforter (pg 4) woolen scarf
- 6. Humbug (pg 4) Nonsense; to cheat or deceive
- 7. morose (pg 4) gloomy
- 8. Parliament (pg 5) the national legislative body of Great Britain
- 9. homage (pg 5) to pay respect or give honor
- 10. Bedlam (pg 5) a mental hospital in London
- 11. destitute (pg 6) living in poverty
- 12. Treadmill (pg 6) a kind of mill wheel that turned by people walking; used to punish prisoners
- 13. Poor Law (pg 6) a series of laws aimed to assist the poor; to provide government relief but no monies provided
- 14. abundance (pg 6) to have a large quantity
- 15. half-a-crown (pg 7) a small coin in Great Britain; no longer used
- 16. misanthrope (pg 8) a person who mistrusts everyone; thinks the worse
- 17. malcontent (pg 8) to be dissatisfied; to cause trouble

## Scene Three

- 18. specter (pg 8) ghosts; spirits
- 19. void (pg 8) total emptiness
- 20. deliquesce (pg 8) melt away

- 21. gruel on the hob (pg 8) a thin broth warming on a ledge within the fireplace
- 22. apparition (pg 9) ghost; spirit
- 23. conveyed (pg 10) communicated
- 24. benevolence (pg 10) goodwill; kindness

### Scene Four

- 25. scrim (pg 11) semi-transparent curtain
- 26. ferret eyes (pg 11) to look like a ferret while hunting; beady eyes
- 27. promissory notes (pg 11) written promises to pay a certain sum of money
- 28. reclamation (pg 12) to return to one's past

#### Scene Five

- 29. rapt (pg 12) entranced; in amazement
- 30. jocund (pg 12) cheerful
- 31. apprenticed (pg 14) receiving financial support and training in a trade
- 32. pounds (pg 15) a type of money used in Great Britain at the time
- 33. dowerless (pg 16) a girl without property or wealth to bring into her marriage
- 34. donned in regret....Doffed now (pg 17) to don and doff a hat is to put on and remove one's hat; askew means at an angle