

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

Go to the following website to begin this web quest: <https://www.charlesdickenspage.com/index.html>.

**Web Quest Due Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Our play *A Christmas Carol: Scrooge and Marley* was written by Israel Horowitz and adapted from the story written by Charles Dickens. To truly appreciate the play, we need to have an understanding of who Charles Dickens was and what influenced his writings.

**A. Dickens Fast Facts:**

- 1) Where was Dickens born? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) When was he born? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) What happened to Dickens at age 12? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Whom did he marry? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) How many children did Dickens have? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) When did Dickens write the following popular and well-known works?  
*A Tale of Two Cities* \_\_\_\_\_  
*David Copperfield* \_\_\_\_\_  
*A Christmas Carol* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Great Expectations* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Oliver Twist* \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) When did Dickens die? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) What caused his death? \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) As a child Charles Dickens would walk with his father by this large impressive mansion outside Rochester. His father told him that with perseverance and hard work he could live in such a house. What was the name of the place that Dickens bought in 1856? \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Charles Dickens' Life:**

- 10) How many siblings did Charles Dickens have? \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) According to the article, where was Dickens living when he "later referred to this period as the happiest of his childhood?" \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) How many hours per day did Dickens work at Warren's Blacking factory? \_\_\_\_\_ How many days per week? \_\_\_\_\_

- 13) Who was described by Dickens as “by far the most ignorant man I have ever had the pleasure to know” during his early education years? \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) Around what year did Dickens decide to try to become a law clerk? \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) In 1834 he was hired as a reporter for the \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) What was Dickens’ pseudonym, which came from his younger brother, Augustus? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Early Novels

- 17) Who was Mary Hogarth? \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) In what year did Charles and his wife set sail board the Britannia to land in Boston? \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) Though he was very popular in America, he did not receive monies for his works sold here due to international \_\_\_\_\_ laws.
- 20) Which story did he write in an effort to make money during “dire financial straits”? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Middle Years

- 21) Following *David Copperfield*, which book did Dickens write that many considered his masterpiece?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 22) Who was Ellen Ternan? \_\_\_\_\_
- 23) What was the name of the mansion that Dickens and his children moved to in Kent in 1856?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 24) Like Edgar Allan Poe, when did Dickens begin reading excerpts from his books? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Later Years

- 25) He made a return trip to America in 1867 and while on tour for 5 months he made 76 performances and made an incredible \_\_\_\_\_ (money).
- 26) What was the title of the “mystery” which was only half finished following his death in 1870?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 27) Where was Charles Dickens finally laid to rest following his death? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

<b>C. Dickens Novels</b>
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- 28) What was the title of his first novel? \_\_\_\_\_

29) Dickens published his books “\_\_\_\_\_” which means that he chose to print them in monthly or weekly installments which also made the stories affordable for his public.

#### D. Dickens Characters

30) Name this character based on Dickens’ father? \_\_\_\_\_

31) What does the character “Scrooge” mean in today’s vocabulary? \_\_\_\_\_

#### E. Dickens London

32) Dickens routinely walked the city streets \_\_\_\_\_ or 20 miles at a time.

33) London was experiencing the effects of the \_\_\_\_\_ Revolution during the time known as the Victorian Period.

34) Disease spread rapidly throughout this time due to residents drinking water from this river that had sewers discharged into it. Name the river. \_\_\_\_\_

35) The Victorian answer to dealing with the poor and indigent was the \_\_\_\_\_ which was enacted in 1834.

36) When did the Victorian Period end? \_\_\_\_\_

#### F. Dickens & Christmas

37) Name this Victorian Prince who brought German Christmas tree decorating to England. \_\_\_\_\_

38) Name these two other Christmas traditions which began to thrive in the 1840’s throughout England.

a) \_\_\_\_\_ b) \_\_\_\_\_

39) What type of a disease did Tiny Tim, Bob Cratchit’s son, have? \_\_\_\_\_

40) How many different photos were posted of actors who portrayed Ebenezer Scrooge over the years? \_\_\_\_\_

41) How much did Dickens charge for his copies of A Christmas Carol, which would make it affordable for nearly everyone? \_\_\_\_\_

42) “The famous plum pudding that Mrs. Cratchit makes to crown the Cratchit Christmas dinner was not made of plums, but \_\_\_\_\_.”

43) The “copper” used to boil the pudding was actually used to \_\_\_\_\_ the rest of the year.

44) Where was the goose for the Cratchits’ Christmas dinner actually cooked? \_\_\_\_\_