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| Lesson 2: Ghost of Christmas Present |
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| |  | | --- | | **Read this introduction to the Ghost of Christmas Present and highlight the words from the Skills Drill (thinking about their meaning) to help you understand what Dickens is saying:**  “It was his own room. There was no doubt about that. But it had undergone a surprising transformation. The walls and ceiling were so hung with living green, that it looked a perfect grove; from every part of which, bright gleaming berries glistened. The crisp leaves of holly, mistletoe, and ivy reflected back the light, as if so many little mirrors had been scattered there; and such a mighty blaze went roaring up the chimney, as that dull petrifaction of a hearth had never known in Scrooge's time, or Marley's, or for many and many a winter season gone. Heaped up on the floor, to form a kind of throne, were turkeys, geese, game, poultry, brawn, great joints of meat, sucking-pigs, long wreaths of sausages, mince-pies, plum-puddings, barrels of oysters, red-hot chestnuts, cherry-cheeked apples, juicy oranges, luscious pears, immense twelfth-cakes, and seething bowls of punch, that made the chamber dim with their delicious steam. In easy state upon this couch, there sat a jolly Giant, glorious to see:, who bore a glowing torch, in shape not unlike Plenty's horn, and held it up, high up, to shed its light on Scrooge, as he came peeping round the door.  "Come in!" exclaimed the Ghost. "Come in, and know me better, man." | |
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| **What do we learn about the Ghost’s appearance?**  **Find a selection of short quotes from the text which illustrate what the ghost looks like:** |
| **Read the description of the Ghost’s appearance. What do the words in bold mean? (Use a dictionary to come up with definitions).**  "I am the Ghost of Christmas Present," said the Spirit. "Look upon me."  Scrooge **reverently** did so. It was clothed in one simple green robe, or mantle, bordered with white fur. This garment hung so loosely on the figure, that its **capacious** breast was bare, as if **disdaining** to be warded or concealed by any artifice. Its feet, observable beneath the **ample** folds of the garment, were also bare; and on its head it wore no other covering than a holly wreath, set here and there with shining icicles. Its dark brown curls were long and free; free as its **genial** face, its sparkling eye, its open hand, its cheery voice, its **unconstrained demeanour**, and its joyful air. Girded round its middle was an antique **scabbard**; but no sword was in it, and the ancient sheath was eaten up with rust. |