

A Christmas Carol Revision Task 6: Exam Skills

Read the extract below. It is written in the format of the exam. Give yourself 10-15 minutes and annotate it. Use three colours, one for each of the AOS. One has been modelled for you on the example, but only for AOs 1 & 2. A clean copy is on the following page.

Explore the way that Dickens presents the character of Bob Cratchit.

In your response you could:

- **Refer to the extract and novella as a whole.**
- **Show your understanding of characters and events in the novella.**
- **Refer to the contexts of the novella**

She hurried out to meet him; and little Bob in his comforter—he had need of it, poor fellow—came in. His tea was ready for him on the hob, and they all tried who should help him to it most. Then the two young Cratchits got upon his knees and laid, each child a little cheek, against his face, as if they said, “Don’t mind it, father. Don’t be grieved!”

Bob was **very cheerful** with them, and spoke pleasantly to all the family. He looked at the work upon the table, and praised the industry and speed of Mrs. Cratchit and the girls. They would be done long before Sunday, he said.

“Sunday! You went to-day, then, Robert?” said his wife.

“Yes, my dear,” returned Bob. “I wish you could have gone. It would have done you good to see how green a place it is. But you’ll see it often. I promised him that I would walk there on a Sunday. My little, little child!” cried Bob. “My little child!”

He broke down all at once. He couldn’t help it. If he could have helped it, he and his child would have been farther apart perhaps than they were.

AO2: adverb “very” suggests Bob is suppressing his own grief to try and ‘cheer’ the family;

AO1: Bob is loving and prioritises family over himself. We also see this in Stave 3 when Scrooge watches Bob carry Tiny Tim and his iron walking frame home from church in the cold.

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