

Worksheet 3. Deducing Themes

Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher: _____

Class: _____

In literature, themes express an author’s view about life, reality, or human nature. It is an idea that an author wants to convey through the story. Stave 5 of *A Christmas Carol* shows that Charles Dickens had very clear views about how people should and should not live.

Read the quotations provided below in column one. Examine their context in the story and enter that into column two. Then use column three to write what you think Dickens was saying to his reading audience.

Quotation	Context	Theme(s)
“I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future!”		
“Really, for a man who had been out of practice for so many years, it was a splendid laugh, a most illustrious laugh. The father of a long, long line of brilliant laughs.”		
“He looked so irresistibly pleasant in a word that three or four good-humoured fellows said, “Good morning, sir! A merry Christmas to you!”		
“He had never dreamed that any walk—that anything—could give him so much happiness.”		
“... but he let them laugh, and little heeded them ...”		
“And so, as Tiny observed God bless Us, Every One!”		