Questions for <u>A Christmas Carol</u> -- To do with one partner.

Tiny Tim used a crutch to walk. His limbs were supported by an iron frame. Though the exact nature of Tiny Tim's malady is not revealed, the Ghost of Christmas Present warned that, unless the Future were somehow changed, the fragile child would die.

- 1. What diagnosis can you offer for Tiny Tim?
- 2. Based on your conclusion, would Tiny Tim's condition be as serious today?
- 3. In addition to being a concrete character with an important role in the conversion of Ebenezer Scrooge, is Tiny Tim also symbolic?
- 4. What human condition(s) could he represent?

The Ghost of Christmas Present identified the appalling boy and girl who emerged from the folding of his robe as Man's creation of Ignorance and Want.

- 1. Do you think the Ghost was correct in warning Scrooge that he should be aware especially of Ignorance?
- 2. Explain how lack of knowledge creates misery. In your opinion, how is Ignorance created? What do you believe is the best way to destroy it?
- 3. Since the time of Scrooge's story, do you think people have made progress in eliminating Ignorance and Want or have we created more? Explain your thinking. Which do you think had the most influence on Scrooge's transformation—seeing his own death or seeing the truth about his life? Explain your choice.

As a changed soul, Scrooge was so giddy and happy he didn't know what to do. Some people laughed at the change in him, but Scrooge paid them little heed.

- 1. Do you know someone personally or know of someone who seems to be constantly giddy with happiness?
- 2. Explain how this person enjoys life and shares the joy in a way that's extraordinary. Is this person ever the object of ridicule? How does he/she handle negative attitudes?
- 3. How can a person your age find joy in each day?
- 4. What inspiration often comes from external sources? Do young people have the ability to create happiness from the inside out the same as adults? Defend your answer.