



**Baker Street  
Readers**

# CLASSICS *for everyone*

Real Reads and Baker Street Readers offer **excellent retellings of key classics of world literature**. Each fitted into a **64-page book**. The books make classic stories, dramas and histories available to young readers as a bridge to the full texts, to reluctant readers as a gentle introduction to a world of wonderful literature, to language students wanting access to other cultures.

The **world's greatest literature**, from **William Shakespeare** to **F. Scott Fitzgerald**, from **Jane Austen** to the **Ramayana**, from the **New Testament** to the **Chinese classic** Journey to the West are all made accessible through masterful retellings. Each book reflects the depth and power of the original story, and **retains much of the author's vocabulary, style and tone**.

- ☞ **Accessible** - Ideal for primary and lower secondary age readers, and also for reluctant readers.
- ☞ **Terrifically illustrated** - Vivid and witty pictures enhance the reader's comprehension and enjoyment of the works.
- ☞ **Cultural Capital** - Foster cross-cultural understanding and help the readers connect with the world's most important literature and history.
- ☞ **Supportive** - Study section challenges further consideration/discussion, and provides post-reading activities. Audio are also available.

**SCAN** to watch

An Introduction Video



<https://youtu.be/ahL9HfX8m3U>



Why has Monkey made everyone fall asleep?

Wu Cheng'en, Journey to the West



What is Huck reading about so intently?

Mark Twain, Huckleberry Finn

How well do you know the world's great classic stories?



Why is Elizabeth looking so cross?

Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice



What does Estella honestly think of Pip?

Charles Dickens, Great Expectations



Why Odysseus ever make his way home again?

Homer, The Odyssey



Will Romeo and Juliet live happily ever after?

William Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet



Did Heathcliff overhear what Cathy said about him?

Emily Brontë, Wuthering Heights

Exclusive Distributor:



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House**



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## 🌀 CULTURAL CAPITAL - Charles Dickens

▲ Titles are also available in **Baker Street Hardback Library Editions**



## 🌀 CULTURAL CAPITAL - Jane Austen



## 🌀 CULTURAL CAPITAL - William Shakespeare



## 🌀 Other Great Classics



No	Title	Lexile Level	F/P Level
<b>Cultural Capital - Charles Dickens</b>			
1	A Christmas Carol ▲	770L	T
2	A Tale of Two Cities ▲	800L	Y
3	Bleak House ▲	870L	Y
4	David Copperfield ▲	840L	W
5	Great Expectations ▲	800L	V
6	Hard Times ▲	790L	X
7	Little Dorrit ▲	800L	X
8	Oliver Twist ▲	850L	X
9	The Old Curiosity Shop ▲	820L	X
<b>Cultural Capital - Jane Austen</b>			
10	Emma ▲	840L	X
11	Mansfield Park ▲	830L	X
12	Northanger Abbey ▲	850L	W
13	Persuasion ▲	840L	W
14	Pride and Prejudice ▲	870L	X
15	Sense and Sensibility ▲	810L	X
<b>Cultural Capital - William Shakespeare</b>			
16	A Midsummer Night's Dream ▲	660L	Z
17	Hamlet ▲	610L	Z
18	Macbeth ▲	610L	Z
19	Romeo and Juliet ▲	630L	Z
20	The Tempest ▲	680L	Z
21	Twelfth Night ▲	570L	Z
<b>Other Great Classics</b>			
22	A Study in Scarlet ▲	830L	X
23	All Quiet on the Western Front ▲	840L	X
24	Animal Farm ▲	940L	
25	Around the World in Eighty Days ▲	1030L	T
26	Dracula ▲	750L	W
27	Far from the Madding Crowd	760L	Y
28	Gulliver's Travels		
29	Journey to the Centre of the Earth		
30	Kidnapped	930L	
31	Nineteen Eighty-Four ▲	900L	
32	Robinson Crusoe ▲	780L	V
33	Tess of the d'Urbervilles		Y
34	The Hound of the Baskervilles ▲	920L	W
35	The Lost World		X
36	The Mayor of Casterbridge		Y
37	The Mill on the Floss	840L	X
38	The Moonstone	880L	W
39	The Picture of Dorian Gray	700L	Z
40	The Riddle of the Sands		Y
41	The Thirty-Nine Steps		W
42	The Time Machine ▲	850L	W
43	The Woman in White	930L	U
44	Treasure Island	970L	
45	Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea		
46	Wuthering Heights ▲	760L	X



**SCAN** to view  
the **SAMPLE PAGES** & listen  
to the **AUDIO EXTRACTS**



<https://bit.ly/3tBk2WK>



<https://bit.ly/3wJnoIW>



## Religion

▲ Titles are also available in Baker Street Hardback Library Editions



## UK Curriculum Titles



## American Classics



## Chinese, Indian and Australian Classics



## French, Greek and Scottish Classics



## Russian, Italian and Arabic Classics, National Folk Tales and Nonfiction



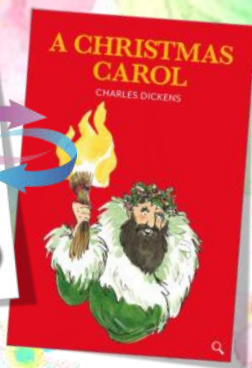
No	Title	Lexile Level	F/P Level
<b>Religion</b>			
47	Jesus of Nazareth		X
48	Judas Iscariot		Y
49	Mary Magdalene		X
50	Mary of Galilee		X
51	Muhammad: Life of the Prophet	1050L	Y
52	Paul of Tarsus		X
53	Siddhartha Gautama: Life of the Buddha	1030L	Y
54	Simon Peter		X
<b>UK Curriculum Titles</b>			
55	Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde ▲	950L	X
56	Frankenstein ▲	790L	X
57	Jane Eyre ▲	630L	X
58	Silas Marner	890L	X
59	The Sign of the Four ▲	830L	V
60	The War of the Worlds ▲	900L	X
<b>American Classics</b>			
61	Huckleberry Finn	650L	W
62	Moby Dick	730L	Y
63	The Awakening		Z
64	The Call of the Wild		X
65	The Gold Bug	820L	
66	The Great Gatsby ▲	900L	Z
67	The Murders in the Rue Morgue	890L	Z
68	The Pit and the Pendulum		X
69	The Red Badge of Courage		Y
70	The Scarlet Letter		Z
71	Tom Sawyer	600L	W
<b>Chinese, Indian and Australian Classics</b>			
72	Dream of the Red Chamber 📖	970L	W
73	Journey to the West 📖	910L	X
74	Mahabharata: How It All Began		Y
75	Mahabharata: Rolling the Dice		Y
76	Mahabharata: The Final Battle		Y
77	My Brilliant Career		W
78	Ramayana		Y
79	Seven Little Australians		
80	The Three Kingdoms 📖	1090L	Y
81	The Water Margin 📖		Y
<b>French, Greek and Scottish Classics</b>			
82	Les Misérables ▲	990L	Y
83	Rob Roy		X
84	The Heart of Midlothian		X
85	The Hunchback of Notre Dame		W
86	The Iliad		Y
87	The Odyssey		Y
88	Waverley		X
<b>Russian, Italian and Arabic Classics, National Folk Tales and Non-Fiction</b>			
89	Aladdin and his Magic Lamp		
90	Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves		
91	Anna Karenina		
92	Egil's Saga		
93	Gandhi: My Experiments with Truth		
94	Gawain and the Green Knight		
95	Inferno		Z
96	Sindbad the Sailor		
97	South		
98	The Brothers Karamazov		

📖 Titles with Scheme of Work which provide detailed teacher's note and suggested activities





**A CHRISTMAS CAROL**  
(Real Reads  
- Paperback version)

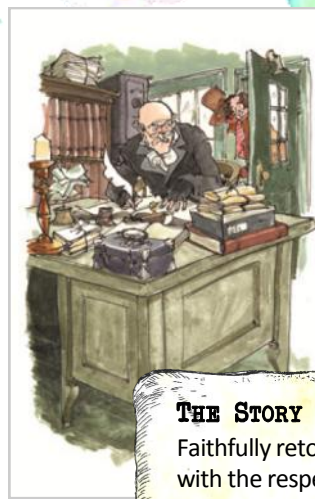


**A CHRISTMAS CAROL**  
(Baker Street  
- Hardback version)



### THE CHARACTERS

A useful "cast of characters" list to introduce the reader to the story's main protagonists and antagonists. Each character description asks a question which intrigues the reader to read further.



### A CHRISTMAS CAROL

'Bah, humbug,' complained Scrooge. 'Fools wishing me a Merry Christmas should be forced to sit on cushions stuffed with holly leaves or boiled with their own Christmas puddings. Go away and take your "Merry Christmas" with you.'

'But Uncle, I'm wishing you a merry Christmas in spite of yourself. Remember,' shouted Scrooge's beaming, rosy-cheeked nephew, turning back as he left the office, 'you are welcome to join us for Christmas dinner!'

As the nephew left, his warmth went with him. Now the office was cold. Cold is cheap, and Scrooge liked it that way.

In the dim light of his inadequate fire, Scrooge muttered 'Humbug' again, and went

### THE STORY

Faithfully retold, our authors treat each story with the respect it deserves –and aim to *retell the classics in the style and voice of the original authors, often quoting best-known lines.*



sat scribbling furiously. He had wished Scrooge's nephew a Merry Christmas, and felt afraid of Scrooge's reaction.

'And you, Bob Cratchit, what right has someone as poor as you to be merry?'

'I'm sorry, Mr Scrooge.'

'I suppose you would like to stay at home tomorrow to spend Christmas with your children?'

'I would dearly love it, sir.'

'Why should I pay you for a day at home? Christmas is just an excuse for picking my pocket. I shall expect you in early the next day to make up for it.'

'Yes, certainly, Mr Scrooge.'

Poor Bob pulled his scarf more tightly around his neck and blew on his hands in a vain attempt to warm them. He returned to his work. The one coal that Scrooge allowed on the fire was dying, and with it the slight warmth that it brought.

But for Scrooge's clinking money and Bob's scratching pen the room was silent.

Clang! The bell above the door clanged its cheerless clang, announcing the arrival of another unwelcome visitor.

'Merry Christmas, sir,' said a portly smiling gentleman.

### TAKING THINGS FURTHER

#### The Real read

This Real Reads version of *A Christmas Carol* is a retelling of Charles Dickens' magnificent work. If you would like to read the full novel in all its original splendour, many complete editions are available, from bargain paperbacks to beautifully bound hardbacks. You may well find a copy in your local book shop.

#### Filling in the spaces

The loss of so many of Charles Dickens' original words is a sad but necessary part of the shortening process. We have had to make some difficult decisions, omitting subplots and details, some important, some less so, but all interesting. We have also, at times, taken the liberty of combining two events into one, or of giving a character words or actions that originally belong to another. The points below will fill in some of the gaps, but nothing can beat the original.

### Food for thought

Here are some things to think about if you are reading *A Christmas Carol* alone, or ideas for discussion if you are reading it with friends.

In retelling *A Christmas Carol* we have tried to recreate, as accurately as possible, Dickens' original plot and characters. We have also tried to imitate aspects of his style. Remember, however, that this is not the original work; thinking about the points below, therefore, can help you begin to understand Charles Dickens' craft. To move forward from here, turn to the full-length version of *A Christmas Carol* and lose yourself in his wonderful storytelling.

#### Starting points

- How do you feel about Scrooge at the beginning of the book?
- What clues are there that Scrooge has not always been a miser?

- Which ghost do you find the most frightening? Why?
- Which experiences do you think affect Scrooge the most? Why do you think this?
- What do you think Scrooge has learned by the end of the story?
- Which description of Christmas do you like best?

#### Themes

What do you think about the following?

- Christmas
- poverty
- society
- family life
- charity

### Style

Can you find paragraphs containing examples of the following?

- descriptions of setting and atmosphere
- the use of simile, onomatopoeia and personification to enhance description
- emotive writing

### TAKING THINGS FURTHER

This section provides historical, social and human context to the work in hand. It suggests links to useful *online resources*, recommends *further reading* and also TV and films to further immerse the reader in the story.

"Food for thought" asks *challenging and insightful questions* to promote a deeper engagement with the work.

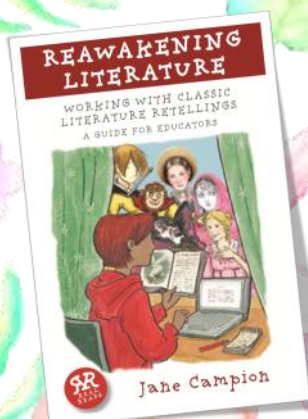
## Reawakening Literature: Working with Classic Literature Retellings

This **practical guide** identifies a range of opportunities for developing reading skills, and for talking about books. It also suggests ways of developing readers' appreciation and understanding of the cultural and social contexts of these classics as world literature.

The guide is divided into **five essential elements of studying narrative texts**:

- plot and structure
- language
- character
- context
- themes

Activities are designed to encourage engagement, strengthen comprehension, and to support the development of more complex skills such as inferential reading.



**SCAN** for a Walkthrough video  
<https://youtu.be/PFTNETLiWS0>

