**A Christmas carol essay on Wealth and Poverty – Would need to have an extract to refer to for the new exam but some good ideas here:**

In ACC Dickens shows a large contrast and difference between the rich and poor throughout the whole book.

One of the major differences we see between the rich and poor is when scrooge meets the ghost of Christmas present, who takes him to see one of scrooges work colleges family called the Cratchit family who is very poor and is paid very little due to scrooge. We can instantly see how the family is very poor as they are thankful just for the food they have. However when the youngest and the most ill member of the family arrives (Tiny Tim) scrooge begins to feel guilty as he is told by the ghost that he will die due to the family not being able to afford treatment for him. The ghost then quotes to scrooge that “why does it matter, it only decreases the large amount of poor people”. I chose this quote to show a difference between poor and rich as scrooge quoted this earlier on. This shows clearly that the rich are less aware to how the poorer class live and have no sympathy for them showing the difference between the 2 classes, as we can now gather that the richer class are more ignorant to how some people have to live until it actually matters to them.

My next quote to show the difference between poor and rich is when Mr Cratchet quotes “I propose a toast to Mr Scrooges health”. This shows that even though Scrooge who is rich and could give the Cratchet family a better life with giving them a fair pay. Is still cared about and is to thank from the Cratchit family for what they have at this point of time. this shows that the poor in a way look up to the rich and have faith in them even though they are treated unfairly by them. It also shows that they are more thankful for what they can afford and are not as stingy and sharing with their money.

My final quote I have chosen is at the beginning when scrooge is wished a “merry Christmas” by Bob Cratchit and he replies with “Bah Humbug”. I chose this quote because it shows how the poorer class are more jolly, festive and in general nicer people, whereas the richer class ignore them and have don’t want to have anything to do with them. Scrooges reply of “humbug” is almost an insult towards Bob as he is negatively replying to his positive quote to scrooge, which goes to show even further that the rich are ignorant and also rude to the lower less fortunate people as them.