**11**

***A Christmas Carol***

*You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.*

**You should use the extract below and your knowledge of the whole novel to answer**

**this question.**

**Starting with this extract, how does Dickens present places in A Christmas Carol?**

In your response you should:

refer to the extract and the novel as a whole;

show your understanding of characters and events in the novel;

refer to the contexts of the novel. [40]

The house fronts looked black enough, and the windows blacker, contrasting with the smooth white sheet of snow upon the roofs, and with the dirtier snow upon the ground; which last deposit had been ploughed up in deep furrows by the heavy wheels of carts and waggons; furrows that crossed and re-crossed each other hundreds of times where the great streets branched off; and made intricate channels, hard to trace in the thick yellow mud and icy water. The sky was gloomy, and the shortest streets were choked up with a dingy mist, half thawed, half frozen, whose heavier particles descended in a shower of sooty atoms, as if all the chimneys in Great Britain had, by one consent, caught fire, and were blazing away to their dear hearts’ content. There was nothing very cheerful in the climate or the town, and yet was there an air of cheerfulness abroad that the clearest summer air and brightest summer sun might have endeavoured to diffuse in vain.