*A Christmas Carol* Movie Analysis Sample Essay

Introduction:

Charles Dickens’s novella, *A Christmas Carol*, has been adapted into a variety of different movies and theatrical productions since its publication. While each adaptation reveals the individualistic artistic expression of each director, they share one commonality: *A Christmas Carol* explore themes as relevant in today’s society as such themes were in 19th century London. The 2009 version of *A Christmas Carol*, directed by Robert Zemeckis, explores the themes of unjust treatment of the poor and greed through many vibrant and dramatic examples. No matter the adaptation, *A Christmas Carol* asks its audience to treat one another with respect, dignity, and kindness.

Body:

Robert Zemeckis’s adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* develops the theme of unjust treatment of the poor through Scrooge’s treatment of the charity workers, his comments about workhouses and prisons, and his attitude towards those who owe him money. In the beginning of the film, two charity workers appear at Scrooge’s door and ask Scrooge, a man of considerable wealth, to donate to their cause. Scrooge not only doesn’t donate, but berates these men for their appraisal of the poor’s importance. Since Scrooge refuses to part from even a smidgen of his vast wealth in order to help those less fortunate than him, his actions clearly reinforce the theme of unjust treatment of the poor. The film adequately demonstrates this theme through Scrooge’s appearance; while he yells at the charity people he grows in stature, starts spitting in fury, and ultimately turns them away penniless, which appears a rather rude welcome for those trying to help the unfortunate. DDs 2-3 and A/I here. Scrooge’s actions, words, and general demeanor towards the poor reveal that he reinforces the rich’s consummate unjust treatment of those lower on the economic ladder.

Conclusion:

Charles Dickens’s timeless classic, *A Christmas Carol,* includes the themes of unjust treatment of the poor and greed through sundry examples intended to inform and amuse the audience. Director Robert Zemeckis’s portrayal of the novella by using animation technology also develops these themes quite effectively in order to warn the reader against humanity’s dark side. It seems that both artists acknowledge and embrace the evils of humanity, in the hope that their audiences might learn from Scrooge’s heuristic experience. Everyone has a little bit of Scrooge in them, and if this caricature of a grouchy old man can learn to embrace love, then so can we!