

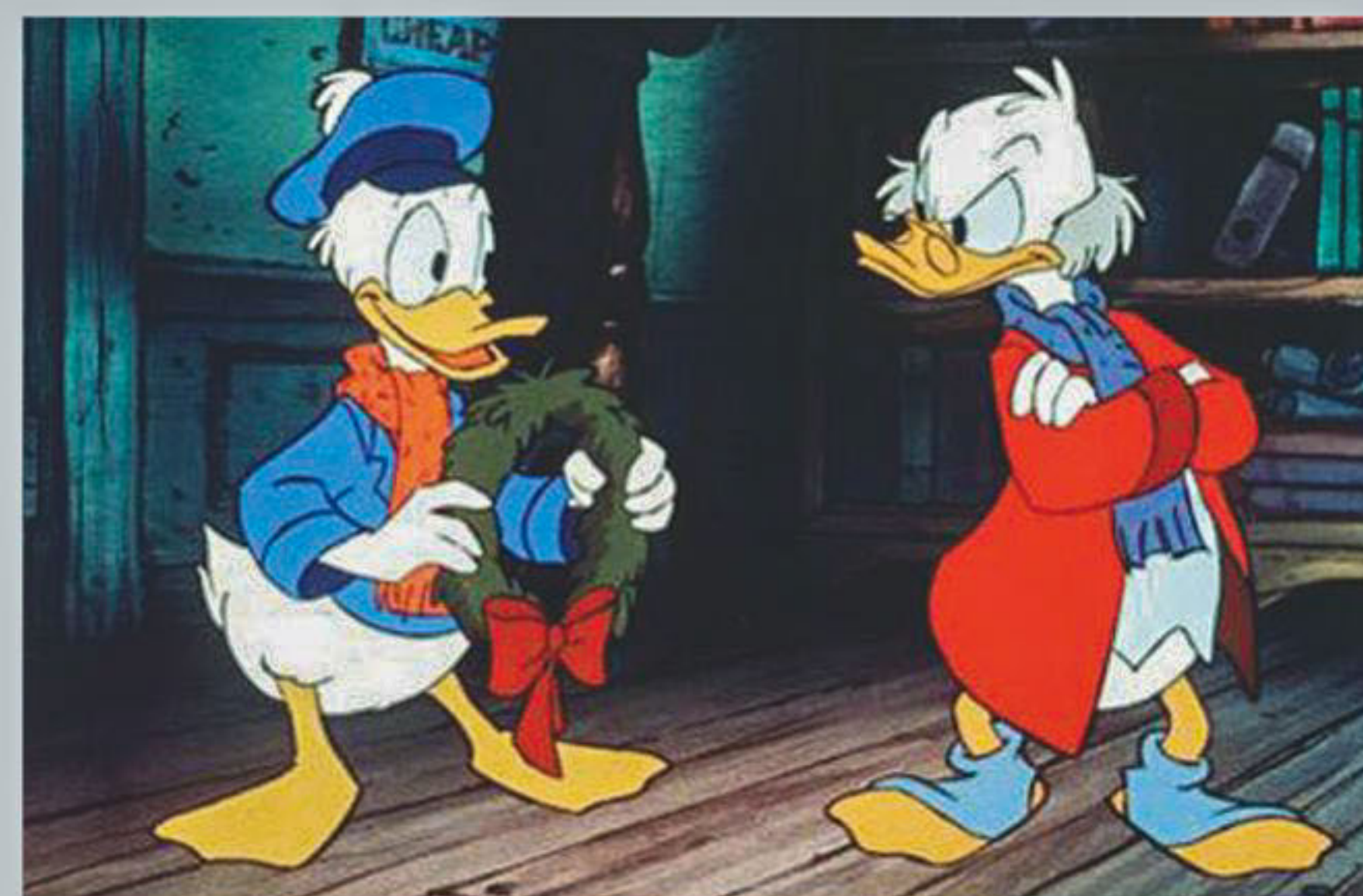
# WHAT CHRISTMAS TELLS US

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*Every year, on December 25, millions around the globe celebrate Christmas by remembering the birth of Christ, decorating trees and houses with colourful lights, singing Christmas carols and exchanging gifts. Looking deeper into the Christmas celebrations you'll find some things that we all can learn from.*

## **FAMILY TRADITIONS AND GATHERINGS:**

Family reunions are something we all need more of. Often the price we pay for leading such busy lives is rarely getting together with all our family members. Christmas celebrations remind us the importance of parents, children, uncles, aunts, cousins and everyone else getting together and keeping family traditions from dying out. Enjoy each other's company and celebrate the age old family traditions, be it telling ghost stories or playing a certain game while your entire family meets up for dinner. Give your grandmother a chance to make her special dish that has been passed down through generations. Learn the recipe from her because this is a legacy.



Don't be a Scrooge this Christmas.

## **WORKPLACE PARTIES:**

Christmas parties at the office are a common part of the celebrations. Joining all your colleagues and your boss for a dinner party is a great way to enhance workplace relations and get over those work related misunderstandings everyone is familiar with. Moreover, it's a chance for the boss to appreciate and get to know their employees better. For a change, have some non-work conversations with the people you work with every day, relax and forget about the workload. These office get-togethers or dinners will definitely build stronger team spirit.

## **THE GIFT OF GIVING:**

For many children around the world nothing is more exciting than Christmas time because with it comes presents from Santa Claus. The idea of a jolly, bearded man rewarding children with dolls or toy cars is integral to the celebrations. Unfortunately while many children's faces light up at receiving Christmas presents, there are many others without homes and families to

whom toys and warm clothes are a missing luxury. This is where people can follow Santa's lead. Christmas can be a time to give clothes, toys, food etc. to orphanages and shelters for the homeless.

## **A CHRISTMAS CAROL:**

Many of us associate Christmas with Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." This famous novella has a number of teachings for us all, as Ebenezer Scrooge learns that money isn't everything. While money is essential in our lives, we shouldn't ignore the other things life blesses us with. Another important lesson is that it's never too late to change. Since we don't have ghosts of Christmas past or future to remind us to change certain negative aspects of ourselves, we might as well learn from Scrooge's actions when he transforms into a generous, caring person from a mean, old miser. Also, help other people out. Do some charity work or voluntary work for the people of your country and discover the happiness in making the less fortunate happy.



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