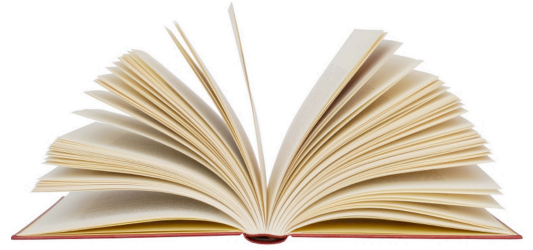


# Themes in Literature



*Identify the themes in the following stories.*

**1.     *A Christmas Carol***

A miserable old man, Ebenezer Scrooge, never gives any of his employees Christmas bonuses or holidays. Three ghosts visit him on Christmas Eve and they force him to re-examine his life. After those experiences, Scrooge becomes a happy, generous old man who enjoys Christmas.

**Theme:**

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**2.     *Treasure of the Sierra Madre***

Two men learn of some gold hidden in the mountains. They find the gold, but Dobsie tries to kill his friend so that he can keep all the money for himself.

**Theme:**

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**3.     *Androcles and the Lion***

Androcles, a slave in ancient Rome, sees a lion in the jungle. The lion is moaning in pain. He sees that the lion has a thorn in his paw, so he plucks the thorn from the lion's paw and stops his pain. Months later, Androcles is to be sacrificed to the biggest, hungriest lion in front of the crowds at the Coliseum. He sits waiting for the lion to attack, but the lion runs toward him and lick his hand. It is the lion he had helped. The crowd is surprised when they learn about the story. Both Androcles and the lion become heroes.

**Theme:**

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**4.     *Hamlet, Prince of Denmark***

Hamlet learns that Claudius, his uncle, has murdered his father. Claudius has married Hamlet's mother. Hamlet cannot decide whether or not his uncle is guilty. By the time he decides to get revenge, his uncle plans to kill Hamlet. Before Hamlet dies, he kills his uncle, but his mother is also killed. All the royal family is now dead, so Denmark is invaded by its enemies.

**Theme:**

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