

Deepening Understanding

YR6 Fiction Text Mark Scheme

This set of questions is based upon "The Irish Twins" written by Lucy Finch Perkins.

Q1

The story is set in the 'young summer in Ireland'. What does this mean?

1 mark for reference to the current season:

-The summer season may just be starting to begin

2 marks for reference to the time period:

-Suggesting that it is a period of time earlier in History when Ireland was still 'younger', as opposed to a modern summer

2 Marks

Q2

Do you think that the letter that has arrived is important to old Grannie Malone? Explain your answer fully.

1 mark for each relevant point in the text:

-Reference to her body language e.g. sighing that she can't open it

-How she repeatedly turns it over in her hands

-That she mentions it's hard work waiting for help to read it, suggesting her impatience.

2 Marks

Q3

How do we know that Grannie Malone is quite lonely?

1 mark for reference to relevant points:

-She waits a long time for the Priest to visit.

-She talks to the inanimate kettle.

1 Mark



Q4

The author uses personification to describe the kettle's actions. Explain what ONE of the examples below shows.

A) 'tis a lazy bit of steam that's coming out of the nose of you!

B) '...and a thirsty kettle it is surely, and no one but myself to fetch and carry for it!' (both paragraph 2)

A) Reference to the fact the kettle is not working properly.

The steam seems lazy as the kettle doesn't have a lot of water in it, so the steam is not coming out with force.

B) Reference to the fact that the kettle needs refilling.

The kettle seems 'thirsty' because it seems like it has drunk all the water up; when in reality the kettle has nothing left in it and needs refilling

2 Marks

Q5

Do you think Grannie Malone leads a humble or elaborate lifestyle? Explain your answer with reference to the text.

1 mark for recognising her home is humble.

2 or 3 marks for recognising the simplicity of her cottage, with reference to two or three points in the text. There are many examples which could show this:

the one little room; the one door and window; the earthen floor; the old dresser; the one chair, the bag of potatoes (and lack of food) etc.

3 Marks



Q6

The author uses some traditional words, hinting at an older period of time. Infer the meaning of these words...

1 mark per correct word:

hearth - the floor of the fireplace

earthen - the flooring made of earth (soil) or clay as opposed to a carpeted or wooden floor

bellows - a device to blow air onto a fire.

3 Marks

Q7

Do you think Grannie Malone enjoys having the hens in her yard? Explain fully.

1 mark for recognising the hens are a nuisance:

They demand food from her and follow her round.

2 marks for recognising the above but also that the hens are also important to her:

She gives them water showing that she needs them in her life for food (eggs).

She probably does see them as company too.

2 Marks



Q8*"But 'tis home, thanks be to God"**What do you think Grannie means when she says this?*

1 mark for a brief, unsupported answer, showing that Grannie is grateful for having a home.

2 marks for developing this with points from the text:

Grannie is grateful for having a roof over her head, even if it has leaks or if it does not have the finest of furnishings. Children may refer to the fact that other people might not be so lucky and may not have this much.

2 Marks**Q9***Complete the table to show two more ways the atmosphere changes when the children arrive.*

Action	How the atmosphere changes
Squawking hens (example)	The peace and quiet evaporates (example)
The little girl cried out...	It is no longer quiet...
Grannie jumped and ran...	Grannie seems to gain more energy and life. She is happy.
You are as welcome as the Spring flowers...	Granny is no longer lonely. The house feels awake.

2 Marks

Q10

If the story could continue, what do you think would happen next? Refer to the text to support your prediction.

1 mark for very brief, under developed answers.

Up to 2 marks for answers that fit into the context of the story with two or more ideas:

Perhaps the young visitors bring some important news. Children might hint at a plot that may begin.

Up to 3 marks for the above, but with reference to aspects of the text that have already been mentioned.

Ideas that fit into the time zone. There may be some reference to the letter and what it contains.

3 Marks

