

Deepening Understanding

YR6 Fiction Mark Scheme

This set of questions is based upon 'The Water Babies' written by Charles Kingsley.

Q1

Tom was a chimney-sweep, what do you think this job entailed?

1 mark - for a relevant answer such as-

...that he had to climb chimneys to clean out the soot and ash;

...extended by mentioning that it could have been very dangerous.

1 Mark

Q2

The setting is referred to as a 'great town' in the North. What do you think the author might have meant by this?

1 mark - for brief answers that refer to the following-

... that it would be a large town that had a lot of buildings and perhaps lots of amenities. It seemed great as in 'big' not great as in 'amazing'.

1 mark - for developing this further (or for attempting to contextualise...)

... that it would represent one of the large populated Industrial towns that had lots of factories and large amounts of housing for workers (hence lots of chimneys).

2 Marks

Q3

Tom wasn't concerned that he could not read and write. Why do you think this was the case?

Up to 2 marks for reference to points such as -

...He was a child worker; therefore, he hadn't been to school to learn.

...He probably didn't think it was necessary to read and write.

...He associated with children of similar backgrounds to himself; therefore, it would have seemed 'normal' not to be able to read and write.

2 Marks



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Q4

Do you think that Tom had been looked after 'well' as a child, or 'neglected'?

(Support your answer with two pieces of evidence).

-1 mark for each reference to 'neglect' - and for carefully trying to interpret each phrase found-

... 'He could not read nor write'... suggesting he had no guidance from family members.

... 'He'd never washed himself'... suggesting he'd never had a role model to enforce this upon him. He took care of himself.

... 'He'd never been taught to say his prayers...' suggesting that, even if he did have an adult at home, he was not educated about religion.

2 Marks

Q5

Find four phrases that emphasise the harsh lifestyle of being a chimney sweep apprentice.

-1 mark (per two) different phrases-

... Rubbing his poor knees and elbows raw;

... When the soot got into his eyes;

... When his master beat him;

... When he had not enough to eat.

2 Marks

Q6

In paragraph two, the author repeats the following phrase below. What effect does this have on the reader?

'...every day in the week...'

- 2 marks, for the following-

... Explaining that by repeating this phrase, the author is really trying to make the reader realise just how harsh and relentless his life was. The words are repeated and will be embedded in the reader's memory. It exaggerates just how monotonous and harsh his life could be.

2 Marks



Q7

Name one of the games Tom enjoyed playing as a child, and explain why he may have felt it was fun.

-2 marks, for referring to answers that show a juxtaposition with his harsh working life; for example-

Games- tossing halfpennies with the other boys/ playing leap-frog over the posts / or bowling stones at the horses' legs as they trotted by.

Answers should refer to ideas that he may have found these games fun because-

-He felt free for a little while/ he wasn't having to work/ his master was not beating him/ he was getting to be a child/ the games made him smile...

2 Marks

Q8

What do you think Tom's outlook on his life was like, judging by this phrase?

'...he took all that for the way of the world, like the rain and snow and thunder...'

-Up to 2 marks for developed answers that show-

... The fact that Tom 'accepted' the way he was treated. It would have seemed the usual way of life to him, (just like the comparison that we accept we have different weather conditions).

... He would not have known any different; and probably thought that this was how children would always have been treated.

2 Marks

Q9a

What type of figurative language 'type' is the following phrase: 'like a king at the head of his army'?

-1 mark for -

... Identifying the answer as a simile.

1 Mark



Q9b Why did Tom look forward to being this 'King'?

-1st mark for -

... A simple reference to the fact that Kings rule and he would therefore have his turn at being in charge.

-2nd mark for developing this further-

... That Tom would behave like a King in that everyone would have to do his bidding, just as he had had to do for his master. His apprentices would become his army.

2 Marks

Q10 How would you explain to Tom that treating his own 'future' apprentices harshly would not be a very kind thing to do? Complete the following paragraph.

Support your view point fully, referring to the text.

Dear Tom,

I think you need to think about your future apprentices and the type of master you'd like to be.

—
-Up to 4 marks for referring to different points and using these to challenge the character, such as-

... Mentioning the things that made Tom upset as a child- such as the beatings/ the lack of food/ the cuts and bruises.

... Mentioning the times Tom was happy playing and why he was happy.

... An attempt to turn this around by asking Tom rhetorical questions such as: Would you really wish this lifestyle on others when it made you miserable? Etc...

4 Marks

