



DEEPENING UNDERSTANDING ANSWER SHEET

WATER BABIES READING COMPREHENSION – INFERENCE Qs

Question One (1 Mark)

1 mark reference to Tom's Master's character being self-centred

E.g. This suggests that Tom's master's character is greedy and selfish as he wants to keep all the money for himself. He expects Tom to earn his keep.

Question Two (2 Marks)

1 mark for reference to Tom crying because he was unhappy

E.g. Tom cried half of the time because his job was hard and unpleasant, his master took his money and often he didn't have enough to eat.

1 mark for reference to Tom laughing because he enjoyed his time away from his job

E.g. Tom laughed the other half of the time because he enjoying playing with the other boys. They played leap frog, tossed halfpennies and bowled stones at horses' legs and Tom thought this was excellent fun.

Question Three (1 Mark)

1 mark for reference to needing to hide from the horses or their owners

E.g. After bowling the stones, Tom and the others boys would have needed a wall to hide behind to protect themselves from the horses or their riders. The boys would hide to stop themselves getting into trouble



Question Four (2 Marks)

1 mark for a simple response showing an understanding that Tom hoped his life would get better

E.g. Tom hoped that when he was grown up his life wouldn't be as bad.

2 marks for a more developed answer, referring to the text, showing that Tom used this positive thought to help him get through his tough life

E.g. Tom's job and life weren't very pleasant so he thought of something to look forward to and the 'fine times coming' to help him get through it. He was hopeful that his life would improve.

Question Five (2 Marks)

1 mark for a simple response referring to getting his own back/to him not knowing any different

E.g. I think Tom will bully his apprentices because that is all he knows. He thinks that is the way of the world and it always happens.

2 marks for a more developed response referring to the text

E.g. I think Tom will bully his apprentices as a form of revenge for how he has been treated when he worked for his master and this would give him a feeling of power. I know this because the text says, 'he would bully them...while he rode before them like a king.' This implies that he wants authority over his apprentices and believes that the only way to do this is by being mean.

Question Six (1 Mark)

1 mark for referring to Tom viewing his master as someone to be admired as that is what men did

E.g. Tom looked up to his master and wanted to be like him when he grew up as he admired him and that is what men did when they were older.



Question 7 (2 Marks)

1 mark for a sensible estimate of how old Tom was

1 mark for using the text as evidence to justify why they've chosen that age

E.g. Tom is a young boy. To be a chimney sweep, you needed to be small so you could fit up the chimney in order to clean it properly.

He had a master which suggests that he needed to be looked after and he wasn't able to keep his own money.

In the text, Tom is referred to as 'playing with the other boys' and they play games such as leapfrog. Tom also thought of 'finer times' 'when he would be a man', which suggests he is still young.

Question 8 (3 Marks)

1 mark for a choice of yes/no/maybe chosen

2 marks for including a reason and a reference to the text to justify answer

Yes – Tom appears to have some happiness in life eg. he laughed for half the time, he enjoyed playing with his friends and at the end of the story, the author suggests Tom is jolly.

3 marks for two reasons supported by evidence

No because the text says Tom cried for half of the time, he had no money as he had to give it to his master, often he didn't have enough food and his master beat him. This implies he was not happy. Furthermore, he had to think of 'finer times' to get him through his life.

I think the answer is 'maybe'. He clearly has a tough life as the text says, 'he cried half his time'. His master beat him and it hurt his elbows when he climbed the chimneys. However, he did also have some fun times. I know this because the text says, 'he laughed the other half of the day' whilst playing games with the other boys.

Maybe – a mixture of yes and no

