

Deepening Understanding Mark Scheme

UKS2 Non-fiction Text

This set of questions is based upon the text 'Biography of Charles Darwin' by Laura Curtis.

Q1

Darwin had a lucky and an unlucky childhood. Copy two phrases which show this contrast.

1 mark for a phrase which shows he was lucky:

E.g. 'born into a wealthy family', 'proud and successful family' and 'happy, privileged childhood'.

1 mark for a phrase which shows he was unlucky:

E.g. 'his mother (Susanna) died'

2 Marks

Q2

Do you think that Charles Darwin had the freedom to choose his studies at university?

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

Maybe

1 mark for justification with 1 piece of text-based evidence and 2 marks for justification with 2 pieces of text-based evidence:

Yes - 'he considered a career in Church' showing he had control

No - 'he followed in his father's footsteps' this suggests he was under pressure to study medicine.

- enrolled in 'Edinburgh University' shows he went to the same university as his father

Maybe - a combination of the yes/no answers above.

2 Marks



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Q3

Give three reasons why Darwin might have *'immediately accepted'* his place on board the HMS Beagle.

1 mark for each valid point...

- He was sure he wanted to do it
- It was a once-in-a-life time chance
- He had a passion for nature and biology
- He realised being a clergyman was not for him and he wanted to become a naturalist instead

3 Marks

Q4

What does the word *'meticulously'* suggest about how Darwin observed, recorded and thought?

1 mark

- He was doing it very carefully

1 mark

- He was doing it with great attention/detail

2 Marks



Q5

Which word is closest in meaning to *'prestigious'*?
Circle your answer.

famous

humble

well-known

reputable

1 Mark

Q6

On his discovery, Darwin felt *'like a blind man given sight'*. Explain what is meant by this.

1 mark should be awarded for points which refer to...

- he could not comprehend everything he had found
- he was amazed / overwhelmed by what he had noticed
- he had 'made light' of something that he never thought he would have been able to understand

1 Mark

Q7

What factors may have helped Darwin convince academics and the population about his Theory of Evolution?

1 mark

- He had evidence e.g. his fossils proved that there had been life on earth before humans.

1 mark

- The evidence he had was extensive e.g. he had over twenty years of research.

1 mark

- Other scientists agreed with his findings e.g. Alfred Russel Wallace had also reached the same conclusions.

2 Marks



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Q8

Explain why Charles Darwin's theories 'changed the outlook of the world forever'.

1 mark for explaining a simple change in the outlook:

Before Darwin's theory everyone was very religious but they accepted scientific evidence for the creation of the world/ evolution of species.

2 marks for the above which includes some relevant text-based development:

Religious views believed that all species came at the start of the world or were created over time.

OR... He noticed that species had evolved from a common ancestor

3 marks for a comprehensive answer which explains the change in outlook with two or more pieces of relevant text-based development:

Before Darwin's theory, the Victorian era was very religious and the population believed that all species came at the start of the world or were created over time. However, after Darwin's theory was published, many academics and members of the public accepted his scientific views for instance that species had evolved from a common ancestor and that his fossils proved there was life on earth before humans.

3 Marks

Q9

How do we know that the United Kingdom is fond of Charles Darwin's achievements?

1 mark for understanding that he was allowed to be laid to rest in Westminster Abbey

1 mark for understanding that his face was printed on £10 notes until recently

2 Marks



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Q10

Complete the table below, summarising what the following quotations tell us about Charles Darwin.

Quote	What it tells the reader...
'...not a very accomplished student'	He did not have the skills and qualities needed to be successful at school. (1 mark)
'They went on to have ten children'	He was a family-orientated man / Family was important to him. (1 mark)
'Darwin knew that his book may be met with ridicule'	He had good instincts / He was aware that his theory and scientific discoveries may be controversial. (1 mark)

3 Marks