

# Answers

## Noises in the Darkness

1. 'It was probably just an owl,' Andrea persuaded herself.

What does this sentence suggest about how Andrea was feeling? Tick **one**.

- ☐ she was feeling confident
- ☒ **she was feeling uncertain**
- ☐ she was feeling cowardly
- ☐ she was feeling calm

2. Look at the paragraph beginning: **The winter days were short...**

**Find** and **copy** two words or phrases from this paragraph which suggest that the journey home was not a pleasant one for Andrea.

**Accept any two of the following answers, copied directly from the text:**

- **the midst of a bleak January cold snap;**
- **[the evenings were] intimidatingly dark;**
- **bitterly cold wind howled like a wolf;**
- **she was frozen to the bone.**

3. **...Jack smiled in an awkward, red-faced apology...**

What does this description suggest about Jack?

**Accept any answer which suggests that Jack felt embarrassment, uneasiness or regret.**

4. **Andrea immediately tensed and braced herself...**

List two impressions this gives you about Andrea's reaction.

**Accept any two of the following answers or ideas:**

- **she was expecting the worst;**
- **she thought someone or something was about to crash into her;**
- **she feared that she may get hurt;**
- **she stiffened up quickly as she expected an impact.**

5. Look at the whole extract.

**Find and copy** three words or phrases which suggest that the pavements were icy.  
**Accept any three of the following answers, copied directly from the text:**

- she tentatively tried to quicken her steps;
- but knew that her high-heeled boots didn't have much grip;
- [Jack's scooter wheels] leaving a winding trail on the glistening pathway;
- "It's so slippery that I can barely control this thing!"

## The Channel Tunnel

1. ...were dreamt up in 1808: a ground-breaking plan for an underwater passageway...

What does this description suggest about the plan?

**Accept any response which alludes to the idea being pioneering, such as: the plan was forward thinking; something like that had never been attempted before.**

2. **Find and copy** two words or phrases that suggest that the plans for the tunnel were initially laughed at by many people.

**Accept any two of the following answers, as taken from the text:**

- disbelievers;
- scoffed at the plans;
- questioned the safety;
- 'a tunnel under the sea'.

3. ...to become eerie, everlasting, under-the-sea statues.

What impression does this give you of the buried machinery?

**Accept pupils' own responses which convey a surprised or haunting feeling, such as: It gives you the impression that the buried machines are an unexpected sight to see in such an unusual place.**

4. ...this feat of engineering!

Why do you think the author chose to use this phrase?

**Pupils' own responses such as: The author has used this phrase because they believe the Channel Tunnel is an extraordinary structure which was difficult to construct and proved many people wrong.**

5. How has the author's choice of words created a feeling that the Channel Tunnel offers a high-speed mode of travel?

**Pupils' own responses which utilise adjectives from the text to inform their answer, such as: The author has chosen to use many adjectives like 'astonishing', 'rapid' and 'remarkable' to emphasise the speed of the Channel Tunnel trains.**

# The Longest Journey

## 1. Shivering trees...

Why has the poet chosen to use this example of personification?

**Pupils' own responses such as: The poet uses personification to make the trees seem like a shivering person who is naked without their leaves.**

## 2. Gatling gun clouds; hail showers like bouncing bullets.

What impression does this give you of the hail showers?

**Pupils' own responses such as: It makes the hail storm seem violent and heavy with hailstones that could cause damage.**

## 3. Find and copy five words or phrases that show the poet's unhappiness during the winter months.

**Accept any five of the following answers, taken directly from the text:**

- desperate dances;
- hands clap their hesitant beats;
- wasted weekends;
- reluctant dog walks;
- slow, soggy Sundays;
- countdown calendar;
- striking days like a gloomy prisoner;
- reluctant traveller;
- wishing the long journey would finally end;
- winter is not my friend.

## 4. Throats on fire; plumes erupting with every breath.

What does this description suggest about the poet's breath?

**Pupils' own responses such as: The description makes the poet's breath seem like smoke when actually it's just them breathing into the cold air.**

# Extended Response Challenge

Acceptable points:

**AP1.** It is violent.

**AP2.** It is cold.

**AP3.** It causes pain/harm.

**AP4.** It makes people unable to recognise/trust each other.

**AP5.** It lacks colour/light/vibrancy.

**AP6.** It is greedy.

**AP7.** It ruins people's weekends.

Award 3 marks for two acceptable points, at least one with evidence, e.g.

- The poem gives the impression that the weather is violent because it says that cheeks are 'slapped red'. It also gives the impression that it is cold in the mornings. [AP1 + evidence and AP2]
- We are given the impression that the weather is greedy because the storms are 'leaf-greedy'. We are also given the impression that the weather causes harm like 'bouncing bullets'. [AP6 + evidence and AP3 + evidence]

Award 2 marks for either two acceptable points, or one acceptable point with evidence, e.g.

- The poem gives the impression that the weather causes people not to be able to recognise or trust each other because friends suddenly become highwaymen when they are wrapped up in hoods and scarves. [AP4 + evidence]
- The poet makes me think that the winter weather is violent and ruins people's weekends. [AP1 and AP7]

Award 1 mark for one acceptable point, e.g.

- The winter weather lacks colour and light. [AP5]
- The poem gives the impression that the weather causes harm. [AP3]