

Practice questions

Key points to remember:

- ✓ Explain = make a point and GIVE REASONS;
- ✓ Highlight what is asked for in question;
- ✓ Track through the text from top to bottom;
- ✓ Systematically work through point (adjective) /evidence (quote);
- ✓ You will need to use connectives such as: because, as a result, due to, so when explaining the reasons why!
- ✓ Time and marks:
 - * 5 marks = 7-8 minutes reading and answering the question;
 - * 10 marks = 15 minutes reading and answering the question;
- ✓ You're aiming for:
 - * 4-5 points = 5 mark questions
 - *8-10 points = 10 mark question

Q: Explain why some coffee lovers are turning their backs on Fairtrade [5 marks]

Text E explains why some people now choose to buy products that are not Fairtrade.

Why are coffee lovers turning their backs on Fairtrade?

At Workshop Coffee, customers savour their £4 Colombian coffees. It looks like caffeine heaven, but head of production Richard Shannon says some people think something is missing, "If it doesn't have a Fairtrade logo then we must be holding the farmer down and standing on his neck whilst we steal his coffee." Workshop is one of a number of specialist coffee companies that says it is committed to fair trade, but doesn't have the certificate to prove it. Companies like this, which boast about their ethical sourcing of coffee, are choosing not to join the Fairtrade labelling scheme.

This is bad news for Fairtrade, which saw UK sales fall for the first time ever last year, by 4%. This has largely been blamed on discount retailers such as Aldi and Lidl carrying far fewer Fairtrade lines than supermarkets like Sainsbury's. But Fairtrade is also being affected at the top of the market by high-end companies like Workshop who complain that Fairtrade doesn't pay enough for quality coffee. Many suppliers believe their trade is already fairer than Fairtrade. Last year, Workshop paid on average £6.50 per kilo, nearly twice as much for coffee as Fairtrade did. And, as they point out, Fairtrade doesn't provide farmers with any greater guarantee of future income.

Growers for the speciality market are able to call the shots. As the premium coffee market expands, producers get more power to choose who they sell to and for how much. The growth of the market also creates opportunities for more producers to benefit. Each year new farmers join as they see their neighbours being highly rewarded for producing high quality coffee.

There are doubts about the effectiveness of Fairtrade in getting a good deal for workers. The system guarantees prices for producers and money for social projects, but it can't ensure that those who receive these payments spread the benefits. Many Fairtrade co-operatives employ people whose wages are lower and who work in worse conditions than those non-Fairtrade areas. One poor use of the Fairtrade payment was in a tea farm where the modern toilets (funded with Fairtrade money) were only used by senior managers.

Some people are now beginning to question the fairness of Fairtrade and to ask, "Is it Fairtrade? Or is it fairly traded?"

Q Explain how and why the problems of climate change are likely to get worse, according to this factsheet [10 marks]

WWF FACTSHEET



Nowhere is safe from the effects of climate change, and we are seeing the first signs of change now. Glaciers are already melting in places as far apart as Switzerland and New Zealand, bringing with them avalanches, soil erosion and dramatic changes to river flows. While Mount Kenya's largest glacier has lost 92 per cent of its mass since the late 1800s, 2,000 glaciers in the eastern Himalayas have disappeared in the last century. These stark statistics speak for themselves.

Away from the mountains, the oceans and seas are warming, causing coral to die and putting many marine creatures at risk. Global warming has caused Arctic temperatures to rise by 5°C over the past 100 years, and the amount of sea ice – essential to the survival of the polar bear – has decreased by six per cent over the past 20 years. Already, fewer than 44 per cent survive the ice-free season.

Cold kills germs and disease-bearing insects such as the mosquito. But as the planet warms up, germs, bacteria and other carriers will multiply. Longer and hotter heatwaves caused by climate change are already creating perfect breeding conditions for rats and other pests, and diseases such as plague and malaria are on the increase.

Scientists around the world are telling us urgently that climate change is real, it is here, and it is serious.

At the speed our climate is changing, the world will soon be warmer than at any time in the last 10,000 years. Climate scientists are telling us to expect an average temperature increase of between 1.4°C and 5.8°C over the next 100 years.

Warmer water occupies more space than cold water, so as the oceans gradually heat up, they also expand – threatening to inundate lowlying coastal regions, many Pacific islands, and coastal wetlands as far afield as Argentina and Bangladesh, Nigeria and the United States. But it's not just warmer weather that's causing concern. We are talking about climate change, not just global warming, and this is likely to cause more weather extremes, such as heavy rainfall, storms and floods, or prolonged drought. El Niño periods, which already turn the weather upside down in the Pacific every few years, may become more frequent and intense.

Among the other victims of climate change will be some of our most treasured habitats and species. Some animals will be able to adapt to a warmer world, but for many the change will be too abrupt and they will die. Because we've destroyed so many wild spaces, some species will simply have no suitable place to which they can move.

Scientists now predict a 60 per cent loss of summer sea ice by around 2050, which would more than double the Arctic's ice-free season from 60 to 150 days. Sea ice is used by polar bears as a platform from which they hunt ringed and bearded seals, their primary prey. Retreating ice cover and longer ice-free periods limit the time the bears can spend on the ice, so they will have to use more of their vital fat resources to survive during the longer summer season. That means their body weight will fall – and lower body weight reduces female bears' ability to produce milk, which in turn leads to greater mortality among cubs.

In the UK, winters will become wetter and summers will become drier. Sea levels will continue to rise, threatening the south and east coasts in particular. Skiing in Scotland is likely to become a thing of the past as the amount of snowfall decreases by up to 90 per cent. There are even some suggestions that climate change could affect the Gulf Stream, giving the British Isles a colder rather than a warmer climate. We simply can't predict with total certainty what will happen. But do we really want to risk such potential consequences? It may not be too late for action — so long as we act now.

5

Q: Explain why Yossarian chooses to stay in the hospital [10 marks]

Read carefully the passage below. Then answer all the questions which follow it.

The passage printed below is an extract from 'Catch-22' in which the author, Joseph Heller, wrote about the madness of war. The main character, Yossarian, is an officer in the American air force in World War 2.

Yossarian was determined to stay in the hospital forever rather than fly one more mission. He could relax in the hospital, since no one there expected him to do anything. All he was expected to do in the hospital was die or get better, and since he was perfectly all right, getting better was easy.

Being in the hospital was better than being shot at over Italy or France.

There were usually not nearly as many sick people inside the hospital as Yossarian saw outside the hospital. There was a much lower death rate inside the hospital than outside the hospital. Few people died unnecessarily. People knew a lot more about dying inside the hospital and made a neater, more orderly job of it. They couldn't dominate Death inside the hospital but they certainly made her behave. They had taught her manners. There was none of that crude, ugly dying that was so common outside the hospital. They did not blow up in mid-air like Kraft, or freeze to death the way Snowden had frozen to death in the back of the plane. They didn't drown or get struck by lightning. They didn't get shot or stabbed. There were no famines or floods. Nobody choked to death. People bled to death like gentlemen in an operating room or expired without comment in an oxygen tent. There was none of that 'now-you-see-me-now-you-don't' business which was so much in fashion outside the hospital.

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Q: Explain the events that led to Chrissie seeing what was going on in her house. [10 marks]

This story is told by a girl called Chrissie.

My brothers, Charles and James, were always after my room; I wish I'd let them have it. They had a room each when we lived in Iffley Road, but they said they wouldn't mind sharing if they could have mine because it was the biggest, after Mum and Dad's, and it had a bay window over the porch, with a seat in it. It was the window-seat they wanted. If it had been their room, I'd never have stayed on the bus that time.

It only took about ten minutes to walk to the city centre, but that Saturday it was coming up to Christmas and I was loaded with shopping so, unusually for me, I caught a bus home. The bus was packed, and although I'd normally sit downstairs, this time I went upstairs because there was only one empty seat on the lower deck, between two people with Christmas trees. One was artificial, that was OK, but the other one was real, with lethal twigs sticking out. It had two spikes at the top instead of one. I didn't fancy them shoved up my nose when I sat down, so I went upstairs. I wish I'd risked the spikes.

There weren't many people on the top deck so I grabbed the nearest seat, the little one on its own at the top of the stairs. It's on the near side, next to the pavement. If I'd sat on the other side I'd have been looking out into the road. I wouldn't have seen anything. I'd have got off at the right stop.

I was leaning my head against the window of the bus and what I saw, as the bus came crawling up Iffley Road, was that the light was on in my room. The traffic was really heavy and there was a tail-back both ways. I was just getting all my stuff together when I saw that light shining out of my window and I changed my mind. I thought, I bet that's the boys mucking about in my room, and I decided to stay on the bus till the next stop. Because I wanted to look in. I wanted to see what they were up to. I thought it would give them a shock if they looked out and saw me catching them red-handed in my room. But mainly I just wanted to look into the room because I'd never been past our house on the bus before, because we lived so near the bus stop. If only I'd got off where I should have.

Someone rang the bell and people got off, but I didn't; I just sat there, and I was just sitting there when the bus came level with our house. I got a surprise when I looked into my room. There were two people in there. It wasn't the boys, it was Mum and Dad. They were talking to each other. That's what I thought they were doing at first. I thought, when I get in I'll say, 'What were you and Dad talking about in my room, just now, eh?' and they'd wonder how I knew. But the bus didn't move and I saw that they weren't talking, they were having a row. Mum must have been doing the beds because she was clutching my duvet, like she was hugging something precious and it was half out of its green cover. I make my own bed, of course, but I'd forgotten about it with all the Christmas shopping, and I suppose she'd looked in and seen and gone in to do it herself. If I'd done it she wouldn't have been in there when the bus went past.

Q: Explain why Charles Starmer-Smith thinks cycling is a popular and enjoyable activity [10 marks]

The North Downs Way, which runs from Hampshire through Surrey, awaits. The first rays of sun streak across the chalk hillside, but there's still a chill in the air. I zip up my jersey, looking enviously at the thick coats of the sheep. But I soon forget the cold. With the wind at my back I hear the hum of the tyres and the whirr of the chain. Below me a patchwork of green fields. No deadlines. No delays. For these precious moments I care for little but the verdant hills and plunging valleys – and the panoramic views my efforts have earned.

The British Lycra Brotherhood – for whom mornings, evenings, weekends and holidays are all about pedal power and for whom travel is not just about the destination but the journey there – can welcome its latest recruit. My love of cycling has come full circle.

But how has it come to this? The rise of cycling in Britain has been well documented. A string of champions on the track, from Chris Hoy to Victoria Pendleton, and now on the road, with the new Sky Team led by Bradley Wiggins, has done much to inspire a new generation of Britons on to their bikes.

Aided by an overpriced and overcrowded transport system and savings from the 'Cycle to Work' initiative, the bicycle is now seen as an answer to rising carbon emissions. But it is the escapism it gives that is the real draw. You don't need to emulate the endless wave of intrepid cyclists crossing the Americas or circumnavigating the globe to be part of this revolution.

The landscape of Britain is perfect for cycling. Across every hill and valley, country lane and woodland track, the national cycle network covers a mind-boggling 10,000 miles, and we are clocking more than a million journeys on these routes each day.

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www.britishcycling.org.uk

Q: Explain why foxes became so popular [5 marks]

The Rise and Fall of Mr Fox

Once he had it all: good looks, fame and the affection of millions. As the hunting season gets under way, Adam Edwards asks: where did it all go wrong?



O Alamy images

In England, Mr Fox was hunted as vermin for centuries and he was always despised for his killing for pleasure, particularly of chickens. But in the twentieth century, his image changed. He became as lovable as Basil Brush, as cute as a Disney character.

So who then was to blame for giving the fox an image makeover, turning him into a victim of oppression? It was the poet John Masefield. In 1919, he wrote his hugely popular poem 'Reynard the Fox' which described the magic of country life and demonstrated a touching compassion for the animal. Over the following years, slowly but surely, the fox started to benefit from a public relations campaign that any X Factor contestant would die for. Advertisers cast him as an amusing fellow and Disney put the seal on his heroic status by turning him into a cartoon Robin Hood in 1981's The Fox and the Hound.

The makeover coincided with the rise and rise of the urban fox. He was protected by an army (the Animal Liberation Front), fawned over by animal charities and bunny-huggers, and finally saved from persecution by the law. He also began to find shelter among the houses of the suburbs and their long, lush gardens. He made slow progress at first, but now it is a rare night when residents in London do not record the carnivore on the prowl. The fox is regularly seen, even in daylight, in supermarket car parks, behind shopping centres, and scrabbling through bins near fast food shops. Each generation of foxes becomes more used to the ways of the town and is more able to deal with traffic. He has no predators, except man, and no shortage of food.

A1. Look at lines 1-14.

Explain carefully how and why Obed Ramotswe became a miner in South Africa.

[10]

Read carefully the story below. Then answer all the questions which follow it.

The novel from which this extract is taken is set in Botswana, which is a country in southern Africa.

I am Obed Ramotswe. I love my country and I am proud I was born in Botswana. There's no other country in Africa that can hold its head up as we can.

I had no desire to leave my country, but things were bad in the past. Before we built our country we had to go off to South Africa to work. We went to the mines. The mines sucked our men in and left the old men and the children at home. We dug for gold and diamonds and made those white men rich. They built their big houses. And we dug below them and brought out the rock on which they built it all.

I was eighteen when I went to the mines. My father said I should go, as his lands were not good enough to support me and a wife. We did not have many cattle, and we grew just enough crops to keep us through the year. So when the recruiting truck came from over the border I went to them and they put me on a scale and listened to my chest and made me run up and down a ladder for ten minutes. Then a man said that I would make a good miner and they made me write my name on a piece of paper. They asked me whether I had ever been in any trouble with the police. That was all.

Q: Explain why Fogle and Cracknell took part in the Atlantic race [5 marks]

The pair spent 49 days rowing the Atlantic in a tiny boat, winning the world's toughest rowing race, despite having spent only four months preparing. Most people, it is fair to say, thought they were mad.

Fogle has presented a number of TV programmes, including Animal Park and Cash in the Attic. Unlike Cracknell, a two-time Olympic gold medallist at rowing, Fogle had no experience in the sport. So why do something so extreme?

"It gives you a huge buzz," he says. Later on though, he admits, "A psychologist would say it was a symptom of not wanting to be seen as 'Ben Fogle, presenter of Cash in the Attic'. There is a lot more to me than that." Cracknell had only recently won his second gold medal at the Olympics when he bumped into Fogle at a party. When Fogle asked if he would be interested in rowing the Atlantic, his answer was an emphatic "no". However, the idea grew on him, in part because of confusion over his future career. Cracknell says, "Stopping sport is an incredibly tough thing. I've had opportunities to do other things, but if anyone asks what I'm doing now, nothing sounds as worthwhile as 'I'm training for the Olympics'. You work to a routine and everything is done for you. You don't have to grow up."

He thought he could use the time away from e-mail, the mobile and the pressures of everyday life to think things through, and make a final decision on whether to compete in the next Olympics. "Yeah. Things didn't quite work out like that," he says with a sideways smile at Fogle.

^{*}Remember to join the HWB class – see your teacher for further details