



2012 English

Intermediate 2 – Close Reading

Finalised Marking Instructions

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English – Intermediate 2
Close Reading
Marking Key

1. odd/strange/curious/eccentric – ie not comical/amusing **1 U**

2. Any one of “beloved”, “bizarre”, “twists” or “(poor) dears” (1) **2 U**
suggests (**eg**) amusement/condescension/wonderment/lack of sympathy /
mockery OR any other acceptable comment **on the chosen example** (1)

3. “(these multifarious) superstitions” or “(not only about) humanity” **2 A**
looks back to the ideas of the first two paragraphs (1);
“of deeper importance” anticipates more serious ideas which follow
or
“other species” anticipates following ideas (about pigeons) (1)
OR
“not only (about humanity)” (1)
signals a diversion (1)
OR
the question the sentence asks (1)
is then answered (1)

4. Glosses of “widely regarded” (eg seen by many people/well-known/respected) **1 U**
or “father (of modern psychology)” (eg an innovative/authoritative figure)
OR
Skinner used pigeons in his experiments

5. It (clearly) conveys the innovative nature of the experiment/he was doing **1 E**
something new;
accept adverse comment that the expression may be perceived as a cliché

6. Both the pigeons and the tennis player (1) **3 U**
(wrongly) thought their actions (1)
were linked to the consequences (1)

7. It adds /contributes to the humour/sceptical tone of the passage **1 A**

8. (To show that) **1 A**
intelligent people can be superstitious too/superstition is not just the
preserve of “the silly and gullible”

9. There is the (literal) sense of being malodorous (1) **2 A**
and the (figurative) sense of being annoying (1)
OR
The pun/double meaning/play on words (1) of (literal and figurative)
senses of being malodorous and being annoying (1)

10. (a) They give an example/provide an illustration (1) which addresses the reason(s) for superstition/continues the idea of “deep evolutionary history” (1) **2 A**
- (b) This is a modern/idealistic notion (1) In a very old/more brutal context (1) Condensed answer explaining incongruity/anachronism (eg “cavemen wouldn’t know about five-a-day”) = 2 **2 A**
11. Gloss of “providing a cocoon of safety in a turbulent and dangerous world”: eg they insulate/shield/shelter/protect (1) in unstable/risky/perilous/unsettled circumstances (1) OR gloss of “The caveman’s behaviour now looks not only sensible but life-saving” eg being superstitious can make you cautious (1) and (therefore) more likely to survive (1) **2 U**
12. It introduces an expansion or explanation (of what the “proviso” is). **1 A**
13. (a) People (still) indulge in superstition (in various situations) (1) But it has little influence/(beneficial) effect/is harmless (1) **2 U**
- (b) Idea of similarity of construction/repetition/triplet of “some... but” OR comparability of relationship indicated/implied by use of semi-colons (N.B. not identification of semi-colon alone) **1 A**
14. *It is appropriate because* *Just as a spectrum contains a whole range/variety/scale (of colours) (1)* *so there is a (wide) range of superstitions/(illogical) behaviours/perceptions/beliefs (1)* **2 E**
- It is inappropriate because* *the (bright) colour imagery implied (1)* *is not apt or fitting or helpful to describe/illustrate the (melancholy) subject (1)*
- Award one mark for a claim that the expression is a cliché*
15. *It illustrates his point about the range of “irrationality” (1) by providing an extreme example of superstition (1)* OR *It illustrates his point that superstition taken to excess/dogmatically insisted upon (1) has an unhelpful/deleterious effect/outcome (1)* OR *He is using reference to a team game (1) to show the influence of superstition on others (1)* **2 A**
- He is using someone famous to help the reader connect = 1*

16. *The reference to the elements of help and hindrance (1)
(neatly) recaps the idea of ambivalence explored elsewhere
in the passage (1)*

2 E

OR

“ritual” (1)

*(tellingly) repeats a (significant) word used earlier/repeated (three times)
earlier in the passage (1)*

OR

(metaphor) “kick (the ritual into touch)” (1)

(neatly) reprises references to football/sport used earlier (1)

OR

*“a rabbit’s foot” is (clearly) associated with superstition (1)
which is the article’s topic (1)*

OR

“With a rabbit’s foot, obviously” (1)

*(adroitly) reprises the cynical/sceptical/humorous tone seen
elsewhere (1)*

U = 11; A = 14; E = 5

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]