

2020 O Level English Language Paper 2 Suggested Answers

Section A

1. It helps students develop skills that will be useful in their future career.
2. Looking after livestock
3.
 - (i) A reference from their school or college
 - (ii) A letter of consent from their parents or guardians
4. 'practical experience in my first written assignment'

Section B

5.
 - 'The holiday had found its fiercest day yet'
The heat was so aggressive that it was the hottest day during that holiday.
 - 'The sky was ironed flat'
The heat was so strong that it seemed to have flattened the sky, like how a hot iron would flatten clothes / like how a heat roller would flatten sheets of metal.
 - 'Even the clouds had fallen from the edges in the faultless blue'
There was not a single cloud in the sky that sheltered the people from the heat of the sun.

Teacher's Comment!

'Wipe ice cream' has no special use of language; it merely states what was happening. 'Raincoats' and 'umbrella' show people's "mistrust" about the weather, that it might still rain despite the heat.

6.
'faded'
7.
 - (i) affection
 - (ii) anticipation
8.
 - (a) critical / disapproving tone
 - (b) She snapped shut the front cover of the books returned by Grace. She frowned when she handed the tickets to Grace.
9.
 - (a) Mrs Norton thought that children's books were suitable for Grace.
 - (b) She needed to read a wider variety of books and not just children's books.

10. Gaining knowledge from reading non-fiction books

Teacher's Comment!

"The ripe solid smell of learning" does not literally refer to the smell of the books. It refers to the new experience of learning from these books.

11.

- (i) 'conversation'
- (ii) 'lost reception'
- (iii) 'disappeared'

12.

- (a) The inside of the library was pleasant but the outside was dreadful.

Teacher's Comment!

The atmosphere refers to "the carpets and poshed corridors" inside and the "heat which made the edges of the world wave and swim" outside.

- (b) 'intrepid Sub-Saharan explorer'

13.

- (i) a familiar journey
- (ii) managing adults
- (iii) showing curiosity
- (iv) satisfying outcome

Teacher's Comment!

"intrepid Sub-Saharan explorer" in paragraph 8 is Grace's creative imagination of the world outside the library. It is not a stage in her visit to the library.

Section C

14.

	Animal	Similarity
(i)	Male geese	The inability to fly
(ii)	Donkeys	The sounds they make

15.

- (i) They cannot fly.
- (ii) They have vertically straight backs.

16. (a)

- (i) The population of penguin colonies has dwindled in the last forty years, some by as much as eight per cent or more.
- (ii) Pollution, fishing and other human activities have endangered the penguins.

(b) Magellan penguins can still be found all around the southern coasts of South America. This shows that penguins are thriving despite the delicate balance in the eco-system.

17.

- (i) They seem to have long bodies on short legs.
- (ii) Their shoulders are set low on their bodies.

18. Their leg bones are enveloped by their bodies. This helps to keep their legs warm.

19.

From the text	In your own words
awkward-looking... low on their bodies (line 20-21)	... have disproportionately long bodies, short legs and low shoulders.
The bones... boomerang. (line 21-22)	Their shapes vary drastically: they are like boomerangs with their unbelievably flat wing bones,
When they squat... remarkable degree. (line 23-25)	like balls when they bend their knees,
When they stand... elegant. (line 25-26)	yet tall and slender in an upright position.
... they can 'sit'.... the ground (line 28) extremely stubby legs... abdomens (line 33)	
They waddle... gait (line 34)	They are clumsy as they tumble around while walking on land,
... to take in air... moving forward (line 37-38)	but they are skilful while swimming in water and leaping out to get oxygen.
When swimming... deflated duck (line 39-40)	
Their speed... the fish they prey on (lines 42-43)	They are swift in catching aquatic lives
No cheetah.... than penguins in water. (line 43-44)	and swim with the greatest poise among all animals.