

Practice text: Wings

Cracking the questions

Question	Answer	CD/Mark	Useful strategies
1. Why do you think all of the verses begin in the same way?	- To act as a kind of refrain/chorus. - To emphasise the link between them. - To remind the reader what the poem is about.	2f 1 mark	Question focus: explain how content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole. Strategies: Carefully read the question, marking key words.
2. Match the senses with what the writer would focus on.	Sight ——— People Hearing ——— The sun Smell ——— Clouds of sheep Touch ——— Raindrops Taste ——— Fingertips of clouds ——— The sun	2c 2 marks	Question focus: summarise ideas from more than one verse. Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Read the poem, verse by verse, matching the sense that is the focus of each verse with what the poet mentions in the verse. Award 2 marks for all five correct. Award 1 mark for three correct.
3. Why does the poet compare the sun to "peppered curry" (verse 2)?	Because pepper tastes hot and curry can taste hot, so peppered curry is the hottest thing the poet can imagine tasting.	2g 1 mark	Question focus: explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases. Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Carefully read verse 2 to understand the words in context. - Think about what the simile might be trying to achieve. - Explain the relationship between the sun and peppered curry.
4. In real life, which creatures might "glide on the wind's breath"? (verse 1).	Birds.	2d 1 mark	Question focus: make inferences from the text. Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Think about what you know about creatures that glide on the wind.
5. "... that <u>graze</u> on the blue ..." a) Why did the writer choose to use the word "graze"? b) Suggest an alternative word to replace it with.	a) The word "graze" continues the mention of sheep bleating in the previous line. b) Nibble, crop, eat, feed.	2a 1 mark	Question focus: explain and explore the meaning of words in context. Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Scan the text for relevant information.

Question	Answer	CD/Mark	Useful strategies
6. What do you think the poet means by "clouds of sheep" (verse 3)?	Clouds look like sheep/sheep look like clouds/there are lots of them.	2g 1 mark	Question focus: <i>identify how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Carefully reread the verse and consider what it might mean. Award the mark for any reasonable explanation of the verse.
7. The last verse is: "If I had wings I would dream of swimming the deserts and walking the seas." How is this verse different from the previous verses? Give two ways.	- It has an extra line. - All the other verses are about using the senses; this verse is about dreams. - This verse is about things you couldn't do even if you did have wings.	2h 2 marks	Question focus: <i>summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Skim the previous verses, considering what is similar about them. - Carefully reread the final verse and consider how it is different. Award 1 mark each for the ways in which the final verse is different.
8. Write a sentence or two summarising what the poem is about. Begin with: "The poem 'Wings' is about..."	Accept any answer that recognises that the poem is based around using the 5 senses to have experiences which are not possible without wings. E.g. The poem 'Wings' is about: - how you could use all your senses to explore the universe - how the poet would like to use his senses differently from the air than he does on the ground.	2c 1 mark	Question focus: <i>summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Skim read the poem, thinking about the question. - Consider the questions and the answers you have already given. - Decide what you think the poem is about.
9. Do you think the poet would like to have wings? Yes/No Explain your answer fully, referring to the poem.	Yes - He only tells us good things about having wings/all the things he tells us about having wings are interesting and exciting, for example "taste a chunk of the sun" (verse 2) and "touch the fingertips of clouds" (verse 1). No - In the last verse he tells us that he would "dream of swimming the deserts/and walking the seas" (verse 6) which are things you can only do if you have legs.	2c 2 marks	Question focus: <i>summarise ideas from more than one paragraph.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Skim the text while considering the question. - Scan the text to find relevant quotations. Award 1 mark for a brief explanation which matches the initial decision. Award the second mark for a suitable quotation from the text.