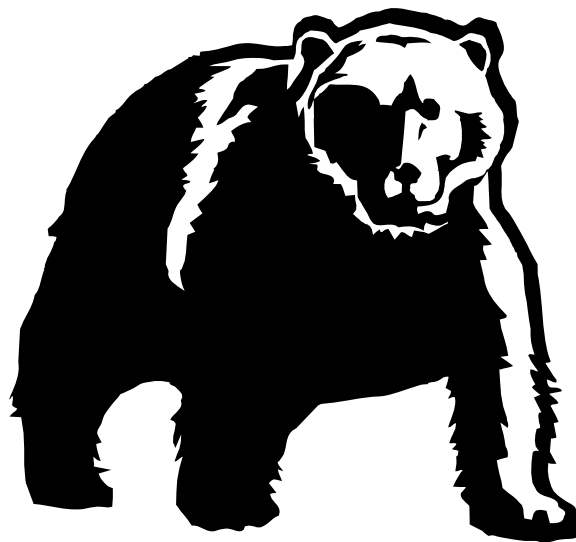


Intermediate 2 English

Close Reading 2002

Pupil's Booklet



Intermediate 2 English

When we meet with a Close Reading passage for the first time, there are two questions that we should ask ourselves:

What is the writer's purpose?

This means why has the writer written this passage.

Who is the writer's audience?

This means for whom has the writer written this passage.



Types of Questions

Close reading questions fall into three main areas:

Understanding Questions

This type of question deals with what the passage is about.

Analysis Questions

This type of question deals with how the writer gets their point across.

Evaluation Questions

This type of question deals with how effectively the writer gets their point across.



Question 1	Marks	Marks given away
<i>What might have caused the writer to be “saucer-eyed” (line 2)?</i>	1	
General Advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • The information is contained in the passage. • Look at the lines immediately surrounding the line to which you have been directed. • It is worth one mark so you are required to give one reason. 		
Specific Advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the sentence in which you find the phrase “saucer-eyed”. • Work out what the writer means by the phrase “saucer-eyed”. • Go through the whole sentence looking for a reason which would explain why the writer is lying “saucer-eyed”. 		
Response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Question 2	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>“reading clinically precise accounts of people gnawed pulpy” (lines 2-3)</i> <i>Considering this expression <u>as a whole</u>, explain fully how the language used makes it humorous.</i></p>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis type question. • This type of question is asking you to comment on how the language is effective in conveying the ideas/tone of the writer. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must comment on the whole of this expression. • Think about what makes this a humorous expression. • Translate any of the more complicated phrases into words you would use. • What is it about these phrases being used together that make this expression humorous? 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 		

Question 3	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>“(I didn’t know this happened!)” (line 4)</i></p> <p><i>(a) Explain the use of the brackets round this expression.</i></p>	1	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis type question. • This type of question is asking you to comment on the use of punctuation. • It is worth one mark so you are required to give one part to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think of the reasons why brackets are used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To give extra information To give extra detail To give an explanation To give the writer’s personal opinion To give an aside to the reader To create an informal tone • You must comment on the use of the brackets within the context of this passage. 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Question 3	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>“(I didn’t know this happened!)” (line 4)</i></p> <p><i>(b) Explain the use of the exclamation mark.</i></p>	1	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis type question. • This type of question is asking you to comment on the use of punctuation. • It is worth one mark so you are required to give one part to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think of the reasons why a exclamation mark is used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To convey amazement To convey shock To convey surprise To convey any other strong emotion • You must comment on the use of the exclamation mark within the context of this passage. 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Question 4	Marks	Marks given away
<p>(a) What do “aromatic gel”, juicy meat” and “a chocolate bar (line 6) have in common that attracts bears?</p>	1	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • This type of question is asking you show your understanding of the ideas expressed by the writer. • It is worth one mark so you are required to give one part to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have to find something which links each of these phrases. • Re-read the sentence in which they appear. • Highlight or underline any more unusual words, which you could explain in a different way. • Once you have translated the relevant words, do any of them provide a link between these three phrases? 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Question 4	Marks	Marks given away
<i>(b) Which single word used later in the same paragraph <u>makes this clear</u>?</i>	1	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • This type of question is asking you to identify a specific word, which supports your answer to part (a) of the question. • Quote the single word for your answer. • It is worth one mark so you are required to give one part to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the rest of the paragraph from which the phrases “aromatic gel”, “juicy meat” and “a chocolate bar” are taken. • Highlight or underline any more unusual words, which you could explain in a different way. • Once you have translated the relevant words, which single word in this paragraph supports your answer to part (a)? 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Question 5	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>In your own words, explain the ways in which human beings might have <u>accidental</u> confrontations with bears.</i></p>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • “Use your own words” question – underline this phrase immediately to remind yourself that you must do this. You will gain no marks if you just “lift” the answer. • Identify the answer in the passage and then “translate” into your own words. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about where the answers to this question might be. The previous question looked at the second last sentence of the paragraph and the next question looks at the next paragraph so the chances are that the answers are in the last sentence of the first paragraph. • The key word in this question is “accidental” so you are looking for words which mean the same as this to help point you in the right direction. • Highlight any incidents that show tourists having “accidental” confrontations with bears and then translate any possible words in order to gain your marks. • Once you have found your “accidental” confrontation explain in your own words what this was. • Continue through the sentence until you find another accidental confrontation and repeat the process. • Be aware that there are only slight differences between the two confrontations so look for any subtle differences. • Another clue is that to look for a joining word which would signify the two possible parts of the answer. 		

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Question 6	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>(a) Read lines 12-32. <u>In your own words</u>, outline the points the writer makes to support his contention that, if he were attacked by a bear, it is more probable “it would be a black bear”.</i></p>	3	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • “Use your own words” question – underline this phrase immediately to remind yourself that you must do this. You will gain no marks if you just “lift” the answer. • Identify the answer in the passage and then “translate” into your own words. • It is worth three marks so you are required to give three parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the section to which you have been directed in this case lines 12-32. • Remember that you are looking for reasons that would make it more likely that the writer would be attacked by a black bear rather than a grizzly bear. • Highlight any reasons that show that black bears are what the writer is more worried about and then translate any possible words in order to gain your marks. • Once you have found your first reason for black bears being more likely to attack, explain in your own words what this was. Continue through the sentence until you find another reason and repeat the process twice more. • Remember that when you see mention of “black bear” in the passage, the answer will generally come after this reference. If you have not collected all three, then look directly before. • Remember that there may be information about the grizzly bears, which could be relevant to why black bears are more likely to be the ones who attack the writer. 		

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Question 6	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>(b) Read lines 12-32. <u>In your own words</u>, what characteristics of black bears makes even an attack by them unlikely?</i></p>	1	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • “Use your own words” question – underline this phrase immediately to remind yourself that you must do this. You will gain no marks if you just “lift” the answer. • Identify the answer in the passage and then “translate” into your own words. • It is worth one mark so you are required to give one part to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the section to which you have been directed in this case lines 12-32. • Highlight any reasons that show the characteristics of a black bear, which make it unlikely to attack and then translate any possible words in order to gain your marks. • Once you have found your first characteristic explain in your own words what this was. Continue through the sentence until you find another reason and repeat the process. • Remember the answer will generally be after the answer to the previous question. 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 		

Question 7	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>“Ursus horribilis as it is so vividly and correctly labelled” (line 14)</i> <i>Why has Bryson used the word “labelled” in this expression instead of the word “called”?</i></p>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis type question. • This type of question is asking you to comment on the writer’s word choice. • You should think about why the word the writer has chosen is the best word to explain what they mean. • You should think about the meaning of the word chosen by the writer and what its connotations are. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decide what the word “labelled” means. • What added meanings / connotations does “labelled” have that “called” does not? Think about the implications of this word. • Who would use the word “labelled”? When would you use the word “labelled”? • Why is “labelled” the best word to use in these circumstances? Think about the fact that the writer has used the Latin name for a bear! • This question is worth two marks so you need to explain in detail why “labelled” is so appropriate in this context- what does it add to the meaning of the sentence? 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Question 8	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>Why might “positively porcupine it” (line 17) be considered an effective expression?</i></p>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An evaluation type question. • You need to comment on what is “good” about the writer’s choice of language. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about what techniques are used in this expression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imagery? – Comment on picture created Alliteration? – Comment on sound created Words used in an unusual way? Use of tone? – How does this expression convey tone? What is the tone used? • Pick one technique and identify it in your answer. • Explain the use of this technique, what it shows and what it adds to your reading of this expression. 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 		

Question 9	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>Read paragraph 4 (lines 29-32) again. Identify any <u>one</u> technique used by the writer in this paragraph and explain how this technique helps him to create the appropriate tone.</i></p>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis type question. • This question is asking you to comment on any of the techniques the writer has used in order to create the tone of the passage. • Quote the part of the passage which contains the technique and then explain it. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about the different techniques used by the writer. Possible techniques are: <p>Sentence structure Punctuation Word choice Figures of speech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-read lines 29-32 and highlight any features you notice about the structure, the sentence structure, word choice or imagery. • Once you have identified the techniques used by the writer pick the one you are most comfortable writing about- you only have to choose one so make it the one you are best at! • Quote the example you have identified to get one mark. Make sure you state which technique it is too. • Explain your example commenting on how this adds to the tone of the passage. 		

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Question 10	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>Give the meaning of the word “adroit” and explain how lines 45 and 46 help you to work it out.</i></p>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis type question. • This type of question wants you to give the meaning of a word and to show how you worked that meaning out from the context of the passage- You must do both to get the marks even if you already know the meaning of the word! • You need to translate exam language into your own words. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look again at lines 45 and 46. • What information / examples does the writer give which suggests what the bears are adroit at? • From this information can you work out what adroit means? • Use evidence or examples from the passage to support your answer. • You will be given a mark for giving the correct meaning of adroit and a mark for showing how you worked it out i.e. by giving examples from the passage. 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 		

Question 11	Marks	Marks given away
<i>(a) What “tactics” are you advised to adopt if you are attacked by a black bear?</i>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • As the question does not state that you have to answer in your own words you can lift from the passage. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the word “tactics” in the passage to help you locate the relevant information. • Make sure that you pick out the “tactics” that are relevant to black bear attacks and not ones by grizzlies! • The question asks you to mention “tactics”, so ensure you give more than one answer. 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 		

Question 11	Marks	Marks given away
<i>(b) Quote an expression which suggests that Bryson is not convinced of the wisdom of this advice.</i>	1	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding type question. • You have to lift an expression from the text which reveals the writer's feelings. • An expression is generally 2-4 words but can be longer. • Do not quote full sentences as you will not get any marks for this- you must select the relevant section to quote. • It is worth one mark so you are required to give one part to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about the key words in this question- “not convinced of the wisdom”. • Work out what this actually means. • Look for any phrases that show this attitude. • Quote only the most important words! 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Question 12	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>Explain clearly Bryson’s main purpose for including the story of the two teenagers, Mark Seeley and Michael Whitten.</i></p>	2	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis type question. • This question is asking you to comment on the writer’s style and what it brings to the information presented. • It is worth two marks so you are required to give two parts to your answer. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about the purpose of including a story which deals with a situation relevant to the main point of the passage. • Why is it there? • What does it add to your understanding of the passage as a whole? • In order to make this an analysis type answer you need to include reference to other parts of the passage to show you fully understand the writer’s craft. 		
<p>Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • 		

Question 13	Marks	Marks given away
<p><i>Think about the passage as a whole.</i></p> <p><i>Bill Bryson is a very popular writer of travel books.</i></p> <p><i>Referring in detail to at least two techniques he uses in this passage, explain why people might find his writing enjoyable.</i></p>	4	
<p>General Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An evaluation type question. • It is worth four marks so you are required to give four parts to your answer. • As it is worth four marks you are required to give a detailed answer. • The final question in a close reading paper generally deals with the passage as a whole. • You have to use the information you have gathered in your previous answers to help you answer this one. 		
<p>Specific Advice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have to think of two techniques which have been used by the writer. For example Imagery, Anecdote, Structure, Punctuation, Word Choice, Tone. • If you cannot think of any techniques look back at the analysis questions to help you. • Pick one technique which you feel comfortable explaining. • Once you have identified the technique then find examples to support your answer. • Remember to explain your quotes in detail-the same way you do for an analysis question. • As this is an evaluation question you then have to refer to how the examples you have given make Bryson's "writing enjoyable". You need to give your opinion on how these add to the reader's enjoyment of the passage. • Repeat the process for your second technique. 		

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