ENGLAND GCSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDEXCEL 2.0 · UNIT 1 · 10 QUESTIONS

19th-Century Non-fiction Reading — Practice Test

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button so it can be fixed.

1 **A bicycle with a flat tyre waits by the gate. Which word is a verb in this sentence: The boy mended the bicycle quickly?**

- A quickly
- B the
- C bicycle
- D mended

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2 **A birthday cake is cut into slices for the guests. Which word is an adverb in this sentence: She sliced the cake fast?**

- A cake
- B she
- C sliced
- D fast

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3 **Fever and cholera stalk our crowded streets, and the cause is plain for all to see: the water we drink is foul. Wells stand beside drains, and filth seeps into every cup, spreading sickness like poison in a well. Until each town has clean water, brought in pipes from pure springs, sickness will return with every hot summer, year after year. Clean water is not a luxury; it is a matter of life itself. In the extract, the word ‘foul’ most closely means**

- A clean and pure
- B dirty
- C sweet and fresh
- D cold and clear

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4 **Fever and cholera stalk our crowded streets, and the cause is plain for all to see: the water we drink is foul. Wells stand beside drains, and filth seeps into every cup, spreading sickness like poison in a well. Until each town has clean water, brought in pipes from pure springs, sickness will return with every hot summer, year after year. Clean water is not a luxury; it is a matter of life itself. What mood does the extract create?**

- A relaxed
- B cheerful
- C amused
- D urgent

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5 **What is third person narration?**

- A told by you
- B told by nobody
- C told by he, she or they
- D told by I or we, the narrator

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6 **What does second person narration use?**

- A he
- B you
- C they
- D I

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7 **Which phrase creates a serious tone?**

- A a matter of grave concern
- B a bit of a laugh, really, nothing serious
- C whatever
- D no worries at all

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8 **Why does 19th-century writing often sound formal?**

A formal language was expected in print

B all writers were rich

C informal language was banned

D writers then had no other words to use

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9 **What is the purpose of a newspaper editorial?**

A to give the paper's opinion

B to sell tickets

C to print the weather

D to list the television programmes

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10 **Why might a 19th-century writer mention class?**

A class was a new idea nobody knew

B class did not exist then

C class was illegal to mention

D class shaped daily life

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ANSWER KEY

1. D
2. D
3. B
4. D
5. C
6. B
7. A
8. A
9. A
10. D

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