

# Comprehension Mark Scheme Floods & Tears

Question	Marks	Suggested Answer
<p>1. Look at paragraph one. Why do you think the writer has chosen a description of the floods as her opening paragraph? [2]</p> <p>Is she successful? [2]</p>	4	<p><b>Suggested content below but please accept any reasonable answer.</b></p> <p><b>Any two of these, or reasonable alternatives, along with an explanation from the student of whether they feel the writer was successful.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By starting with a description, the writer is trying to engage the reader's interest as they can picture the dramatic events in their mind. [1]</li> <li><b>Do not accept: 'To make it interesting' without any explanation of how.</b></li> <li>• The first paragraph is full of movement, which gives it an urgency, for example 'The water rushes and rolls'. The reader is carried along with the momentum of the writing and is intrigued to see where this will end up. [1]</li> <li>• The writer starts the piece in the middle of a story with no explanations - we don't know who, where, what or when - we hear about 'the water' and 'people' but there are no explanations. By doing this, the writer builds tension and excites the curiosity of the reader. [1]</li> <li>• The writer uses emotive language, such as 'toxic invasion', which makes the water sound as if it is evil and deliberately planning to go into people's homes. 'Toxic' makes the water sound poisonous and dangerous, which emphasises the seriousness of this event. A reader would want to find out why this is happening and who it is happening to. [1]</li> </ul>
<p>2. What do you think a person might feel as they watch water coming towards their house and then see it flood the bottom floor? [4]</p>	4	<p><b>Please accept any relevant points - pupil needs to write about two emotions with a full explanation for each for full marks.</b></p> <p><b>Suggested content only:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fear - hearing the water 'roar' is like a monster or a wild animal coming towards you. Seeing it 'consume cars, gardens and homes' must have been scary, as it is a powerful force. Spending the night in the 'dark and cold' would be quite frightening, especially if you were on your own as you would not be able to see what was going on outside and can only imagine. We often imagine things to be a lot worse than they actually are.</li> <li>• Helplessness - seeing the power of the water as it 'pushes through dry stone walls' must have meant that the people felt there was nothing they could do. In fact, they can only 'retreat upstairs' to get out of the way of the flood water, which doesn't help the situation. The fact that the 'cruel river has visited them in their home - again' must add to this. When it happened before, people probably took steps to try to prevent it happening again. The fact that it has happened again shows that the reality is that there is little they can do to prevent this.</li> <li>• Sadness - seeing your lovely living room filled with 'sludgy, dirty, stinking, brown water' and your furniture 'ruined and useless' would be devastating. Knowing that your home would be uninhabitable for months and that it would cost thousands to repair would make you feel desolate, especially since this has happened before and may happen again.</li> </ul>
<p>3. In what way will climate change affect the UK? [1]</p>	1	<p><b>Accept any reasonable quote.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change will affect our weather and will probably cause lots of floods - 'flooding is probably the worst consequence...'</li> </ul>
<p>4. Explain what has caused climate change. [2]</p>	2	<p><b>Accept any reasonable quote(s).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human activity, such as 'industry, farming and travel', have resulted in large amounts of 'greenhouses gases, like carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)', being pumped into the atmosphere. This means that the atmosphere now absorbs more heat than it used to do, which is then causing changes to our climate and weather.</li> </ul>

5. Explain how climate change can lead to floods. [3]	3	<p><b>Accept any reasonable quote(s).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The atmosphere is becoming warmer because it now absorbs 'more heat from the Sun'. Because it is warmer, it can hold more water. This means that although the number of times it rains each year will remain the same, the rain will be 'heavier when it falls'. This means that more water than we are used to will fall onto the earth. Rivers take a lot of this water, but if there is too much they will 'burst their banks', which means the water escapes and floods will occur.</li> </ul>
6. Is the flooding a 'once in a hundred years' event? [2]	2	<p><b>Accept any reasonable quote(s).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No, it is not a 'once in a hundred years' event. When the floods happened before, 'six years ago', people were told that it was a one-off, but because they have happened again, it shows that this is not true. As the climate changes due to global warming, floods could happen fairly frequently - 'there is no reason to think that this situation will improve in the coming years.'</li> </ul>
7. Suggest three things you could do to help stop climate change getting any worse and explain why they will help. [6]	6	<p><b>Pupils must give three things plus an explanation for six marks. If pupils give you three things you can do without any explanation, only award 2 marks. The explanation is the important element.</b></p> <p><b>Any three from below:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You should try to walk rather than using the car - 'walk as often as you can'. This is because driving a car adds to greenhouse gases in the air as your exhaust lets out CO<sub>2</sub>. If people used their cars less, it would make a big reduction in greenhouse gases.</li> <li>Don't eat meat for three days out of seven. This is because farming animals for meat causes '18% of greenhouse gas emissions'. If we eat less meat, not as many animals will be farmed and thus we will reduce the amount of gas going into the atmosphere.</li> <li>When we generate electricity, greenhouse gases are released into the air so reducing the amount of electricity you use can reduce this. 'Don't keep boiling the kettle' means we shouldn't put it on to boil and then forget about it and let it go cold, then reboil it. This is just wasting electricity.</li> <li>'Turn everything off at night' means we should turn off our electrical items at the plug before we go to bed, again to save electricity and also to keep down the risk of fire.</li> <li>It takes a lot of energy (and therefore greenhouse gases) to produce clean water, therefore if we take a 'short shower' instead of a bath we save water. If you have an electric shower, it would save electricity as well.</li> <li>If we register for the 'mail preference service' it means we can avoid getting junk mail through the post. Junk mail uses trees to make paper, energy to print it and fuel to transport it. Most of us put junk mail straight into the recycling so it is a waste of resources.</li> <li>'Shop seasonally and locally' means that we should only eat fruit and vegetables that grow in the season we are in. If someone tries to produce tomatoes in the winter, they will need heat and light to make the tomatoes grow - this uses valuable energy. If fruit and vegetables come from other countries, fuel is used in transporting them, which also means more greenhouse gases are put into the air. Food from nearby that is in season can be grown outside and won't take much fuel to get it to the shop.</li> </ul>