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G2 English

Answer Key

Mark scheme · Papers 1 & 2

GOLD 3 TIER

Indicative answers and mark scheme for the Gold 3-tier G2 English practice papers.

Comprehension answers accept any well-supported response; writing uses the G2 band descriptors.

Total: 120 marks

Time: —

Answer Key & Mark Scheme

For tutor use. Comprehension answers are indicative — accept any answer that is well supported by the text. Writing is marked on the G2 band descriptors (see notes at the end).

Paper 1 · Section A — Editing [10]

#	Incorrect	Correction & reason
1	bring	brings (singular subject 'Each of the members')
2	have	delete 'have' (past simple needed with 'Last term')
3	less	fewer (countable noun 'members')
4	among	between (a difference between two things)
5	close	closely (an adverb is needed)
6	was	were (subjunctive after 'If I ...')
7	a	the ('the most important quality')
8	more	delete 'more' ('sharper' is already comparative)
9	took	taken (past participle after 'will have')
10	for	to ('looking forward to')

Paper 2 — Comprehension

Q1. It shows people using a telescope to look up at the night sky / stars — the stargazing the webpage describes ('turn our telescopes towards the heavens'). Accept any feature shown that the text also mentions.

Q2. to explain what light pollution is and the harm it causes.

Q3. Text 1 uses warm, inviting language — a curious question ('Ever wondered what lies beyond the city glow?'), an exclamation and direct appeal to the reader's 'sense of wonder' — whereas Text 2 is factual, scientific and impersonal.

Q4. (a) Text 1; (b) Text 2.

Q5. His day had been disappointing because he had stumbled over the simplest questions in a scholarship interview he had prepared for over weeks; on the train he felt low and embarrassed (a 'hot prickle of embarrassment').

Q6. It suggests his mind went suddenly and completely blank — all the answers he had rehearsed seemed to drain away at once, leaving him with nothing to say.

Q7. Any two: the train's 'steady, hypnotic rhythm against the rails'; the 'open countryside, black and still'; the 'sky scattered with stars'; the gentle rocking of the carriage.

Q8. Because of the bright streetlights / light pollution at home — 'the orange glow of the streetlights' washed the stars out and made them 'invisible'.

Q9. Order: 'the elderly woman smiled and spoke to the writer' = 1; 'the writer's worry began to shrink to its proper size' = 2; 'the elderly woman fell asleep over her book' = 3.

Q10. Any two: she gave 'a kind, unhurried smile'; she spoke 'gently'; she offered comforting words then returned to her book modestly, 'as though she had merely remarked upon the weather'.

Q11. how he saw his interview: it 'began to shrink to its proper size' / 'one small stumble'; how he felt among travellers: 'far less alone' / the carriage felt like 'a kind of refuge'.

Q12. Because he realised that everyone around him carried their own private worries, so he was not the only one struggling — this shared experience made him feel connected rather than isolated.

Q13. He boarded feeling low, embarrassed and convinced his failure was disastrous; the calm journey and the stranger's kind words gradually shrank his worry until he felt lighter and at peace. His choice not to wake the woman shows he was thoughtful and considerate, unwilling to disturb her even to thank her.

Q14. A feeling of calm relief and gratitude — e.g. his 'heart felt curiously light' and he never forgot how 'the night had quietly put things back in their place'.

Q15. Para2 = B; Para3 = A; Para4 = E; Para5 = C; Para6 = D. (Unused: G.)

Q16. Any two: loneliness is forced upon us / against our will, while solitude is chosen; loneliness is an 'ache' of being cut off, while solitude lets the mind 'catch its breath'; solitude is a time to daydream and reflect, a 'gift', not a punishment.

Q17. It refers to the idea that creativity needs space / quiet in which to wander, so our best ideas cannot surface when we are never quiet.

Q18. That the ability to reflect grows weak and fades if we never practise it — just as an unused muscle becomes weak through lack of use.

Q19 Summary — content points (any 6–8, in own words; max 80 words):

- Leave the phone in another room for an hour
- Take a daily walk without headphones
- Sit quietly and let the mind drift (e.g. with a warm drink)
- Keep a notebook to capture idle thoughts
- Parents can set aside screen-free times at home
- Families should not be afraid of a little boredom
- Schools can build moments of stillness into the day
- Schools can show that thinking deeply matters as much as quick answers

Writing mark scheme

Situational (30): Task Fulfilment /10 — all four points developed, correct email form to Ms Rahman, polite+enthusiastic tone, information drawn from the notice. Language /20 — see G2 language ladder.

Continuous (30): Content /10 + Language /20. Narrative (Q1) should trace a clear shift in feeling across the journey; Descriptive (Q2) rewards see, hear AND feel with controlled, vivid imagery; Discursive (Q3) needs both views weighed plus a clear opinion; Argumentative (Q4) needs a balanced 'how far' structure with developed examples.