

Commentary on Candidate A evidence

This candidate was awarded **14/30** marks for the National 5 Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation (RUAE) question paper. The marks for each question were awarded as follows.

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The second part of the candidate's answer, '*You only get a short amount of time to try and entertain Tiny*' was awarded this 1 mark. The candidate's first bullet point was awarded 0 marks because it relied too heavily on words lifted from the passage.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The first bullet point was awarded 0 marks because the candidate lifted the key word '*love*.' The second point was awarded 1 mark for the idea of '*cats are more intelligent than what they put across*.' The third bullet point was also awarded 1 mark for the idea of '*force you to contemplate things*.' The final bullet point was awarded 0 marks because it is close to a direct lift from the passage.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The third bullet point was awarded this mark for '*they were given meals that would put today's cat food to shame*,' as this showed sufficient understanding of the idea that cats were given quality food. In all other bullet points the candidate made significant use of words from the passage to demonstrate understanding; therefore no further marks could be awarded.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

They offered a correct, specific identification with direction: '*haven't really moved on*' links forward.' This was awarded 1 mark. The comment '*to how cats still act and get treated the same as the Egyptian times*' is a reasonable paraphrase of '*demand you treat them with a certain amount of reverence*,' and so was also given 1 mark. The candidate went on to give a second correct identification with direction, but had already been awarded full marks.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

'*The writer uses a list*' is a correct identification for this question, and was awarded the mark for the reference. No mark was awarded for the accompanying comment because it was too vague: there is no sense shown of the writer using a list to emphasise the different things cats do to show their displeasure.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The correct reference '*guarding*' was awarded 1 mark. The comment '*stopping pests from entering*' was accepted as giving a sufficient sense of cats defending Egyptian writing, and was also awarded 1 mark.

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The correct identification '*the writer use a short sentence*' was awarded this mark. However, the comment '*he is sticking up for them*' is simply a re-statement of the question and was awarded 0 marks. The candidate's response on tone was too vague, and no further marks were awarded.

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

In the first bullet point, 1 mark was awarded for '*defend and guard the jewels*.' The second bullet point was also awarded 1 mark for '*the government suggested that libraries should have cats to stop pests/intruders from getting in bookshops*.' The third bullet point was awarded another 1 mark for '*bookshops should also have cats to stop intruders*'.

The remainder of the candidate's answer again relied too heavily on words lifted from the passage so no further marks were awarded.

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

This mark was awarded because a correct selection was made from lines 56–64. The candidate's explanation was awarded 0 marks because it dealt only with meaning and did not make a relevant point about structure.

Commentary Candidate B

evidence

This candidate was awarded **17/30** marks for the National 5 Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation (RUAE) question paper. The marks for each question were awarded as follows.

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The gloss of '*photogenic*' was awarded 1 mark. However, no mark was given for '*short amount of time to pet him*' as the candidate concentrates on time only: the idea contained in '*impress him*' is not dealt with.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

'*They ensure that you earn their trust and affection*' was a sufficient gloss of '*making you work for their love*,' and was awarded 1 mark. '*They are also a protective species*' was awarded 1 mark as a gloss of '*security*.' The comment that cats '*are in charge*' was given 1 mark as an acceptable gloss of '*manager*.' The gloss of '*abiding conscience*' ('*they can predict/sense good & bad things*') was also given 1 mark. A further point, that cats are '*secretly smart but quiet about it*' was close to the idea of '*they just seem smarter than they're letting on*' but the key word '*smart*' was lifted and no marks were awarded for this.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The first part of the candidate's response that cats were '*adored by gods*' was given 0 marks as it shows a misunderstanding. The candidate's next point that '*humans were below cats*' was awarded 1 mark for the idea of '*inferior*.' The candidate was then awarded 1 mark for '*if anyone harmed a cat they'd face extreme punishment*' which is a sufficient gloss of '*killed a cat, you'd be sentenced to death*.' The candidate's point that '*(Cats) were fed the best/luxurious food*' was awarded 1 mark for the idea that cats were given fancy/quality food. The candidate's final point about '*extreme adoration towards the species*' was also given 1 mark as a gloss of '*ancestors were worshipped as gods*.'

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**.

They did not make the required selection from the sentence, and the comment was also vague.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

This mark was awarded for a correct reference to the feature of 'a list.' However, the candidate's analytical comment did not come close enough to explaining the function of the list and was awarded 0 marks.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

They were awarded 1 mark for the selection of one phrase '*protectors guarding.*' The relevant explanation that '*cats were used as security from rats intruding & ruining everything such as their writing,*' was also awarded 1 mark.

The candidate's further selections were not relevant to the question's focus, of preserving Egyptian writing, and so 0 marks were awarded for these.

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

Their response on '*four legged protectors*' gained 0 marks because it was taken from the wrong lines. The reference '*Tom and Jerry*' was awarded 1 mark, but the explanation '(used) *in a metaphorical way*' was not full enough to be awarded a mark.

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

Their first point lifts the words '*protect*' and '*treasures.*' For this reason 0 marks were awarded for this. However, the next point that '*Rats were seen as the main problem of disease,*' showed sufficient understanding of '*Europeans still sure that rats caused the Black Death,*' and was awarded 1 mark. The point about the actions of the '*British Gov*' was also awarded 1 mark. Finally, the candidate noted that '*It's stayed tradition,*' and this was awarded 1 mark as it demonstrated understanding of the fact that cats '*never really left (bookshops).*'

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

This mark was awarded for a relevant selection. However, there was not quite enough in terms of an explanation as to how the selection summed up a main idea of the passage for a further mark to be awarded.

Commentary on Candidate C evidence

This candidate was awarded **23/30** marks for the National 5 Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation (RUAЕ) question paper. The marks for each question were awarded as follows.

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

In the first bullet point, they were awarded 1 mark for *'has a lot of importance,'* because this is a sufficient inference from the expression *'Mini Master.'* The candidate's point that *'the cat is good for taking photos of,'* was given 0 marks as it does not show enough understanding of *'photogenic.'*

The candidate's second bullet point was also given 1 mark, because the response: *'to try and gain the cats approval in the short time period,'* covers the full idea contained within *'gives you approximately five seconds to impress him, otherwise he goes right back to sleep.'*

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The first bullet point was awarded 1 mark for *'cats take on high power roles as they are aware of their own importance':* this is an acceptable gloss of *'co-owner'* or *'manager.'* The second bullet point was awarded 1 mark for *'it is as though they have a higher intelligence than they're letting you know':* this shows understanding of *'they just seem smarter than they're letting on.'* The candidate's third bullet point was also awarded 1 mark for *'they make humans think about things and reflect.'* This demonstrates a good understanding of *'force you to contemplate things.'*

Finally, 1 mark was awarded for a combination of the content of the final two bullet points, as sufficient coverage was given of *'(keep you in check by) making you work for their love.'*

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The first bullet point was awarded 1 mark for *'luxury meals'* as there is clear understanding of the suggestion in the passage that cats were given fancy or quality food. The candidate's second, third and fourth bullet points all relied too heavily on material lifted from the passage, so 0 marks could be awarded here. The final bullet point – *'dressed in precious materials and gems'* – was awarded 1 mark for a demonstrated understanding of *'Cats were often adorned with jewels.'*

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

In the second part of the response, the candidate does enough to achieve full marks for this question, twice. 1 mark was awarded for *'time of Pharaoh links back,'* and 1 mark for reference to *'ancient Egyptian society'*. Marks could also have been awarded for the material on *'haven't really moved on,'* but full marks had already been gained.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

This mark was awarded for identification of the technique of questioning (despite the mistaken reference to *'rhetorical'*). The comments which accompany the reference were awarded 0 marks as there is nothing with specific relevance.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for the selection of the word *'protectors.'* 1 mark was also awarded for the candidate's comment that *'cats played a big role in battling off any danger that could cause for the writing,'*

The candidate's further selection of *'successfully,'* and associated comment were given 0 marks as they were not related closely enough to the question: *'preserving Egyptian writing.'*

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for the correct selection of *'pests,'* and 1 mark for the accompanying comment that this *'makes them sound like unwanted, troublesome vermin.'* The candidate was also awarded 1 mark for the selection of *'unfair,'* and 1 mark for the comment that *'the writer doesn't think the ways cats are portrayed is right.'*

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

Their first bullet point was given 1 mark for *'ordered the best cats.'* The second bullet point was awarded 1 mark for *'the Government in the UK promoted the idea of libraries getting cats to protect the books from mice.'*

The third bullet point was judged to rely too heavily on words lifted from the passage and was given 0 marks.

The fourth bullet point was awarded 1 mark for '*bookshop owners see cats as a logical way to keep pests out of the shop.*' The final bullet point was awarded 1 mark for '*kept on doing it,*' which showed sufficient understanding of '*they (cats) never really left.*'

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for a relevant selection. The candidate was able to relate this selection to the earlier mention (in line 21) of cats having a '*special place*' in society, and was awarded a further 1 mark.

Commentary on Candidate D evidence

This candidate was awarded **25/30** marks for the National 5 Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation (RUAЕ) question paper. The marks for each question were awarded as follows.

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

This mark was awarded for '*soul and heart of the store*' as it showed clear understanding of the '*spirit of the place*.' The candidate's statement that '*it gives him a chance to amaze the cat*' shows only partial understanding of '*gives you approximately five seconds to impress him*,' and was therefore awarded 0 marks.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **5 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for '*earn their friendliness*' as a gloss of '*making you work for their love*.' The candidate's next point: '*act as a guard that will protect you*' was awarded 1 mark as it showed understanding of the idea of cats offering '*security*.' The candidate was then awarded 1 mark for '*in control of everything that goes on*,' representing cats as seeming to be in charge. The candidate's mention of cats being '*higher than everything else around them*' was given 1 mark for the idea of cats being '*above it all*,' i.e. aloof and superior. 1 mark was then awarded for '*have the most respect*' as it showed sufficient understanding of cats being the '*apex* (of domesticated pets)'.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for '*used to be treated as holy beings*' as a clear awareness is shown here of '*ancestors were worshipped as gods*.' 1 mark was then awarded for '*they were clothed in precious materials*' as a gloss of '*Cats were often adorned in jewels*.' A final 1 mark was awarded for '*one of the Egyptian gods could transform into a cat showing how they were seen to be holy*,' in which an understanding was demonstrated of the idea that, in ancient times, even the gods aspired to be cats.

Question 4

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for the correct selection and stated direction: '*the time of Pharaoh links back*.' The candidate identified what this expression was linked with ('*a special place in Egyptian society*') and was awarded a further 1 mark.

They then went on to deal with '(cats) *haven't really moved on,*' but all available marks had already been allocated.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

This mark was awarded for the identification of a short sentence. However, 0 marks were given for the candidate's comment as it not specific enough about what the short sentence is emphasising.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for '*protectors*' and 1 mark for the comment about cats being '*alert and (how they) kept watch over the society.*' 1 mark was awarded for '*guarding*' and 1 mark for the comment on '*watchmen.*' The candidate's response clearly makes a distinction between the connotations of the two selections sufficiently for National 5, with just enough relevance to the question: '*preserving Egyptian writing.*'

Question 7

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

1 mark was awarded for identifying the use of the feature of a short sentence. 1 mark was awarded for the analytical comment that '(this) *shows how the writer feels that the match between the cat and the mouse is not fairly fought and that the cat has a disadvantage.*' The candidate was then awarded 1 mark for the selection of the word '*foiled*' and 1 mark for the detailed explanation on how the use of '*foiled*' demonstrates that the writer is defending cats.

Question 8

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The first part of the candidate's answer relied too heavily on material lifted from the passage; however, they did go on to provide valid responses. 1 mark was awarded for '*the people who had bookshops in their possession decided to use them as well to protect their store,*' as a gloss of '*It made sense that bookshop owners would also employ the four-legged security guards.*' 1 mark was awarded for '*people could not catch them themselves,*' as it showed sufficient understanding of '*rat catchers unable to stop rodents from overrunning.*'

1 mark was awarded for '*readily available to the bookshop,*' as an understanding of '*Cats were easy to find.*' Finally, 1 mark was awarded for '*kind of stayed there,*' as a gloss of '(And once cats were invited...) *they never really left.*'

Question 9

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

This mark was awarded for the relevant reference but the candidate only dealt with the passage's effective conclusion in a general way, and therefore 0 marks were awarded for the accompanying comment.