



Time allowed: 30 minutes • Total marks: 25 (1 mark per question)

- Read the passage carefully before you start the questions.
- Circle the letter of the correct answer for each question.
- You can look back at the passage as often as you like.
- If a question is hard, move on and come back to it at the end.

The Night the Light Flickered

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions. The numbers show the paragraphs.

- 1** Morwen lived on Gull Rock, a tiny island half a mile off the Cornish coast, where her mother kept the lighthouse. Every Tuesday, whatever the weather, a small red boat called the Puffin chugged across from the harbour with their post, their groceries and, if Morwen was lucky, a comic.
- 2** One grey October afternoon, Morwen stood at the end of the jetty and watched the Puffin fight its way towards her. The wind had risen all morning, and now ragged clouds went scudding across the sky like sheep chased by an invisible dog. This delivery mattered more than most. The great lamp at the top of the lighthouse had started to flicker, and the parcel on board held the replacement part her mother had been waiting two weeks for.
- 3** Denzil, the boatman, brought the Puffin as close as he dared, but each time he steered for the jetty a wave shouldered the little boat away. After three attempts he cupped his hands around his mouth and bellowed something the wind tore to pieces. Then he held up a rope and pointed to the sheltered side of the rock, where the water lay calmer in the lee of the cliffs.
- 4** Morwen understood at once. She scrambled over the rocks to the sheltered inlet, and Denzil sealed the parcel inside an empty water barrel, knotted the rope around it and lowered it over the side. The barrel bobbed and spun as Morwen hauled it in, hand over hand. The wet rope burned her cold fingers, and once she slipped on the weed covered stone and nearly let go. Just as her arms began to shake, her mother arrived, took hold behind her, and together they walked backwards up the shingle until the barrel ground ashore.
- 5** That evening, while the storm flung rain at the windows, Morwen held the toolbox and passed up spanners while her mother fitted the new part. At exactly six o'clock the great lamp steadied, swung its white beam out over the heaving sea, and began to turn as smoothly as it had ever done.
- 6** Far below in the harbour, Denzil saw the light sweep past and smiled. Morwen watched it too, from the kitchen window, with a mug of hot chocolate warming her sore hands. Her arms still ached, but she felt only relief, and something else besides: the quiet pride of someone who had been, for one afternoon at least, part of the crew that kept the light burning.

Section A: Comprehension

Questions 1 to 13 are about the passage The Night the Light Flickered.

- 1** On which day did the Puffin normally visit Gull Rock?
- ☐ A Monday ☐ B Tuesday ☐ C Wednesday ☐ D Friday ☐ E Saturday

- 2 Who kept the lighthouse?
☐ A Morwen ☐ B Denzil ☐ C Morwen's father ☐ D Morwen's mother ☐ E The harbour master
-
- 3 Why did this delivery matter more than most?
☐ A It carried a part needed to mend the flickering lamp ☐ B It carried Morwen's comic
☐ C It was the last delivery of the year ☐ D It carried food for the winter
☐ E It carried a present for Denzil
-
- 4 In paragraph 2, the clouds are compared to sheep chased by an invisible dog. What is this kind of comparison called?
☐ A A proverb ☐ B An anagram ☐ C A simile ☐ D A synonym ☐ E A headline
-
- 5 Why could Denzil not land at the jetty?
☐ A The jetty was broken ☐ B The tide was too low ☐ C The Puffin's engine had failed
☐ D He could not see the jetty in the fog ☐ E The waves kept pushing the boat away
-
- 6 In paragraph 3, what does the phrase in the lee of the cliffs mean?
☐ A At the top of the cliffs ☐ B On the side facing the wind ☐ C On the side sheltered from the wind
☐ D Underneath the water ☐ E A long way from the cliffs
-
- 7 How did the parcel get from the boat to the island?
☐ A It was floated ashore in a sealed barrel on a rope ☐ B Denzil threw it onto the jetty
☐ C Denzil swam ashore with it ☐ D A crane lifted it across
☐ E It was left at the harbour for the next day
-
- 8 Which word best describes how Morwen's mother helped with the barrel?
☐ A She rowed out to fetch it ☐ B She shouted instructions from the lighthouse
☐ C She waded into the sea ☐ D She fitted the new part on the jetty
☐ E She pulled on the rope behind Morwen
-
- 9 At what time did the great lamp steady?
☐ A Five o'clock ☐ B Six o'clock ☐ C Seven o'clock ☐ D Midnight ☐ E Noon
-
- 10 How did Denzil know the repair had worked?
☐ A Morwen telephoned him ☐ B He heard the foghorn ☐ C He sailed back to check
☐ D He saw the beam sweep past from the harbour ☐ E Morwen's mother sent a letter
-
- 11 In the final paragraph, what does the word relief tell us about Morwen?
☐ A She was still frightened ☐ B She was disappointed ☐ C She was too tired to feel anything
☐ D She wished the storm would return ☐ E She had been worried, and now the worry was gone
-
- 12 What made Morwen feel proud at the end of the story?
☐ A She had beaten Denzil in a race ☐ B She had made hot chocolate on her own
☐ C She had helped keep the light burning ☐ D She had stayed up past bedtime
☐ E She had won a prize at school
-

- 13 Which of these would be the best summary of the whole passage?
- ☐ A A boatman loses a parcel at sea
- ☐ B A girl helps rescue a vital parcel in a storm so the lighthouse can be mended
- ☐ C A family moves away from an island ☐ D A girl is given a comic for her birthday
- ☐ E A storm destroys a lighthouse
-

Section B: Spelling, punctuation and grammar

Questions 14 to 25 test spelling, punctuation and grammar.

- 14 Which word is spelt incorrectly?
- ☐ A separate ☐ B necessary ☐ C beginning ☐ D definately ☐ E disappear
-
- 15 Which word is spelt incorrectly?
- ☐ A recieve ☐ B believe ☐ C achieve ☐ D ceiling ☐ E field
-
- 16 Which sentence is punctuated correctly?
- ☐ A "Wait for me!" shouted Tom. ☐ B "Wait for me"! shouted Tom. ☐ C "Wait for me! shouted Tom."
- ☐ D Wait for me! "shouted Tom." ☐ E "wait for me!" Shouted Tom.
-
- 17 Which sentence uses an apostrophe correctly?
- ☐ A The dogs bowl was empty. ☐ B The dogs' bowl's were empty. ☐ C The dog's bowls' were empty.
- ☐ D The dogs bowl's were empty. ☐ E The dog's bowl was empty.
-
- 18 Choose the correct word: We left our coats over ____.
- ☐ A their ☐ B they're ☐ C theirs ☐ D there ☐ E them's
-
- 19 Choose the correct word: The weather ____ worse all afternoon.
- ☐ A growed ☐ B grew ☐ C grown ☐ D growing ☐ E grows
-
- 20 Which word in this sentence is an adverb? She carefully carried the tray into the kitchen.
- ☐ A she ☐ B tray ☐ C carefully ☐ D kitchen ☐ E carried
-
- 21 Which word in this sentence is a noun? The old sailor mended his torn net.
- ☐ A old ☐ B mended ☐ C torn ☐ D sailor ☐ E his
-
- 22 What is the plural of leaf?
- ☐ A leafs ☐ B leaves ☐ C leafes ☐ D leave ☐ E leafies
-
- 23 Choose the best conjunction: I wanted to play outside ____ it was raining.
- ☐ A so ☐ B because ☐ C but ☐ D if ☐ E or
-
- 24 Which sentence is a command?
- ☐ A The gate is behind you. ☐ B Is the gate behind you? ☐ C What a lovely gate that is!
- ☐ D The gate was closed by Sam. ☐ E Close the gate behind you.
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25 Which option shows the correct order of words in alphabetical order?

- ☐ **A** beach, boat, bucket, buoy ☐ **B** boat, beach, bucket, buoy ☐ **C** beach, bucket, boat, buoy
☐ **D** buoy, bucket, boat, beach ☐ **E** boat, bucket, beach, buoy

End of paper. Well done!
