

WC- 27.4.2020 Reading Comprehension 1 – Answers

Why did Howard Carter have to wait 19 days before being able to fully excavate the area? (P5/2d) **He had to wait for Lord Carnarvon to arrive from England. Back in that era it took much longer to travel from England to Africa.**

Why did the author use the description: 'as if wrapping a gift for one's birthday,' to describe covering up the excavation? Justify your answer with evidence from the text. (L5/2g) **Personal response; must be justified. Possible answer being: this was such an exciting discovery that he wanted to save it for Lord Carnarvon and so as he covered it up, it was like wrapping up a surprise gift for Lord Carnarvon, as if it was his birthday and this was his present.**

What is different about the sentence structure and grammar in the last line of the diary entry dated Sunday 5th November, compared to the rest of the text? And why do you think this is? (L6/2f) **The sentence is written in a different style because it is a message via cable to England. Messages had to be kept short and so that is why full sentences and punctuation are not really used.**

Find and copy 3 examples of words or groups of words that indicate the hard work needed to excavate an area. (C6/2b) **toiling hard; sheer determination; fill my heart with weariness, knowing how much effort; after much clearance; back-breaking; stamina-testing.**

What was it that Howard Carter discovered on Saturday 25th November that was unsettling? Justify your answer with evidence from the text. (P5/2d) **They found evidence that indicated that the burial had been disturbed and that it was possible that everything had been stolen, 'this was looking desperately more and more like plundering'.**

What did the author mean by the line: 'My mind could not process what was happening' in the diary entry from Sunday 26th November? (L5/2g) **Howard Carter had searched for so long to find this tomb that he could not believe that it was now possible that he had found it.**

Why did they use candles when they had electric torchlights? (P2/2e) **The candles were needed to 'test for the foul gases'.**

What did the author mean by the description: 'as the flame flickered so did my heart'? (C1/2a) **Personal response; must be justified. Possible answer: The heart flickered, like the flame, because it was excited by what they had found.**

How was Lord Carnarvon feeling during the excavation? (P5/2d) **Possible answer: He was feeling excited but nervous because in the entry dated Sunday November 26th Howard Carter wrote the comments: 'added to the suspense and to Lord Carnarvon's anxiety.' 'Unable to bear it no longer, Lord Carnarvon called out to see if I could see anything.'**

Look at the diary entry dated Sunday November 26th, what evidence was there for Howard Carter that they had found a tomb? (C6/2b) **Howard Carter recognised that the location and features 'mirrored almost exactly the doorway to the tomb where the cache of Akhenaten was discovered.'**

What does this mean : 'Without further hesitation, but with vigilant delicacy'. (C1/2a) **Many variations but it should show an awareness that the action was done immediately yet carefully.**

There is a wide range of language used in this text. Find a phrase which particularly interests you and explain why you chose it. (R3) **Personal response; must be justified.**

Write the meaning of each of these words.

sufficient – enough; adequate

excavation – the act of clearing and uncovering a site

toiling – working extremely hard

sheer – perpendicular, or nearly so; steep

conjectured – an opinion or conclusion formed on the basis of incomplete information

labyrinth – an intricate maze of passages or paths

scrutiny – critical observation or examination

decipherable – decode to understand

vigilant – keeping careful watch for possible difficulties

delicacy – the quality of being delicate

aid – a source of help or assistance

weariness – reluctance to experience any more of something unwanted

Task A

Circle the correct definition for each of the words below.

sheer

a steep slope	a slight slope	a long slope
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aid

something helpful	something interesting	something exciting
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sufficient

not quite enough	more than necessary	just the right amount
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toiling

playing	resting	working
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successive

one after the other	one before the other	one on its own
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Task B

Unscramble the following words and write them on the lines below.

neneltis **sentinel**

cceah **cache**

meantalnr **ornamental**

feacttsra **artefacts**

aeoucchtr **cartouche**

dryiam **myriad**