Answers and marking notes

For grown-ups · our own guide, not the STA's mark scheme

1 2b 1 mark
Look at the first paragraph. Find and copy one word that shows Priya did not want to go to the allotment.
"trudged"

2 2a 1 mark
The packets "rustled like dry leaves". This tells us the packets…
made a soft, crackly sound.

3 2c 1 mark
Number these events 1 to 4, in the order they happen.
3, 1, 4, 2 (from top to bottom).

4 2h 3 marks
How do Priya's feelings about the allotment change from the start of the story to the end? Use evidence from the text.
At the start Priya doesn't want to be there: she "trudged" behind Grandad and kicked at stones. By the end she is proud: she "stood a little straighter" and said the sunflowers were "Mostly me". Growing something of her own made the allotment feel like hers too.
Look for: Says how she feels at the start (bored, fed up, not keen); Says how she feels at the end (proud, happy, involved); Backs up both with words from the text.

5 2e 1 mark
What do you think Priya will do next spring? Use the text to explain why.
She will plant the new seeds, because Grandad has written "Priya's seeds, for next year" and she was proud of her sunflowers.

6 2b 1 mark
How many steps did the keeper climb each evening?
One hundred and twelve (112).

7 2b 1 mark
Tick true or false for each sentence.
True, False, True, False (in order).

8 2a 1 mark
"A storm had torn the lamp's shutter loose." What does "torn … loose" tell you about the storm?
It was very strong: it pulled the shutter away with force.

9 2d 2 marks
"Ship safe. Hands cold." What does this last line suggest about Ada? Use evidence from the text.
She was modest, because after three dangerous hours she wrote only four words and put the ship first. She was brave and tough too, because she held the shutter with her own hands in a storm.
Look for: Says what the line shows about Ada (modest, brave, calm); Gives evidence from the text.

10 2a 1 mark
"a ribbon of small yellow rooms". The small yellow rooms are…
the train's lit-up windows.

11 2b 1 mark
Match each person to what the poem says about them.
The girl: has folded hands; The old man: reads a letter twice; The poet ("I"): is awake behind glass.

12 2g 2 marks
The train "slides" and is "drawn softly". What impression do these words give you of the train?
That it is quiet and smooth, almost secret: it moves gently through the towns without waking anyone.
Look for: An impression (quiet, smooth, gentle, secret); Linked to one of the words.

13 2d 2 marks
The girl "is practising goodbye". How might she be feeling? Explain why you think so.
Sad or nervous. She has to say goodbye to someone soon, and practising it suggests it will be hard for her. Her "folded hands" make her seem still and worried.
Look for: A feeling (sad, nervous, worried); A reason from the poem.

14 2f 1 mark
How is the last verse different from the verses before it?
The train has gone, and it is dark and quiet.

Talk about what they got right first. A good answer to a "why" question says what they think, then gives words from the text that show it.