

Practice text: Problems With Hurricanes

Cracking the questions

Question	Answer	CD/mark	Useful strategies
1. The word "campesino" in the first line means "peasant farmer". Why do you think the poet didn't just write "peasant farmer"?	Accept answers that relate to the word "campesino" establishing the context for the rest of the poem. E.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He's writing about the country he lives in and the poet knows the meaning of the word. • So that we know the poem is not set in England. 	2g 1 mark	<p>Question focus: explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully read the question, marking key words. • Scan the text for the word and carefully read the sentence it is used in. • Think about what the impact is on you and what you think the writer intended.
2. What does the campesino think the poet would be frightened of in a hurricane?	Wind, noise and water.	2d 1 mark	<p>Question focus: make inferences from the text.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully read the question, marking key words. • Skim read the whole text, considering the question. • Scan for ideas and carefully read the surrounding text each time.
3. Find and copy the names of three fruit mentioned as being dangerous.	mango, banana, plantain.	2b 1 mark	<p>Question focus: identify information.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully read the question, marking key words. • Consider where in the text to look for the answer. • Carefully read the paragraphs to find the information you need.
4. "flying into town like projectiles." Which word is closest in meaning to the word "projectiles" in this sentence? Tick one . <input type="checkbox"/> bullets <input type="checkbox"/> long distances <input type="checkbox"/> people being ill <input type="checkbox"/> school projects	bullets	2a 1 mark	<p>Question focus: explain the meaning of words in context.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully read the question, marking key words. • Scan the poem to find the word in the question. • Carefully read that part of the text, thinking about what the word might mean. • Look at the options given in the question. Which word has the closest meaning?
5. How do you think a family would feel if they were told that their relation had been killed by a flying banana?	Accept answers that recognise the humour and uniqueness of the situation. E.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They would feel sad at first, but then they would think it was funny. • They would be proud because their relation had been killed by something unusual. • They would feel bad because everyone else would laugh. 	2d 1 mark	<p>Question focus: explain inferences.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully read the question, marking key words. • Reread the relevant section of the poem looking for ideas you could include in your answer. • This is a 'How do you think' question so the answer won't be in the text – you have to think about how you would feel and how other people you know would feel.

Question	Answer	CD/mark	Useful strategies
<p>6. If "a plantain hitting your/Temple at 70 miles per hour/is the ultimate disgrace", what does the poet think is a better way to be killed?</p>	<p>Accept one of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> drowning being slammed against a mountain boulder. 	<p>2h 1 mark</p>	<p>Question focus: <i>make comparisons within the text.</i></p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the text for the words in the question. Read around those words to find other, better ways of being killed.
<p>7. Find and copy words that explain how strong the wind is from two different stanzas in the poem.</p>	<p>Accept any two from two different stanzas.</p> <p>Stanza 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "flying into town like projectiles" "got killed by a flying banana" <p>Stanza 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> being slammed against a mountain boulder "a mango smashing your skull" "a plantain hitting your temple at 70 miles per hour" <p>Stanza 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "the fury of the wind" 	<p>2c 1 mark</p>	<p>Question focus: <i>summarise main ideas.</i></p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Reread the text considering the question. Scan the text for words that are linked to strength of the wind. Remember to look in two separate stanzas.
<p>8. How do the last two lines of the poem contrast with what has been said before about fruit? Use quotations from the poem in your answer.</p>	<p>Accept an answer that contrasts "beautiful sweet things" with how dangerous they can be in a hurricane. E.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For most of the poem, fruit are shown as missiles that can kill you, such as "mangoes, avocados/Green plantains and bananas/flying into town like projectiles" and it's only in the last line that they are called "beautiful sweet things". In the last lines "mangoes/And all such beautiful/sweet things" are shown as being delicious and gentle. Up until then the fruit are shown to lead to "the ultimate disgrace" if they kill you. 	<p>2f 1 mark</p>	<p>Question focus: <i>identify how information is related and contributes to meaning as a whole.</i></p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text you are most likely to find the answer. Carefully read those parts of the text, underlining words and phrases which create the contrast.
<p>9. Which of the following statements is the best summary of the main idea of the poem? Tick one.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hurricanes are dangerous.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> People can be killed in funny ways.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> There are many ways to be killed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> You can get hurt by unexpected things.</p>	<p>You can get hurt by unexpected things.</p>	<p>2c 1 mark</p>	<p>Question focus: <i>summarise main ideas.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Reread the text considering the answer. Evaluate each of the options in the question – they are all true, but which one best summarises the message of the whole text?