11.7 Expanded Noun Phrases: 10-minute Pack

about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Storm at Ravenscar

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Ben had never seen a storm like the one that battered Ravenscar that night. Thick, charcoal-grey clouds rolled in from the sea, swallowing the last strip of daylight. His grandfather, an old fisherman with weathered hands, checked the small wooden boat tied to the harbour wall. The howling wind rattled the rusty iron gate at the end of the garden. Ben pulled on his thick woollen jumper and his battered green wellingtons before stepping outside. Down at the harbour, a tall stone lighthouse sent its bright beam sweeping across the churning waves. Two fishing boats with torn orange sails struggled to reach the safety of the harbour wall. Ben's grandfather, calm despite the danger, guided the exhausted young sailor onto the slippery stone steps. By midnight, the ferocious storm had finally begun to ease, leaving behind a scene of scattered debris and quiet relief. Ben's grandfather made a mug of hot, sweet tea and told stories of storms he had survived as a boy.

1 Underline the two adjectives that both describe the noun in each sentence below.

(a) The old, rickety ladder leaned against the wall. **(1)**

(b) A curious, playful kitten chased the ball of wool. **(1)**

(c) The dark, stormy sky loomed over the harbour. **(1)**

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2 Every expanded noun phrase can include a determiner (a word like the, a, an, my, some) before its other modifiers. Circle the ONE determiner in each expanded noun phrase below.

(a) the ancient stone bridge **(1)**

(b) an exhausted young sailor **(1)**

(c) my favourite green jumper **(1)**

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3 Circle the head noun (the main noun being described) in each expanded noun phrase below.

(a) the tall, leafy oak tree **(1)**

(b) a plate of hot, buttery toast **(1)**

(c) the frightened baby rabbit **(1)**

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4 Good writers choose expanded noun phrases that are precise and concise, rather than vague or repetitive. Tick the more effective expanded noun phrase in each pair below.

(a) Which expanded noun phrase is more effective? **(1)**

- ☐ A) the really big, very old house
- ☐ B) the enormous, crumbling house

(b) Which expanded noun phrase is more effective? **(1)**

- ☐ A) a nice dog that was brown
- ☐ B) a friendly brown spaniel

(c) Which expanded noun phrase is more effective? **(1)**

- ☐ A) the good football player who was very fast
- ☐ B) the swift, skilful footballer

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5 Each sentence below has one comma error in its expanded noun phrase. Rewrite each sentence correctly.

(a) The tall, dark, mysterious, stranger walked in. **(1)**

(b) A loud rusty gate creaked in the wind. **(1)**

(c) The girl in the blue coat, was waiting at the bus stop. **(1)**

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Mark scheme · 11.7 Expanded Noun Phrases: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) old and rickety both underlined cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **old, rickety**

(b) curious and playful both underlined cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **curious, playful**

(c) dark and stormy both underlined cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **dark, stormy**

Question 2

(a) the circled cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **the**

(b) an circled cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **an**

(c) my circled cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **my**

Question 3

(a) tree circled cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **tree**

(b) plate circled cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **plate**

(c) rabbit circled cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **rabbit**

Question 4

(a) B ticked cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **B) the enormous, crumbling house**

(b) B ticked cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **B) a friendly brown spaniel**

(c) B ticked cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **B) the swift, skilful footballer**

Question 5

(a) The tall, dark, mysterious stranger walked in. (comma before the head noun removed) cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **The tall, dark, mysterious stranger walked in.**

(b) A loud, rusty gate creaked in the wind. (comma inserted between loud and rusty) cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **A loud, rusty gate creaked in the wind.**

(c) The girl in the blue coat was waiting at the bus stop. (comma before was removed) cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **The girl in the blue coat was waiting at the bus stop.**

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