

C2 Mark Scheme - *Growing Up*

Award one mark for each correct response in (a), (b) and (c).

1.1 a) When did his son turn one? [1]

- 15th September (1)

b) Name one thing that makes his son different from other family-members? [1]

- Giddy/silly/show-off/irrationally terrified of Heritage's dad

c) What word makes the writer's son laugh? [1]

- Teeth

1.2 How does the writer show his disbelief and sense of loss at his son turning one?

Some points candidates may explore:

- "I still can't believe it" writer opens by exclaiming his shock/"How is he one already?" The rhetorical question reinforces his extreme disbelief
- "It's honestly quite hard to grasp" repeats his disbelief to reinforce how confusing/alarming it is to be shocked when it's not unnatural or "unprecedented" for time to pass
- "Can walk and has teeth" highlights the change in his son
- Highlights the growth of his unique personality as his "own person" in contrast to the newborn "scrunched up piece of flesh" showing change
- The way the writer lists the personality traits "giddy...show off" highlights he keenly observes his son's change to highlight his bewilderment into a "slightly different child"
- Photos seem like "dispatches from a million years ago" highlights speed of change
- "He's leaving milestone after milestone in his wake and tiny parts of me along with them" - his growth is like grief as he waves goodbye to the younger version
- Looks at it with nostalgia "never again be the tiny baby"
- Highlights the loss by listing the things that will change "soon enough he'll..."
- "This sadness, this constant sense of loss"
- "Time skipping just beyond your grasp"
- The irony of son not seeing dad's loss "he won't realise"
- Final lines more positive "you gave to make the most of what you've got" to show his acceptance at the loss
- The image shows the child sitting/playing independently which highlights how quickly the child is growing up

To answer the following questions you must read the extract called 'Boy Lost' on the opposite page.

Award one mark for each correct response:

- 1.3 a) Name one toy the writer misses seeing around her home after her son grows? [1]
- Wooden sheep and cattle or pop guns or bows and arrows
- b) What name features on the stern of the boat? [1]
- Lucy Lowe
- c) What advice would the writer give to mothers who still have their 'boys'? [1]
- Now is the time to really enjoy their children
- 1.4 "In this extract, the writer looks at her son growing up with both sadness and regret." How far do you agree with this view? [10]

Some points candidates may explore:

- "It is a long while now since he disappeared" highlights the loss
- "She lists the things she misses "cut paper...wooden sheep and cattle..."
- "Yet these things used to fret me once" - she regrets that this once made her worry
- "My ears are aching for the pattering of little feet" – heartache
- "Yet these things made me nervous once" - she now pines for what is lost
- "But I want responsibilities" shows her need for his childhood back/when she had purpose
- She regrets thinking of "responsibilities" negatively having lost them in the present
- She refers to "those mothers" who "don't know their happiness" to show her own sense of loss
- "A manly figure stands before me now" barely recognisable from the boy he was
- "I am rather unwilling to own him" lost her power over him
- Nostalgic memories as she observed him in the "crib"
- "My little boy is lost" - the boy she knew is gone
- "that now is time to really enjoy their children" she advises other mothers having experienced the sadness first-hand
- Regrets what's lost and it's too late to change "I can never have him back again"

Overview

- Tone –reflective/advisory towards mothers who still have their boys
- Language choices associated with melancholy/nostalgia
- Personal/anecdotal memories
- Structure of present situation in contrast to past regret

To answer the following questions you will need to use both texts.

- 1.5 Using information from both texts, explain briefly in your own words the writers' observations of their children as younger babies/children? [4]

Some points that candidates may explore:

The Lost boy

- He wore a long white night gown
- He would lie in the crib
- She'd listen to his deep breathing
- He'd hold his hand in hers

How Can My Son Be One Already?

- He was a sleepy ball of scrunched up flesh
- He nestled in the crook of his arm
- He sucked on dad's little finger in the middle of the night
- He was amazed by the taste and texture of solid food

- 1.6 Both of these texts are about children growing up. [10]

Compare:

- what are the writers' experiences of having a child?
- how the writers try to convey their experiences

Some points that candidates may explore:

What both writers say about their experiences of having a child

Boy Lost

- Life is messy and chaotic "cut paper upon the floor"
- It's noisy "shrill whistle"
- Filled with boisterousness "mud stains"
- It's filled with "responsibilities"
- Life is busy "hasty wash and brush"
- There is beauty/love as babies "holding his hand"
- Bedtime is calmer "little feet are at rest"
- They grow, change and they're unrecognisable "A manly figure stands before me now"
- The mother observes with maturity comes romantic affection "how the red comes to his face"
- The child he once was is "lost"
- Didn't enjoy the time with her son as much as she should have in the moment "how patient I would be"

How Can My Son Be One Already?

- Time passes both quickly and slowly "longest and shortest year of my life"
- "It's felt as if my son has always been part of the family"
- Everything takes longer "mouthful of porridge"
- They grow up too fast "how is he one already?"

- Growing so quickly he's barely recognisable "in his place a little boy who can walk"
- They're totally reliant on their parents when they're "a sleepy ball of scrunched up flesh"
- He's developing his own unique personality "giddy and silly"
- As a baby life was full of wonderment "amazed by the taste and texture of food"
- As a toddler he's livelier/more boisterous/humorous "twang his lips like a ruler"
- "Confronted with a slightly different child" as they watch him grow in independence

How the writers get their experiences across to the reader

Boy Lost

- Regretful/advisory tone – "now is the time to really enjoy their children"
- Use of contrast to show the present vs. past memories and how she'd change her ways
- Use of pronouns to show the distance she has with her son now "he"
- She conveys the memory of him as if it is distant by repeating the pronouns "he"
- Uses lists to convey the chaos of life with her son as a child
- Personal feelings/experiences from a 1st person perspective

How Can My Son Be One Already?

- Use of the rhetorical question "How is he one already?" to show his disbelief
- Tone of inevitability "you can't hoard time"
- The writer uses humour to convey the difficulties in the journey
- Personal feelings/experiences from a 1st person perspective

Overview

- Both writers express a feeling of loss with the passing of time
- Both express the journey of growth, with trials, tribulations and joy
- Heritage knows it's inevitable for him to grow, whereas in 'The Lost Boy' the writer wishes the past could be changed