

COMPREHENSION

ANSWER KEY

1. The author is trying to create a friendly tone by using a colloquial/Singlish word. [1]
2. The Ah Pek describes the housing estates as such because he is not used to the facilities in those estates, such as the driverless automatic trains. [1]
3. The word is "proud". [1]
4. The phrase suggests that Madam Teo had been living there for a long time [1], so Florence expected her to feel heavyhearted about moving to a new estate [1].
5. The author repeats that sentence structure to emphasise how there were many events in Madam Teo's past that had far more severe impacts than just moving house. [1] The intended effect is to contextualise what sadness means to Madam Teo, showing that something comparatively minor as moving house should not be considered a cause for sadness. [1]
6. It suggests that Madam Teo had been through a lot of hardship. [1] This is evident in how she lived through a war and the death of her mother. [1]
(Accept any possible evidence)
7. It conveys an attitude of pragmatism (or resignation) [1], as seen in how Madam Teo brought branches of her plants with her to her new home so she could grow them there, since she could not bring all the plants along [1].
8. The technique used is personification. [1] The workings of the lorry's engine are compared to the breathing of a dog cooling itself off. [1]
9. Tommy means that the experiences which took place in the flat are precious memories to be kept. [1]
(Accept any possible evidence)

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| 10. | Madam Teo thinks her sons and grandsons are very childish. | |
| | Madam Teo is still protective of her sons and grandsons although they have already grown up. | ✓ |
| | Madam Teo thinks her sons and grandsons look very young. | |