The Last Bus Home: answers

Year 5 · 12 marks. Accept any sensible answer that is backed up by the text.

1. The number 14. (1 mark)

Finding information (2b). A detail to find in the second paragraph.

2. Seven. (1 mark)

Finding information (2b). Finding a number or age in the text is a basic retrieval skill.

3. beckoned (1 mark)

Word meaning (2a). The child matches a less common word to its meaning.

4. That it was light, soft, white and covered the shelter gently (any sensible answer). (2 marks)

Language choices. A simile helps the reader picture the scene, and the child explains the effect.

5. Worried or frightened. Evidence: “her stomach had twisted into a knot”, or she had never walked home and did not know where her phone was. (2 marks)

Inference (2d). What a character says can hide what they feel, and the child finds the evidence of the truth.

6. She was trying to look calm and relaxed so that Ravi would not be worried. (1 mark)

Explaining from the text. Understanding a character’s reason for their actions.

7. That she can stay brave and look after someone else, even though it is hard. (2 marks)

Inference (2d). The ending hints at a change in the character without stating it.

8. One mark for the problem (the bus did not come in the snow) and one for the resolution (Mr Hussein helped them to phone their mum, who collected them). (2 marks)

Summarising (2c). A good summary picks out the problem and how it was solved.

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