



Date: _____ Name: _____ Number: _____

MARK SCHEME – Diamond Band 15 – Benjamin Zephaniah

Pages 2 – 3: Of all the reasons given, which do you think provided the greatest motivation for Benjamin's parents? (INF)

Britain was a big place with opportunities.

There were lots of well paid jobs.

She could pursue her ambition to become a nurse.

Pages 4 – 7: The author describes being poor in his childhood. Find 5 bits of evidence from the text that prove this to be true. (KNOWL)

Accept any 5 of the following:

- His house had no bathroom.
- They shared a tin bath in the back garden.
- (Their school across the road closed down)
- He shared a bed with his siblings.
- He didn't get new things very often.
- They only had 1 comb which often went missing.
- Their dad would make new soles for their shoes from cardboard when the originals wore out.

Page 8: Circle the word that closest in meaning to 'disassociate'. (WORDS)

combine

detach

ajoin

tangle

Page 12: The word '**motivation**' has been written in bold text. Using the book to help you, write the meaning of '**motivation**' below. (STRUC)

Answers must use the glossary: the reason for doing something.

Pages 20 – 21: Read through the information about Jamaica on these two pages. Below, write a similarity and three differences between Jamaica and the U.K. in the table. (KNOWL)

Similarities to the U.K.	Differences to the U.K.
St. Elizabeth looks like Lincolnshire.	Everybody walks more slowly.
	Families all sleep in the same bed with a goat underneath.
	Everything is celebrated with food.

Do not accept: Days are longer in Jamaica.

Pages 22 – 23: Look at paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 on these pages. From the selection below, choose which statement best summarises the contents of the paragraph. (WORDS)

Paragraph 1

- ✓ Poetry when Benjamin was younger.
- ☐ Benjamin in church.
- ☐ Benjamin's first poem.

Paragraph 2

- ☐ The food Benjamin could cook.
- ✓ The poems his mother taught him.
- ☐ Benjamin's life at home.

Pages 26 – 27: The glossary doesn't feature an entry for '**stage fright**'. Imagine you have been asked to write one. Write it below. (STRUC)

Accept answers that are broadly in line with the definition below.

Stage Fright: nervousness before or during an appearance before an audience.

Pages 32 – 33: What was Benjamin's main motivation to return to performing? (KNOWL)

Realised that many people didn't read books.

Many people Benjamin wanted to reach didn't read books.

Pages 38 – 39: How does the spelling help when reading the poem in the style Benjamin intended it to be read? (LANG)

The spelling forces the reader to pronounce the words in the style of a Jamaican accent.

Page 45: How does the variety in Benjamin's life suit his personality? Explain using a reason from the text. (KNOWL)

He loses excitement on a new project after a while so it is good that he has other projects to turn to.

Pages 54 – 55: How does the timeline on these pages support the reader? (STRUC)

Summarises key points in Benjamin's life and places them into chronological order to help with understanding.