

Grade 8 English Home Language Worksheet

Visual literacy - "Mama Taxi"

Carefully examine the cartoon below, and then answer the questions on it.

Mama Taxi



FRAME 1

FRAME 2

FRAME 3

Questions

1. Who are the two men in the cartoon? (1)
2. Refer to Frames 1 and 2.
 - 2.1 Describe how the man on the left is feeling. Refer to his body language and facial expression to support your answer. (3)
 - 2.2 Which word in the speech bubble in Frame 2 tells us how the man on the right is feeling? (1)
 - 2.3 How do his body language and facial expression show us what he is feeling? (4)
 - 2.4 Why does he feel this way? (2)
 - 2.5.1 What does the man on the left mean when he says "Taxi drivers are only human"? (1)
 - 2.5.2 What is he implying? (1)
3. Refer to Frame 3.
 - 3.1 Describe how the taxi drivers are driving. (1)
 - 3.2 How do the drawings show you this? (3)
 - 3.3 Why does the man add "super" to "human"? (1)

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4. The cartoonist is poking fun at taxi drivers. Do you think they deserve this? Give a reason for your answer. Is there any wordplay? (2)

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Suggested Solutions

1. The two men are metropolice officers. (1)
- 2.1 The man is feeling happy and confident. (1). His eyes are big, he is smiling, his hands are behind his back. Any TWO. (2) (3)
- 2.2 "intimidated" (1)
- 2.3 He is nervous: huge, terrified eyes; stiff body; arms straight and stiff at his sides; mouth turned down. Any FOUR (4)
- 2.4 The taxi drivers are reckless and terrifying, and he has to try to deal with them. (2)
- 2.5.1 Taxi drivers are human beings like everyone else. (1)
- 2.5.2 He implies that they can be approached and reasoned with and dealt with. (1)
- 3.1 They are driving recklessly, weaving in and out of the traffic. ONE point. (1)
- 3.2 There are skid marks; the driver's head turns rapidly from one side to the other as he tries to watch what the other drivers are doing; there are exclamation marks above the heads of pedestrians and drivers suggesting how shocked and horrified they are; there are even exclamation marks above the robots, as if they, too, are shocked at being ignored. Any THREE. (3)
- 3.3 He suggests more than human, beyond the ordinary. (1)
4. No marks for yes/no. Mark on the reason given. (2)

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