

3.3 Textual details that convey setting

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS setting 场景 • conflict 冲突

Objective

Build the skills to read **setting** 场景 in its full sense.

You must be able to:

- state how the definition of setting widens here
- name the three dimensions added
- explain why social situation is part of setting
- distinguish setting from background

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ The widening

1.2 said time and place. **3.3 adds: setting includes the social, cultural and historical situation during which the events of the text occur.**

■ Three dimensions

Social: how people are ranked and related. **Cultural:** what is believed, expected, permitted. **Historical:** what has happened and is happening beyond the text.

■ Why social

A character's options are set by their social situation as much as by the room they stand in. In a long text, setting in this sense is what makes a decision difficult.

■ Not background

Background is what a summary mentions once. Setting in the full sense acts on the plot: it supplies obstacles, permissions and expectations that the characters must work within.

2 Practice

2.1 State how the definition of setting widens from 1.2. [2]

2.2 Name the three added dimensions and define one. [2]

2.3 Setting is not background.

(a) State the difference. [2]

(b) State why social situation matters to a plot. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The dimensions added at 3.3 are social, cultural and [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** historical
B grammatical
C metrical
D editorial

3.2 Setting in the full sense [1]

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | B |
| C | D |
- A** acts on the plot
B is mentioned once
C is irrelevant
D replaces character

3.3 A character cannot marry whom she chooses.

(a) State which dimension of setting is at work. [1]

(b) Explain how setting creates the conflict. [2]
