

COUNT THAT DAY LOST / George Eliot (questions and answers from the Bagrut)

7. On a day you have done a "self-denying deed" you should (-).

- (i) be ashamed
- (ii) be surprised
- (iii) feel sorry for yourself
- (iv) feel good about yourself

ANSWER: (iv) feel good about yourself

8. The speaker thinks that you can count a day "as worse than lost" if (-).

- (i) you haven't done what you planned to do
- (ii) you haven't helped another person
- (iii) you haven't had any fun
- (iv) you haven't taken any risks

ANSWER: (ii) you haven't helped another person

9. "No act most small / That helped some soul and nothing cost –"

Explain in your own words what the speaker means by the words "nothing cost".

ANSWER:

What you did, didn't take much effort. / was not difficult for you / You did something good for somebody else and got nothing (for it) in return / You did something good for someone and did not get something for this.

10. "One glance most kind / That fell like sunshine where it went –"

Why do you think the poet uses the word "sunshine" in this quote?

ANSWER:

The poet uses the word "sunshine" to show how if you give someone a kind look it can make that person feel happy. / Because "sunshine" has a positive connotation and your glance made someone feel warm, good and happy / Because like sunshine a warm day brings warm and light into someone's day.

11. a. Why do you think the poet calls the poem "Count That Day Lost"?

Thinking skill I chose: .....

ANSWER:

*a. Possible thinking skill:* Explaining cause and effect.

It is important that we not waste our days and that we make sure we do good things for other people. / If you had the opportunity to become a better person, but you missed it, for you this is "worse than lost".

ANSWER:

*Possible explanations for thinking skill:*

**Explaining cause and effect:** I chose the HOTS of Cause and Effect because it helped me to see how doing or not doing something good for someone else had the effect of making my day lost or well spent.

**Uncovering motives:** Sitting at the end of the day to think about the day lost. I chose that skill because it helps me understand why the poet called the poem 'Count that Day Lost' – accept

12. a. What is the message of the poem?

ANSWER:

The message is that we should spend each day doing something for someone else, not only think about ourselves. / We have to make our life meaningful by helping other people.

b. Give TWO examples of how you can apply the message of the poem to your own life.

ANSWER:

**b.** I can help someone who is in trouble. I can talk to my brother / sister about problems he / she might be having.