Lesson 4: Under Milk Wood
Answer key

Task 2 – Possible answers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Things you can see</th>
<th>bay/dinghies/fishingboats/waterfront/wharf/quay/quayside/pier/masts/fishing village/town/lights/lampposts/church/chapel/hills/houses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colours</td>
<td>azure/blue/sapphire/navy blue/black/yellow/white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>coast/beach/bay/coastline/seaside/valley/hills/remote/isolated/secluded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>fine/clear/cloudless sky/chilly/cold/mild</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>evening/dusk/night/before dawn/dawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The atmosphere</td>
<td>peaceful/quiet/picturesque/scenic/pleasing/charming/quaint/uneventful/dull/ordinary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Task 4 – Key

1. False – it is its subtitle.
2. False – he began working on it in 1949, but it took him many years to finish it.
3. True – ‘It uses dissonance, alliteration, assonance, onomatopoeia, personification, compound adjectives and similes to achieve its dramatic effects.’
4. True – ‘Thomas describes places and uses images, metaphors and adjectives in powerful and creative combination.’
5. False – although it explores the themes of life and death, ‘The play is a comedy and one that reveals aspects of provincial, small town life, far from the cities of Britain.’
6. True – ‘For him, the war marked some kind of death of innocence and scholars have observed that his creative challenge was to try and recreate a sense of innocence and common humanity anchored by goodness.’


Task 5 – Key

To begin at the beginning.

It is spring, 1 moonless night in the small town, 2 starless and bible-black, the cobblestreets 3 silent and the hunched, courters’-and-rabbits’ wood limping 4 invisible down to the sloeblack, slow, black, crowblack, fishingboat-bobbing sea. The houses are 5 blind as moles (though moles see fine to-night in the snouting, 6 velvet dingles) or blind as Captain Cat there in the 7 muffled middle by the pump and the town clock, the shops in mourning, the Welfare Hall in widows’ weeds. And all the people of the lulled and 8 dumbfound town are sleeping now.

Hush, the babies are sleeping, the farmers, the fishers, the tradesmen and pensioners, cobbler, schoolteacher, postman and publican, the undertaker and the 9 fancy woman, drunkard, dressmaker, preacher, policeman, the webfoot cocklewomen and the 10 tidy wives. Young girls lie bedded 11 soft or glide in their dreams, with rings and trousseaux, bridesmaided by glow-worms down the aisles of the 12 organ-playing wood. The boys are dreaming 13 wicked or of the bucking ranches of the night and the jolly, rodgered sea. And the anthracite statues of the horses sleep in the fields, and the cows in the byres, and the dogs in the 14 wetnosed yards; and the cats nap in the 15 slant corners or lope sly, streaking and needling, on the one cloud of the roofs.

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You can hear the dew falling, and the 16 hushed town breathing. Only your eyes are 17 unclosed to see the black and folded town 18 fast, and 19 slow, 20 asleep.


Task 6 – Key

| One-word adjectives                          | Small/silent/blind/hunched/slow/black/velvet/fine/soft/young/anthracite/slant/sly/fast |
| Two-word adjectives                          | bible-black/sloeblack/crowblack/fishingboat-bobbing/webfoot/organ-playing/wetnosed/jolly rodgered |
| Adjectives with a prefix and/or a suffix     | moonless/starless/invisible/muffled/lulled/tidy/wicked/hushed/unclosed/folded/asleep |

Task 7 – Possible answers

Big/huge/noisy/sighted/upright/straight/erect/fast/quick/white/coarse/badly/hard/old/white-marbled/vertical/openly/slow

crystal clear/pure white/stagnant/ /silent/quiet/ dry/ motionless

moonfull/starlit/visible/resonant/stirred/untidy/nice/loud/open/upright/awake

Materials by Chris Lima