**Past Questions for Whale Rider for Edexcel Literature paper: Always consider CONTEXT too!**

**Format: *Explore [question focus] in Whale Rider. You must also consider the context of the novel.***

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| **Year / sitting** | **First question** | **Second question** |
| **Jun 2023** | **Relationship of Rawiri & Porourangi** | **Role of women** |
| **Jun 2023 R** | **Significance of Paikea** | **Responsibility** |
| **Jan 2023** | **Theme of success** | **Relationship of Koro and Kahu** |
| **Jan 2023 R** | **“I’m going to divorce…” Marriage** | **Significance of bull whales** |
| **Jun 2022** | **Theme of hopes and fears** | **Relationship of Kahu and Nani** |
| **Jun 2022 R** | **Relationship of Kahu and Rawiri** | **Theme of courage** |
| **Jan 2022** | **‘Koro is a successful tribal leader.’** | **Importance of family** |
| **Jan 2022 R** | **Names of people/places** | **‘Koro is a dislikeable character.’** |
| **Nov 2021** | **Significance of locations** | **Significance of Kahu** |
| **Jun 2021** | **Importance of fear** | **Kahu’s relationship with natural world** |
| **Nov 2020** | **One character with power** | **Theme of change** |
| **Nov 2020 R** | **Kahu’s father Porourangi** | **Significance of Maori culture/traditions** |
| **Jan 2020** | **‘Koro is a cruel heartless character.’** | **Legend of the whale rider** |
| **Jan 2020 R** | **Importance of leadership** | **Significance of Nanny Flowers** |
| **Jun 2019** | **‘Whales = v. important characters.’** | **The theme of love** |
| **Jun 2019 R** | **Relationship of Kahu & whales** | **Different kinds of learning** |
| **Jan 2019** | **Relationship of Koro & Nanny** | **Significance of natural world** |
| **Jan 2019 R** | **Relationship of Koro & Kahu** | **Significance of travelling** |
| **Jun 2018** | **Character of Kahu** | **‘Novel = not only survival of whales.’** |
| **Jun 2018 R** | **‘The novel is about identity.’** | **Character of Rawiri** |
| **40 marks** | **AO1: *Knowledge of the novella / close reference / essay style and focus of answer.* (20 marks)** | **AO4: *Integration of contexts to add insights about the particular question on the novella.*  (20 marks)** |