 Year 12 English Standard

Pygmalion – culture within the play

Task – Read the following statements/questions below and tick whether you believe them to be true or false. There is no ‘right answer’.

| Statement about Pygmalion | True | False |
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| Eliza was fine the way she was before she met Higgins. |       |       |
| Eliza was happy being a flower girl. |       |       |
| Higgins was the best thing that had ever happened to Eliza. |       |       |
| Higgins used Eliza more than Eliza used Higgins. |       |       |
| Eliza is treated unfairly largely because she is a woman, rather than uneducated. |       |       |
| Higgins is attracted to Eliza. |       |       |
| Eliza is attracted to Higgins. |       |       |
| Higgins and Eliza should be married. |       |       |
| The real Pygmalion of the play is Mr Doolittle. |       |       |
| The power of language is more important than the power of knowledge. |       |       |
| For Eliza to be treated with respect, she needed to change her appearance and identity. |       |       |
| The true message of Pygmalion is that a physical transformation is just as important as an emotional one. |       |       |
| Speaking and acting like a duchess is more valued than thinking independently. |       |       |
| Pygmalion teaches students the importance of self-respect. |       |       |
| The play Pygmalion is like the fairy tale of Cinderella. |       |       |

Task – Choose two of the bolded statements and explain your position in a paragraph in your book. (One paragraph for each bolded statement.)