**Candidate Responses with Principal Moderator Comments Resources:**

[**http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWa2A95T4FE&feature=related**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWa2A95T4FE&feature=related) **2.55ish**

[**http://video.the-leaky-cauldron.org/video/503**](http://video.the-leaky-cauldron.org/video/503) **Whole interview**

**Non-technical transcripts of two interviews with J.K. Rowling on *60 Minutes* and *Blue Peter 60 Minutes* interview *“Childhood”***

JKR: I have no nostalgia whatsoever for childhood. I – I mean erm I wouldn’t go back if you paid me. Ever. And I c-can remember moments of joy in childhood such as you can’t recapture because you are totally weightless aren’t you? You have no responsibilities. So when you’re happy, boy are you happy? You’re not – there’s nothing in the back of your mind as there is now right now doing this interview saying: you didn’t pay the gas bill and they’re gonna cut you off while you’re being interviewed. Erm so you have that but you – you you forget or well I don’t forget but adults surprise me by appearing to forget how powerless you feel as a child even a happy child –

INT: And how cruel the other kids can be.

JKR: They can be vicious and I – I was bullied and erm I hated it erm I had great

friends which got me through that no problem. But err I can remember yeah going home in tears yeah I can remember not wearing the right clothes you know…

INT: You were an unhappy child.

JKR: Not re- no I don’t think I was an unhappy child. I wouldn’t look back and say I was an unhappy child but I – there were times when I was unhappy. I think th-the point I am making is that I can remember how unhappy I was unlike many adults who will look back and will have been just as … unhappy as I was but will go (?) oh it was a golden time, was a golden time forgetting (and yet?) if you really talk to them yeah there was a boy who used to wait for me on the corner of our street everyday with a cricket bat yeah that sounds delightful you must’ve you must’ve just loved that. But people forget.

INT: But isn’t the mind a wonderful thing to let you erase that?

JKR: Mine clearly isn’t because it won’t let me erase it!

INT: So it’s poured into the books but you give this to the rest of us it’s great.

[Location changes]

*“Plotting Potter”*

JKR: Now this would be a grid this is the grid of – for the book I’m working on at the moment but we don’t wanna go too close on this cos this gives stuff away.

INT: All right but without being able –

JKR: I’ve gotta hide that –

INT: No no-one can read that that far away but tell us what each column is exactly (?)

JKR@ So erm this is what I mean about pace I have to know exactly even though the reader might know when when everything happens so you have this month that it’s happening so I’m getting the weather right and everything. The chapter title – some of them still need to be decided and – oh dear – I’m so worried about –

INT: I don’t think anybody can see.

JKR: This is this is one one strand of the story the kind of stuff that has to happen in each chapter. And on the back you have more lines for other sub-plots so you know what’s going on. As – you see what I mean I have to fill in some of this as I go because as I’m writing it occurs to me how and when things will have to happen.

INT: So this is one year?

JKR: Err yeah it’sone year in Harry’s in Harry’s life yeah.

[New question thread starts]

*“Writing on Welfare”*

INT: So you used to come here –

JKR: Yeah

INT: to this café

JKR: Mm-mm

INT: And write?

JKR: Yes.

INT: Now why would you come here? What was the point?

JKR: Why here particularly was because I worked out which cafes in Edinburgh

would allow me to sit in the corner of a café and write for hours on end and order

maybe two coffees.

INT: You got only two cups of coffee cos you really couldn’t afford –

JKR: I was a bit broke at the time

INT: You were on welfare?

JKR: I was yeah.

INT: How d’you get that low?

JKR: Well, in a nutshell, my marriage had (?) split up – split up. I’d been living in

Portugal and working in Portugal and when my marriage split up I came back here to Britain and I had nowhere to live.

INT: With a baby on the way (?) –

JKR: With a baby with a four month old baby.

INT: So with the baby.

JKR: Uh-huh.

INT: You would come here.

JKR: I’d walk around Edinburgh pushing her in the in the erm push-chair and wait till she fell asleep and then I would literally run to the nearest café and write for as long as she stayed asleep.