

Marking notes
Remarques pour la notation
Notas para la corrección

May / Mai / Mayo 2015

English / Anglais / Inglés
A: literature / littérature / literatura

Standard level
Niveau supérieur
Nivel superior

Paper / Épreuve / Prueba 2

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Examiners: please note that the term “comparison”, both in the descriptors and in the marking notes, includes the discussion of relevant “contrasts” as well.

The features of the “very good to excellent” answers assume that those for “adequate to good” are included.

Drama

- 1.** An adequate to good answer will identify individuals as representatives of a group(s), identify conflicts within or between the groups and show how individuals embody / exemplify / develop those conflict(s).

A very good to excellent answer may also discuss the above in more detail and with greater subtlety.

- 2.** An adequate to good answer will define the nature and identify examples of arrival and/or departure, demonstrating how these enrich the works as a whole.

A very good to excellent answer may also embark upon a more detailed and sophisticated examination of arrival/departure.

- 3.** An adequate to good answer will identify dialogue in which there is some form of miscommunication between characters, intentional or otherwise, although the audience *does* understand. It will provide some exploration of the reason for the nature of that failure and its effects in the plays.

A very good to excellent answer may also explore in greater depth the communication failures and may consider aspects of dramatic irony.

Poetry

4. An adequate to good answer will show that the candidate has a reasonable understanding of what constitutes symbolism. The response will identify one or more uses of symbolism in the poems and compare the different approaches. It will discuss the ways in which symbolism can affect the meaning of the whole poem.

A very good to excellent answer may also show a more sophisticated understanding of symbolism and how it can affect the meaning of each poem as a whole. It may compare the ways in which symbolism is supported by other conventions.

5. An adequate to good answer will identify and discuss the contributions of techniques other than rhyme to meaning in each poem. Rhymed poems are acceptable, providing techniques other than rhyme are discussed.

A very good to excellent answer may also show a greater understanding of how other techniques can be used in place of rhyme to contribute to meaning

6. An adequate to good answer will show some understanding of pathetic fallacy. The response will give examples and show how phenomena in the external world reflect the attitudes/experience of the speaker.

A very good to excellent answer may also offer a more sophisticated understanding of pathetic fallacy and its effects. It may comment on other techniques which may be used to support the central convention.

Prose: novel and short story

7. An adequate to good answer will identify instances when the supernatural is made credible. The response will identify some conventions used to achieve this effect and comment on the role of those instances in each work.

A very good to excellent answer may also describe in greater detail the occasions when the supernatural is made credible, may present a greater variety of conventions used and may explore in greater depth the effects on the works as a whole.

8. An adequate to good answer will identify the nature of the narrative voices used, will posit some advantages and disadvantages of each voice (perhaps in conjunction with other conventions) and will link those advantages/disadvantages to an understanding of the text.

A very good to excellent answer may also show more sensitivity to the various advantages/disadvantages, go into greater detail with respect to associated conventions and show deeper understanding of the voices' influence on the works as a whole.

9. An adequate to good answer will identify some details used in the physical description of at least two characters, or other elements, from different works, will identify some means of description which is not necessarily describing appearance in terms of literary conventions, and will comment on the effects of the physical descriptions.

A very good to excellent answer may also go into greater detail in terms of the physical descriptions and comment on the detail or the lack thereof, may explore a wider range of literary conventions and may comment in greater depth on the effects of these physical descriptions on the works as a whole.

Prose other than fiction

- 10.** An adequate to good answer will identify and compare challenges faced by characters and discuss responses to those challenges, analysing what the responses reveal of character.

A very good to excellent answer may also be more precise in identifying challenges, discussing responses more thoroughly.

- 11.** An adequate to good answer will identify examples of action and description and offer a judgment as to the balance between the two, expressing an opinion as to the degree of effectiveness of the balance achieved.

A very good to excellent answer may also present in greater depth and detail well chosen examples of action and description to support a judgment of their relative importance.

- 12.** An adequate to good answer will identify the structures chosen by two or more writers, express an opinion as to the particular effects achieved, and show how the chosen structures contribute to those effects.

A very good to excellent answer may also discuss in more depth the selected structures, argue with more insight an interpretation of the particular effects and the role played by structure in achieving them.
