

Teacher Resource Bank

A Level Spanish (2696) Student Exemplar Work:

• Unit 3 Writing (Autumn 2011)



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The following essays are from the SPAN3 Summer 2011 examination.

The Principal Examiner for GCE Spanish has provided commentaries for each of the essays.

Centres are advised to read the Summer 2011 Report on the Examination which is available on e-AQA.

In addition an Advice for Teachers booklet for Unit 3 has been provided to assist schools and colleges in the preparation of students for future examinations. This can be found in the Teacher Resource Bank on the AQA website at:

http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/languages/spanish_materials.php?id=09&prev=09

GCSE Spanish Unit 3 TRB Autumn 2011

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A SPANISH-SPEAKING REGION/COMMUNITY

Student 1

Question 10a

En tu opinión, ¿cuáles son las características geográficas más importantes de la región que has estudiado, y qué efecto tienen sobre el estilo de vida de sus habitantes?

Student 2

Question 10b

¿En qué trabajan los habitantes de la región que has estudiado, y cómo se podrían mejorar sus oportunidades? Analiza con detalles.





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Do not wr outside th hox iO Tick Content: 20 Good · Sound understanding and knowledge of the task · Some relevant examples and evidence Clear evidence of evaluation and some personal reaction, usually convincingly justified · Logical structure with some progression Range of Vocab: 4 A wide range of vocabulary used Complexity: 4 A wide range of structures including complex constructions Accuracy: 4 Generally accurate with few errors **Total:** 32



Student 1 (Question 10a)

Commentary

Content

The introduction to this essay sets the scene quite nicely for the sake of a reader who is unfamiliar with Cataluña, usefully stating how important the region's geography is to its character. There ensues quite good coverage of the coast, the fishing industry and the positive and negative impacts of coastal tourism, giving some specific examples of each aspect covered. A similar level of information is offered on the interior of Cataluña, again providing some examples and appropriately evaluated evidence. The student usually manages to maintain a focus on the question even when the information seems at first to be of peripheral relevance, although the student does at times include less relevant material, such as on the works of Gaudí. However, apart from a passing reference to the Pyrenees, there is no reference to other key geographical features such as the Ebro Delta, other inland rivers, Montserrat, Montjuic or even the variety of types of coastline. As such then, this essay never climbs beyond the Good band, and although the evaluation almost creeps into the highest band, the amount of information on geographical characteristics does not reach much beyond Sufficient. Indeed, the Content mark is perhaps a little on the generous side, though the candidate displays a fair amount of knowledge and the logical flow and progression of the essay make it fairly effective as a piece of writing on the geography of Cataluña and its effect on the lifestyle of Catalans. However, what this essay demonstrates is that it is perfectly possible to score a good mark with an essay on a region, provided that the information is of sufficient scope and the essay is well focussed on the question.

Range of Vocabulary

This essay deserves 4 for Range of Vocabulary, containing many words and expressions appropriate to the topic. In any case, the available mark for this element is limited to 4/5 because the Content mark is in the Good band.

Complexity of Language

There are sufficient examples of a variety of complex structures, but again the mark is limited to 4/5 in any case.

Accuracy

In terms of accuracy, there are fairly frequent errors of a minor nature which mean that a mark of 4 is entirely appropriate.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 20/25 Range of Vocabulary - 4/5 Complexity of Language - 4/5 Accuracy - 4/5

Total - 32/40



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mas los mujeres encuentron trabajo anto como limpiadoras o conquios para amilian ricas Ticks alar que los innigrantes ve no pueden nabiar español traba, an en CONSTRUCCTION clor Censtruccionick Ne constituye menos de cince porciento de economía La comunidad de de Madrid tan Doyonte actualmente Para SUS oportundades U Jorar Creo que es recesorio que las immigrantes haben la lengia peus receptor Tick Comunidad de Madrid es conocido en .t.000.... el mundo pora su negocia 1A, la ferría de negocios Muchos de habitantes de la Comundad van al ITEMA empresa clientes por Ju porticulor trabaja aven Los nallita ntes puedes makang en 01 LOS COMO .*I.*.Q. gastronomia que trepa individual at a nyy Iara e ara Adema J. Ch a lagerte S. QUECLE SEr anc trod avi internac onalmente anos que viene, ypreper Zn arria que Lan VIDAN de los que VIVEN an Darrios de la pueden nejocar Sus Comunidad

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Do not outsid Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid es llena de empresas y trabajo, y con anturinges en un lugar que sería popular siempre con a) Turistan. Por este razon, yo chebo que Sería más trabajos porque los visitontes aumenteran en el futuro Content: 10 Limited Some/limited understanding and knowledge of the task · Some use of relevant examples and evidence Limited evaluation and personal reaction; mainly descriptive or factual · Structure limited - often unclear or confusing Range of Vocab: 2 Little variety in the use of vocabulary Complexity: 2 Structures mainly simple, with little variety Accuracy: 2 Some errors but these generally do not impede communication **Total:** 16



Student 2 (Question 10b)

Commentary

Content

The introduction to this essay fails to refer explicitly to the question, setting things off on a less than favourable basis. Whilst the reader is aware that the area of the topic in focus is work, the approach is rather odd, starting with the types of work undertaken by immigrants, making mention of gastronomy, the need to improve the prospects of the barrios, public transport, tourism, new technologies, the car industry, agriculture, mining and sport. The point here is that there is plenty of information, but some of it lacks exemplification and the order of presentation is rather haphazard. A good approach might have been to deal with manufacturing industries, service industries, tourism and culture etc in more logically arranged paragraphs to provide suitable progression - always of course with a suitable level of evaluation and personal reaction, and allusion in each case to the second part of the question - which is given rather scant coverage. This essay might seem to have been under-marked, but a read of the Content descriptors above reveals that, though there are aspects of the Sufficient descriptors, the balance corresponds to Limited, so the essay is placed at the top of this band. This has the consequent effect of limiting the marks for language. This is a pity, because the same information presented within a more progressive and logical structure would undoubtedly have merited at least a Sufficient mark and therefore higher language marks.

Range of Vocabulary

This essay probably deserves 3 as it contains many words and expressions which are appropriate to the topic. However, the available mark for this element is limited to 2/5 as a result of the Content mark being in the 'Limited' band.

Complexity of Language

There are examples of attempts at producing complex structures, such that this essay would merit 3/5 but for the limit imposed by the Content mark as described above.

Accuracy

In terms of accuracy, there are fairly frequent errors which mean that a mark of 2 is appropriate.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 10/25 Range of Vocabulary - 2/5 Complexity of Language - 2/5 Accuracy - 2/5

Total - 16/40



A PERIOD OF 20^{TH} CENTURY HISTORY FROM A SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY/COMMUNITY

Student 3

Question 11a

¿Cuáles serían las ventajas e inconvenientes de vivir en la época que has estudiado? Justifica tus opiniones.

Student 4

Question 11b

Analiza las ideas e influencias que llevaron a los acontecimientos importantes de la época que has estudiado.

| | Section B | | |
|-----------------|---|--|--|
| | Writing | | |
| | See the insert for questions. Write the number of the question you have chosen in the box below, eg 10(a) . | | |
| v | | | |
| 11 a |] | | |
| En p | imer lugar es importante que sepamos | | |
| que | como todo habría muchos ventajas y | | |
| desve | ntajas de vivir en la época de la | | |
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| y chai se mi | ro que se depende de las gjos en que re. | | |
| La | entaja más importante de la ge posquerra e la guerra ha terminaclo entonces, este | | |
| simic | icaría el final de las batallas, los | | |
| 0 | os, los muertes y las luchas de hermano | | |
| contra | a hermano. A decir que la paz ha ilegado | | |
| y los | que vivian en España, portian no vivian | | |
| más | en ternor. Otra ventaja de la posquerra | | |
| servaqu | ve franco tenía el poder alosoluto y | | |
| contra | ol lo que España necesitaba para | | |
| recup | erarse en mi opinión. Franco era un | | |
| líder | que intentaba reconstruir un nevevo | | |
| Espa | ña cuando España era un país | | |



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buena para los el pueblo español durante la posquerra. Tambien a hecho de que la Q. había terminado, eva tspaña era un paí auro por los inhebitantes. Kajo el SE tranco de habia mes SEGUIDAD a causa Dero, eso es, gluzzs dictad pero Vec COMO UND 111910 pueblo sentia porque el mas comoda Sentia mae de 10 QU 0 NO Pasar 10 habia pas Tick wu. rerig meno, a mi hebria OTTO ma un convenuentes santos C 19 porque verra, Eran años lleno de hamb cle Tick , temor enfermediade SI cra rolo 4.90 a m juicio habia una falta de después de 12 aran desventaia de VLVU Q seria que ha Ma. Por esa DSTUD SOU 3101 Tick muchas leyes, ordenes, prohibiciones, Para 105 que habían luchado contra tranco en quera civil - la vida era muy and box elemple les castigaron, les dejaron su empleo, su oportunidades y ul Nalor a muchos Q concentración. Habría Campos de Sido en mi opinion de vivur como republicano



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en esta época à causa del temor de matado. Tick ser castigado o ann peor La nueva tspaña era sumplemente france Un gran ventaja para los qu Ne apoyaban Tick Movimuento Nacional pera una pesad habían opuesto é el regumen. para los que bando que Addition uno soportaba Otta vez, dependería de las rojos o los azules. to cuanto a los problemas de UQ. pasquema habrian muchos. Por ejemple en tranco establecio 2 del racionamiento POLO I una falta de ospues de habia comi espanola. Kacionaba productos D. toda tipo par ejemplas las legumbres, de arroz, el aceite, el chocolate, las gal 4.25J capé. Racionaba el pan a ochenta gramos to come a cr dia por persona y gramos por persona por Semena. Esto me parec porque los a el pan y 12 carne espantoso SOPLENING necesarios Son al imentos para 20212504 opinion, thtohes 105 mentos m bacalao y tocuoo patatas. eran Danzoz. en Ná En vitiminas \$ minerales eran su entermedades. Jeg ESD Provocaba BS in racionamiento seria uno de 105 grandes inconverientes epocz porque hoy en Q.

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igualdad de derechos es impresindible! La sociedad casi controlada la mujer, quería marido que la mujer atendrese su case, que mantuviera muchos huos y tuviera mucho hijos « la verdadera carrera de 61 994 m es la de ser madre de familia» 190 ETRINOI icial prochamaba 0 teminina. as muleres no podudo mili A .126 25200 en politicos NICI tratamiento de er era 0 0 mus COS3 d orque ellas no tenian e DOCS seria muy dificil a vivir así. para mi hoercad, FORMO CLE ns 0.01 rentaja seria que tranco controlar TICK 12.60munica.c. on esta. Las fuertes de C mane controlaloa de que er rdvad 10 español sabia C CSTaba pasan spana y el mundo. Lo hizó con la de prensa que era una censura que podi r o suspender chalquier publicación permiti Ø periodico, Además la torniz que .rad 10. tarse on arte CONEC para recubir noticias ey. Iema lo era POT un monopolio unformativo. Locuriven Es escencial que comprendramos que las fuentes comunicación eran poco mas attavoz del regimen, solo narraban los



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| una forma de reprimir la sociedad. La ger no sabía hada, que es en mi opinion | ste |
| en contra de sus derechos humanos. Tick | |
| En resumen, veo la época de la posqu | SIN |
| como una cosa maila que buena porque | |
| en mi opinión sertas más desventajas que | |
| ventajas de vivir en esta época porque era | 3 |
| una época oscura, larguísima y dura Tick den | nés |
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| pueblo y por eso na pienso que fuera | |
| una época ni fácil ni buena - sería sin duda | <u>}</u> |
| muy dificil a vivir bajo une dictadura." A n | ۸ |
| no me gustaria nade vivir en durante la pasgi | verra |
| porque no tendría libertad como una mujer j | y |
| cra una époce en que el puetele sufría las | |
| consequencias de la guerra civil "Perol Franco y du un otra dictadura. enter reconstruyó una nueva España fuerte. | j |
| * Pero, Franco reconstruyó una nyexa España | |
| fuerte. | |
| Content: 18 Good Sound understanding and knowledge of the task Wide/good range of relevant examples and evidence Some evidence of evaluation and personal reaction, but not always convincingly justified Logical structure with some progression | |
| Range of Vocab: 4 A wide range of vocabulary used | |
| | |

Student 3 (Question 11a)

Commentary

Content

The introduction is cleverly constructed from a linguistic point of view, but it might have benefitted from some more detailed information of what the Posguerra actually was. Whilst the following paragraph immediately and appropriately states a major advantage of the period compared to the Civil War, it is not until the end of the paragraph that the dictatorship is referred to; some might disagree that this was a good thing, but to be fair the student does attempt to justify her opinion more amply in the next paragraph. The disadvantages for Spanish citizens, especially for Republicans, are very amply covered in the ensuing paragraphs – and with a considerable amount of detail and personal reaction – though one obvious aspect to mention might have been Franco's isolationist policies and their effect on the population. The concluding section offers an appropriate balance of views, though as with other sections of the essay the sense of progression is slightly compromised by a slight lack of refinement in the amount of personal reaction and evaluation might have suggested a mark at the bottom of the Very Good band, a slight lack of polish brings the mark into the Good band.

Range of Vocabulary

This essay probably deserves 5 for Range of Vocabulary, containing many words and expressions which are appropriate to the topic. However, the available mark for this element is limited to 4/5 as a result of the Content mark being in the 'Good' band.

Complexity of Language

There are plenty of examples of complex structures. However, the available mark for this element is limited to 4/5 as a result of the Content mark being in the 'Good' band.

Accuracy

In terms of accuracy, there are fairly frequent errors of a minor nature which mean that a mark of 4 is entirely appropriate.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 18/25 Range of Vocabulary - 4/5 Complexity of Language - 4/5 Accuracy - 4/5

Total - 30/40

| | Section B |
|--------|--|
| | Writing |
| | See the insert for questions. |
| v | /rite the number of the question you have chosen in the box below, eg 10(a) . |
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Student 4 (Question 11b)

Commentary

Content

The major problem with this essay is that the scope of the student's study is far too broad, as evidenced by the fact that the two events selected are separated by over 40 years. As a result, the information offered in response to the question is at best scant, and often reveals some confusion and lack of clarity. There are also one or two elements of factual inaccuracy which are probably symptomatic of this lack of a more restricted and precise focus on a suitable period for study. An example is that of skipping from the abdication of Alfonso XIII straight to the Civil War - 'initiated by Franco', with no mention of the political changes of the period in between, or of the ideas or influences. There is more narrative of the events than focus on the ideas and influences which lead to them, and inevitably there is much conflation of decades into single sentences. There is also little justification and personal reaction offered. However, there is some merit in this essay: the explicit and informative introduction provides the broad focus of the period studied, the narrow focus of the events selected, and a statement of what the student sets out to do. This provides the examiner with a clear view of the student's intentions; it is a pity that more students do not adopt this approach to their introductions. What follows is presented in a logical, chronological order in clearly defined paragraphs. The conclusion disappoints, however, being rather brief and sweeping in the statements made therein. All things being considered, the student was probably fortunate to be awarded a mark just into the Good band.

Range of Vocabulary

This essay deserves 3 for Range of Vocabulary, containing some words and expressions which are appropriate to the topic, but with some errors.

Complexity of Language

There are examples of complex structures, but again with some errors.

Accuracy

There are fairly frequent minor errors, such that a mark of 3 is entirely appropriate.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 16/25 Range of Vocabulary - 3/5 Complexity of Language - 3/5 Accuracy - 3/5

Total - 25/40



AN AUTHOR FROM A SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY/COMMUNITY

Student 5

Question 12a

¿Cuáles son los mensajes principales que el autor ofrece al lector? Explica, dando tus opiniones sobre estos mensajes.

Student 6

Question 12b

¿Por qué (no) recomendarías a un amigo la(s) obra(s) del autor que has estudiado? Explica con detalles.









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hande ser alla odio su hipotresia 103 yordotes parente Ø ajena comi en Muy non Tam tratan 10 mas 1 Γ IN na h to lore hor ares Wen mas ę on C to lene es π re Utan U 210 1101 e nto Te hora 9 0 t habria e 10 0 pora C 1 por ero and е ł ..f

A mi criterio la falsa interpretación de la honra es algo que quiere destacos poner de manifisto el autor y quiere que el lector piense en esta honra falsa. El existor nos alerta del toma de la honra en el Prólogo "la honra cría las artes" y las luies



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| sones por qué la novela signe siendo de interés l | roy endía. Tick |
|--|-----------------|
| | |
| Content: 24 Very Good | ****** |
| Thorough understanding and knowledge of the task Wide range of relevant examples and evidence | |
| Clear evidence of evaluation and well-justified personal reaction | ******** |
| Well-organised structure with clear progression | |
| Range of Vocab: 5 Very wide range of vocabulary used | |
| Complexity: 5 Very wide range of complex structures | |
| Accuracy: 5 Highly accurate with only occasional errors | |
| | |
| Total: 39 | |
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Student 5 (Question 12a)

Commentary

Content

The introduction is very business-like in stating from the word go that Lazarillo de Tormes is about the messages the author wished to convey to his fellow-citizens, though a more helpful lead-in for the reader unfamiliar with this book or its social setting might have been to start with a more general statement of what the society was like which needed reforming. What follows is an excellent essay, using compendious knowledge of the novel to good effect to answer the question, always wellfocussed, well-evaluated and justified, and with ample personal reaction. What is most impressive is the way in which the student does not assume any prior knowledge on the part of the reader, but always provides just enough explanation to lead the reader through the novel without excessive telling of the story. The structure is clear and easy to follow, providing a sense of logical progression paragraph by paragraph through the various messages, in each case providing very personal opinions related both to the society of the time and to the present day where relevant. The student closes very appropriately suggesting that the relevance to modern society of the messages of this novel written over five centuries ago is precisely what makes it still interesting in the 21C. It is worth mentioning, however, that an essay does not need to be as long as this (over 1500 words) to score top-range marks of this sort; a more concise essay with slightly fewer examples expressed in a more succinct way would have been just as effective.

Range of Vocabulary

This essay deserves 5 for Range of Vocabulary, containing many words and expressions which are appropriate to the topic.

Complexity of Language

There are plenty of examples of complex structures, meriting a mark of 5/5.

Accuracy

There are some errors, but a mark of 5 is entirely appropriate as most of the essay is highly accurate.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 24/25 Range of Vocabulary - 5/5 Complexity of Language – 5/5 Accuracy - 5/5

Total - 39/40

| | Section B |
|--------------------|---|
| | Writing |
| | See the insert for questions. |
| | Write the number of the question you have chosen in the box below, eg 10(a). |
| 126 | |
| Con |). Agua, para chacolate es la novera que he estadiado . Cana Agua |
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| .de.Ti | ta una joven que crece ducante la Revolución Mexicana y quien enfrette. |
| un infin | idea de retos cultureles y sociales en busca de un anor prohibido de |
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| Content: 13 Sufficient |
| Sound understanding and knowledge of the task Good range of relevant examples and evidence |
| Some evaluation and personal reaction evident but often not justified; over-reliance on received ideas Structure is satisfactory though there may be some deficiencies |
| Range of Vocab: 3 Some variety in the use of vocabulary |
| Complexity: 3 A variety of structures used, with some attempts at complex constructions |
| Accuracy: 3 More accurate than inaccurate; errors rarely impede communication |
| Total: 22 |
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Student 6 (Question 12b)

Commentary

Content

The introduction to this essay explains the nature and social setting of the novel, and proceeds to state which elements of the book make it worth recommending to a friend. This is perhaps too much information for an introduction; there is a lot to be said for a simple, concise introduction which establishes the background to the question and states how the student plans to answer it. However, immediately after the quite long introductory paragraph this student usefully adds a line stating her intentions. Subsequent paragraphs cover each aspect chosen thoroughly – perhaps excessively so - providing ample information, though often making assumptions about the knowledge possessed by the reader unfamiliar with the book. The content is mostly well-focussed on the question, but there is often too much 'story-telling' and elements of confusion which compromise the development of reasons why the novel could be recommended to a friend. The conclusion wraps things up quite nicely, alluding to the way in which Laura Esquivel integrates the various elements well, but at times refers to the work as *película*. All in all this is a competent essay marred by sections which lack the necessary focus and sense of progression, and by some inconsistencies which undermine the reader's confidence in the evaluation and personal reaction. The essay would have needed considerably more sharpness to lift it into the Good category.

Range of Vocabulary

This essay deserves a higher mark here, using much vocabulary and expressions appropriate to the topic and being quite articulate overall. However, the available mark is limited to 3/5 by the Content mark.

Complexity of Language

Although there are plenty of examples of complex structures this quite articulate essay would merit 4/5 but for the limit imposed by the Content mark in the Sufficient band as described above.

Accuracy

In terms of accuracy, there are fairly frequent errors of a minor nature which mean that a mark of 3 is appropriate.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 13/25 Range of Vocabulary - 3/5 Complexity of Language - 3/5 Accuracy - 3/5

Total - 22/40



A DRAMATIST OR POET FROM A SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY/COMMUNITY

Student 7

Question 13a

Explica con detalles por qué el dramaturgo/poeta que has estudiado usa las técnicas literarias que ha usado. ¿Qué efecto tienen sobre la calidad de la obra?

Student 8

Question 13b

Refiriéndote a una o más obras o poemas, explica qué nos revela(n) de las ideas del dramaturgo / poeta. Justifica tu punto de vista.

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Do not w outside t box las QGV Content: 22 Very Good Thorough understanding and knowledge of the task • Wide range of relevant examples and evidence · Clear evidence of evaluation and well-justified personal reaction · Well-organised structure with clear progression Range of Vocab: 4 A wide range of vocabulary used Complexity: 4 A wide range of structures including complex constructions Accuracy: 4 Generally accurate with few errors



Student 7 (Question 13a)

Commentary

Content

This essay offers plenty of relevant information and detail on La Casa de Bernarda Alba, mostly focussed quite well on the question. However, overall it is not as tight and succinct as it could be; there is some irrelevance and in some cases the focus on the question is not expressed explicitly enough. The essay begins with a general statement about Lorca's techniques and their effectiveness, and then lists three techniques to be dealt with in more detail. Quite a number of students seem to select three aspects to cover, whatever the topic and whatever the question, and if done well, there is no reason why this should not be a sufficient number of areas to deal with. In the event, several examples are given for each of the three techniques; for instance three long paragraphs just on symbolism - arguably much more than necessary. Additionally, the techniques of use of colour and sound/silence are introduced for good measure, whilst the three techniques suggested in the introduction would have been sufficient. There is plenty of evaluation and personal response at appropriate points as to the quality of the play, but the essay would have gained higher marks if it had been more succinct and directly focussed; it is far longer than necessary at over 1400 words. Indeed it should be perfectly possible to score equally good marks with an essay one quarter of this length by virtue of sticking tightly to the question, expressing information and ideas succinctly, and by generally achieving a high degree of efficiency.

Range of Vocabulary

This quite articulate essay contains many words and expressions which are appropriate to the topic, but with some errors.

Complexity of Language

There are many examples of complex structures, but 4 marks were awarded because of the number of grammatical errors.

Accuracy

In terms of accuracy, there are fairly frequent errors, and indeed a mark of 3 might have been given, but the mark for vocabulary already accounts for those errors related to vocabulary.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 22/25 Range of Vocabulary - 4/5 Complexity of Language - 4/5 Accuracy - 4/5

Total - 34/40

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- Wide range of relevant examples and evidence
- · Clear evidence of evaluation and well-justified personal reaction
- Well-organised structure with clear progression
 - Range of Vocab: 3 A wide range of vocabulary used

Complexity: 4 A wide range of structures including complex constructions

Accuracy: 4 Generally accurate with few errors

Total: 34

Student 8 (Question 13b)

Commentary

Content

This essay is certainly well-structured, in that between the introduction and the conclusion there are three clearly defined paragraphs, one on each of the three main ideas the student chooses to cover. These are suggested in an introduction which lacks any statement of broad perspective but launches straight into the detail of the ideas to be explored, followed by the student's opinion of one of them. A neater form of introduction might be a) broad perspective, b) narrow perspective, c) focus on the question and d) statement of method to be followed. The main paragraphs mostly flow logically, though they often assume that the reader is familiar with the play, and in places are a bit muddled. However, there is no doubt as to the presentation and explanation of Lorca's ideas as expressed in the play, and of their cause or origin. All in all, this is quite a competent and effective essay as related to the task – albeit still longer than strictly necessary at about 1000 words.

Range of Vocabulary

There is a fair amount of error in spite of there being a very wide range of appropriate vocabulary, so the mark for this element is fair at 3/5.

Complexity of Language

There are examples of complex structures, but equally there are elementary errors, as well as several examples of failing to use *para* followed by an infinitive where appropriate, so the student only just got the mark of 4.

Accuracy

In terms of accuracy, there are fairly frequent errors; these are mostly of a minor nature but there are also some of a more fundamental nature, so again the student only just got the mark of 4.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 23/25 Range of Vocabulary - 3/5 Complexity of Language - 4/5 Accuracy - 4/5

Total - 34/40



A DIRECTOR, ARCHITECT, MUSICIAN OR PAINTER FROM A SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY/COMMUNITY

Student 9

Question 14a

Evalúa las técnicas usadas por el artista en la(s) obra(s) que has estudiado. En tu opinión, ¿qué efecto han tenido sobre la popularidad de esta(s) obra(s)?

Student 10

Question 14b

Para ti, ¿cuáles son los mejores aspectos de la(s) obra(s) que has estudiado? Justifica tus opiniones.

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Do no outsid mucha DCD(M Tick 46 Content: 18 Good Sound understanding and knowledge of the task • Good range of relevant examples and evidence · Some evidence of evaluation and personal reaction, but not always convincingly justified Logical structure with some progression Range of Vocab: 4 A wide range of vocabulary used **Complexity:** 4 A wide range of structures including complex constructions - Accuracy: 3 More accurate than inaccurate; errors rarely impede communication ----- Total: 29

Student 9 (Question 14a)

Commentary

Content

The introduction launches straight into a statement about the Cultural Topic studied and of the student's intentions, which is fine, but a broad perspective of where Dalí fitted into the artistic scene and the narrow perspective of the issue of his popularity would have been useful. The first two main paragraphs, focussing on the visual beauty of Dalí's works and his visual 'jokes', are fine, in that they do indeed describe techniques. The third 'technique', which occupies well over two pages, discusses autobiographical elements: not strictly-speaking a technique. The fourth and final 'technique' describes Dali's surrealist style - again somewhat marginal, especially as, instead of focussing on how this impacts on his style and his painting techniques, we are offered a lot of narrative on Dalí's involvement in the Surrealist movement and its impact on his attitudes, ideas and choice of subjects. The problem is lack of focus - the information used is not focussed enough on techniques as such, although the issue of popularity is covered adequately. Hence, the answer would have been more successful as a response to guestion 14(b), since everything the candidate mentions comes under the more general heading of *mejores aspectos*. As it is, although the structure is quite good and certainly easy to follow, some paragraphs are of marginal relevance to the question chosen, with some rambling sections and some irrelevance; it is also rather too long, another example of a student failing to ensure that what is offered is well focussed on the task stated in the question. So, a mark in the middle of the Good band is entirely appropriate.

Range of Vocabulary

The essay contains plenty of topic-specific vocabulary, but the available mark is limited to 4/5 by the Content mark.

Complexity of Language

There are examples of complex structures, but again the Content mark limits the mark for Complexity of Language.

Accuracy

There are fairly frequent minor errors and some major errors, so 3/5 is a fair mark.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 18/25 Range of Vocabulary - 4/5 Complexity of Language - 4/5 Accuracy - 3/5

Total - 29/40

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Student 10 (Question 14b)

Commentary

Content

This essay starts quite well with a clear statement of the student's intentions to cover three aspects of the film studied. Indeed, this plan is followed to the letter in three clearly-defined paragraphs which flow quite well apart from some confusion and occasional irrelevance, and a lack of specific examples. However, whilst there is some merit in the content, it is compromised to an extent by some factual error and the frequent confusion caused by linguistic errors, whereby some of the necessary detailed examples would be lost on all but the most sympathetic native reader. In addition, one almost gets the impression that some sections contain phrases and expressions which the student was determined to include at all costs; some of these work and others do not, and some statements are rather facile in the context of this essay. So, this essay represents a performance squarely in the middle of the Sufficient band, and was awarded a mark of 12/25.

Range of Vocabulary

The available mark for this element is limited to 3/5 as a result of the Content mark being in the 'Sufficient' band, but actually the errors of spelling and inappropriacy point to a mark of 3.

Complexity of Language

There are some examples of complex structures, but even in apparently pre-learnt sequences there are errors and inconsistencies.

Accuracy

In terms of accuracy, there are fairly frequent errors of a minor and serious nature which mean that a mark of 2 is appropriate.

The final marks for the essay were therefore:

Content - 12/25 Range of Vocabulary - 3/5 Complexity of Language - 3/5 Accuracy - 2/5

Total - 20/40

SECTION B: WRITING

Marking Guidance

- The range of topics and areas for study is inevitably very wide, but all essays are assessed according to the same criteria. If the question requires, for example, an analysis of the main themes of a work, this will be the candidate's view of what the main themes are, provided he/she justifies his/her choice. If there are clearly significant errors of fact, these cannot be ignored, but fact should not be confused with interpretation.
- 2. The mark scheme refers to understanding and knowledge of the task. 'The task' is to answer the specific question set. 'Understanding of the task' is the way in which the answer addresses the question, e.g. range, depth, covering all parts of the question and relevance to the question. 'Knowledge of the task' is the amount and range of detail used to answer the question set. It is not so much the actual knowledge as the way this knowledge is used and evaluated that is being assessed. Hence the Content mark is determined by how well the candidate has answered the specific question set. If a candidate has answered only one part of a two-part question, it is not possible to award a mark in the 'Good' band for Content.
- 3. When assessing an essay for Content, a "top down" approach should be adopted by deciding whether the essay matches the criteria for the top band. If not, move down to the second band and so on. If an essay fully matches all the criteria for the top band, it should be given maximum marks. Such an essay will fully answer all parts of the set question. It will be fully relevant, contain a good deal of evidence and very clear evaluation. If a candidate has answered only part of a two-part question it is not possible to award a mark in the "Good" band for Content.
- 4. If the essay is not worthy of a mark in the top band, move down the bands until the criteria are the best match for that essay. In these bands, in the event that an essay matches exactly the criteria for the band, it should be given the middle mark in that band. Otherwise, the mark should be adjusted up or down according to whether it is nearer the criteria for the band above or the band below. If an essay appears to be on the boundary between two bands and it is difficult to decide between the two, place the essay at the bottom of the higher band rather than the top of the lower band as this will allow access to the higher marks for Quality of Language.
- 5. The degree of personal reaction required for any given band will vary to some extent according to the precise question set, and it is accepted that in some topics, particularly the study of a region, the reaction is effectively bound up with the evaluation, whereas if the question asks for the candidate's opinion of an author or artist, more obvious personal reaction is clearly required. Candidates do not constantly have to say "I think that..." to be giving personal reaction. For example, adjectives such as "effective" or "extraordinary" are expressing opinions.
- 6. Evidence can take different forms. The candidate must show knowledge of the topic, but in the case of a literary topic, for example, this does not have to be accomplished via quotations; precise reference to specific episodes may fulfil this requirement. Furthermore, a quotation may explain or justify a point, but on its own it does not make a point; the candidate must be explicit.
- 7. Remember that in awarding the Quality of Language marks, these may not come from a higher band than the Content mark. Thus if the Content is judged "Sufficient" (11–15) then the maximum mark for each of the three Quality of Language marks is 3. However, it should be noted that this is the **maximum** mark available; the mark will be lower if the essay does not meet the criteria for 3 marks.
- 8. There is a minimum number of 250 words specified on the paper. There is no automatic penalty for writing less than the minimum: this will be self-penalising. Candidates can have access to the top mark bands by writing the minimum number of words, however, not all candidates will be able to meet the requirements of the top mark bands in an essay of 250 words. A well-structured and well-planned essay of 250 words with a wide range of vocabulary/range of structures will be eligible for the highest marks. It is the quality of the response and **not** the number of words which is important. There is no maximum number of words and all work is marked.