

# Examiners' Report January 2013

GCSE English Literature 5ET1H 01

Understanding Prose

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## Assessment overview

The English Literature 5ET1 Higher tier examination consists of two sections and lasts for an hour and forty-five minutes, approximately fifty minutes for each section. The questions on this paper have been designed to enable candidates to show what they can achieve in relation to the detailed study of two texts.

The total number of marks available is 89.

There are 43 marks available for Section A, which includes 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar assessed in part (d) of the question.

46 marks are available for Section B, which includes 6 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

## Study of prose texts

**Section A:** One text from the Literary Heritage (the four-part question). There is only one question per text and candidates should answer all four parts of the question. The maximum marks for each section of the question are: part (a) 8 marks; part (b) 10 marks; part (c) 10 marks and part (d) 12 marks plus 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). Total 43 marks.

**Section B:** One text from Different Cultures (essay). Candidates provide a response to one of two questions. Assessment Objective 1 carries a maximum of 16 marks and Assessment Objective 4 carries a maximum of 24 marks. In addition, a mark of up to 6 is awarded for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). Total 46 marks.

An example for most texts has been included in this report, but due to some Section B texts having fewer than 20 responses, centres are asked to also refer to the June 2012 Examiners' Report where all texts and questions are exemplified.

## Section A

### Question 1

#### Animal Farm

*Animal Farm* remains the most popular text option for Section A. Section A, part (a), was particularly well answered, with many candidates gaining full marks. In addition to identifying that Jones is both 'lazy' and 'drinking too much', candidates often explored the 'law suit' and the suggestion that this may have led to his ultimate downfall and the possibility that Jones could be seen as 'dishonest'. Other candidates explored his treatment of his animals and how he lacks respect from his labourers. In part (b), candidates demonstrated some empathy for both Jones and the animals. The most successful responses explored examples for both. In part (c), more successful responses explored Jones' control over himself, the farm, his men and his ultimate loss of control when the animals seized control from them. For part (d), candidates selected a wide range of extracts, the most popular being Boxer's death, the Battle of the Cowshed, Old Major's speech or a range of examples referring to Napoleon's control, such as when he sends the dogs after Snowball or the execution of the 'traitors'.

Some examiners commented that often candidates spent too long on part (a) of the question, which resulted in less successful responses for the other parts of the question. Overall, candidates responded with confidence to all parts of the question.

Three samples have been included in the report to provide examples of a range of marks.

In the following response, the candidate demonstrates a sound and generally sound understanding of the text.

Question 5 Question 6

In the extract, Orwell creates a ~~picture~~ the character of Mr Jones as a drunk. As shown when it says "taken to drinking more than was good for him" this infers that Orwell tries to get the reader to picture him over drinking to remove his problems ~~temporarily~~ <sup>temporarily</sup>, meaning that he ~~is~~ is ~~is~~ is growing more problems onto his current problems. I believe that if the character of Mr Jones continues to drink his problems away then he will end up in hospital and eventually die of ~~alcohol~~ ~~alcohol~~ <sup>Poisoning</sup> ~~poisoning~~.

Mr Jones is also described as a slob when he "immediately went to sleep on the drawing-room sofa with the ~~the~~ News of the World over his face" this suggests that Jones has no care for anything else in his life but sleeping and drinking, which causes an effect on the farm and the animals. However, ~~this~~ this also implies that if he spends the day sleeping and not even checking on ~~his~~ his employees then they can do what ever they want and not provide for the farm. This makes me think that if Jones had's have gone out over night, ~~then~~ <sup>then</sup> maybe he would have fed his animals and ~~perid~~ <sup>perid</sup> for the hay to come in, so that the reader ~~would~~ <sup>would</sup> find that

(Section A continued)

He is a Slob nor a drunk.

Orwell uses a variety of language features to create sympathy for the animals in the extract. He uses the ~~group~~ group of three "reading the newspapers, drinking, and occasionally feeding Moses on crusts of bread soaked in beer." This is affective towards the reader as it suggests the several ~~tasks~~ tasks Jones takes part in instead of looking after his animals. I find that the use of this simile works well in the context of the extract because it reminds the ~~the~~ audience throughout the book of how cruel of an ~~owner~~ owner he was.

Orwell uses the vivid imagery "were in the store-shed with whips in their hands, lashing out in all directions," in the extract to create an image in the readers mind of how the ~~men~~ men would have looked, enraged with their whips flaring in every direction, and ~~the~~ how the animals would have looked, frightened and belittled by the farmer and his men. This makes me think ~~against~~ against the methods of care Jones uses towards his animals, showing that he is a terrible person.

In the extract Jones has control over the animals to start. The significance of this relates to a later part within the ~~novel~~ novel, where ~~the~~ humans have control over animals, Napoleon is corrupted by <sup>the</sup> control and takes aspects of the

(Section A continued)

The humans and make them his own. The way that Jones uses his control is ~~unacceptable~~ <sup>unacceptable</sup> towards the animals so they decide to take control. "The situation was quite out of their control" so they ~~decide~~ Jones and his men decide to evict the farm leaving the control with the animals. This was because Orwell wanted to show how control of something big ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> hard to keep so even the slightest thing could mean ~~them~~ <sup>then</sup> ~~can~~ <sup>can</sup> crumble to nothing after having ~~the~~ <sup>complete</sup> power.

Control is misused in chapter 7 when Napoleon "uttered a high pitched ~~whisper~~ <sup>whimper</sup> ... to Napoleon's feet." This infers that Napoleon misuses his ~~power~~ <sup>control</sup> in the wrong way and just by whistling he can order the dogs to attack anybody that he orders the dogs to kill. This implies that people with control go corrupt and find they can do what they want, when they want. However, a significant use of control is using it fairly and for the right reasons, just like ~~the~~ Snowball who wanted equality and freedom for animals across the land. As Napoleon creates a mass murder in ~~the~~ chapter 7 it proves that he is above the law and is a ruthless dictator and needed to prove that if anyone went against him the same thing would happen to them as it had happened to the followers of Snowball. I believe that ~~the~~ the animals should have gotten rid of Napoleon as one big force.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner comment

Part (a): The candidate focuses on Jones' drinking and makes two points: 'he is a slob and drunk'. The candidate has selected two quotes to support their ideas. There is a sound understanding of the character, but more points would be required in order to qualify for a higher band. Band 1, 3 marks.

Part (b): The candidate refers only once to 'sympathy'. The two examples support points made about Jones' cruelty and how the animals' treatment leaves them 'frightened and belittled'. The

candidate is beginning to show a sound understanding of language. Band 2, 3 marks.

Part (c): The candidate does not focus sharply enough on the extract and makes generalised comments about control later in the novel. There is one reference to the extract. Band 1, 1 mark.

Part (d): The candidate has selected an appropriate area of the text, when Napoleon's dogs chase Snowball off the farm. One piece of evidence is selected and the points made are slightly generalised, rather than exploring the chosen extract in detail. The response is generally sound. Band 1, 2 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the intermediate performance criteria: Candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with considerable accuracy and general control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 2 marks.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner tip**

In order to qualify for higher bands, candidates should penetrate the given extract for as many examples of the character or theme as possible. A range of points should be made.

For part (d), candidates should choose an extract of similar length to the one provided for parts (a) – (c) and select specific words or phrases from their chosen extract in order to explore the theme.



In the following example, the candidate has not labelled each part of the question. Part (b) begins on the second page, part (c) on the third and the final paragraph relates to part (d) of the question.

The first two parts of the question are sustained. Part (c) is sound, but part (d) does not contain enough points and is a limited response, which cannot be awarded a mark on Higher tier; however, a mark is awarded for SPG.

From the extract I discover that Mr Jones is a very lazy and careless man, because it says 'Mr Jones went into Willingden and got so drunk at the Red Lion that he did not come back until midday Sunday'. This shows that Mr Jones is very lazy because he didn't care about the animals so he went and got drunk. Also it says 'Drinking and occasionally feeding Moses crusts of bread soaked in beer'. This shows that he can't be bothered to feed Moses his actual bird seed so he just gives him what is there; this shows carelessness because he doesn't think how the beer will affect Moses. Although the writer uses 'the animals were still unfeet', this makes Mr Jones sound bad at the start and it then gets you thinking of how worse he could further along in the story.



(Section A continued)

The writer in this book is quite stereotypical because she describes Mr Jones as going to the pub to get drunk and not caring about anything else, but he also refers to the everyday life while also being stereotypical. The writer uses 'But <sup>of</sup> late he had fallen on evil days'. This is a metaphor; and it means that from Mr Jones being on top with caring for the animals, like feeding them and cleaning them out, he had gone to not doing anything just being really sad and upset. Orwell uses strong phrases like 'At last they could not stand it no longer.' This was to show that because the animals were so hungry that they had to do something, or they will starve. This makes the reader feel sympathetic because they get an image in their head of how badly these animals are being treated. However Orwell uses 'one of the cows broke in the door of the store-shed with her horns'. This makes the reader feel happy and have hope for the animals, on the other hand it also makes them feel ~~anxious~~ <sup>anxious</sup> because of the consequences they will face.

(Section A continued)

Although you can feel sympathy for the animals you also feel sorry for Mr Jones and his men because they were being 'butted and kicked from all sides' and some people think they deserve it, which they do, it's just not nice to get kicked out of your own home.

George Orwell the writer uses control in the story but it gets passed around. First it is with Mr Jones because he doesn't feed the animals so in that case he is in control of the food supply. I know this because the writer describes how desperate the animals are for food. 'Mr Jones immediately went to sleep... so that when evening came the animals were still unfed.' This shows that because Mr Jones hasn't woken up no animal will get fed. The second control is where the animals rebel and fight Mr Jones and his men off the farm. 'frightened them almost out of their wits' which means that the animals had total

(Section A continued)

control and Mr Jones and his men want  
want to go back to the farm.  
The other controlled part in  
the story is when old major said  
about his speech when he was  
going to die because he took  
control of who was going to be in  
charge etc. He knew how long he  
would die and he wanted to be  
happy



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

Part (a): The candidate has identified a few points about Jones' character and has supported these with a range of relevant textual evidence. A mark in Band 2 is awarded. 5 marks.

Part (b): The candidate begins to explore ideas of how Orwell presents Mr Jones as stereotypical and gradually links this to how the reader feels some sympathy for him. There is recognition that sympathy can be gained for both animals and Mr Jones. The response is sustained and is beginning to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the character. Band 3, 5 marks.

Part (c): The candidate recognises that both Mr Jones and the animals have control in different parts of the extract. A sound response. Band 2, 4 marks.

Part (d): The candidate has selected an appropriate area of the novel, but has not explored the chosen extract in enough detail. This is a 'limited' response. The lack of textual evidence and vague, unclear points do not gain a mark.

SPG: As there is a brief response and it is 'reasonably accurate', a mark can be awarded – even if part (d) has not gained a mark.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner tip**

Although the labelling of each section has improved considerably, centres are urged to continue reminding candidates to label each section clearly.

In this final example, the candidate has demonstrated an assured and perceptive understanding of the character and theme.

1a) In the extract, Mr Jones is portrayed by Orwell as being an irresponsible farmer. This is shown in how the buildings wanted roofing, the hedges were neglected and the animals were underfed. <sup>In this,</sup> As Jones is shown <sup>to be</sup> unable in completing basic maintenance on his farm ~~by~~ by Orwell, leaving his animals unfeed.

As well as this, Orwell presents Jones to be unrespected by his fellow men. <sup>Orwell describes Jones</sup> As a result of <sup>as</sup> his men being idle and dishonest. This is therefore as a result of their lack of respect for him: if they respected their boss, then they would be honest and work hard. However this could be ambiguous, simply showing that Jones being irresponsible had caused his men to do the same.

(Section A continued)

1b) During the extract, sympathy is presented by Orwell in several ways. Firstly, it is shown in how he used repetition of the animal's hunger: 'hungry animals' and 'the animals were still unfed.' In addition, Orwell's inclusion of the word 'still' suggests to the reader that the hunger has been an issue over a prolonged period of time.

In relation to this, ~~the~~ sympathy towards the animals has been shown in the way that they appear to be acting merely in self defence. By suggesting that 'nothing of the kind had been planned beforehand' (Orwell ~~is~~ <sup>thereby</sup> dismissing Old Major's speech of a revolution prior) it is shown as if the animals are acting in self-defence, to protect themselves. This is ~~what~~ <sup>why</sup> ~~can~~ they 'flung' themselves into revolution at this point. ~~The~~ the use of 'flung' suggesting their lack of control and choice within the matter.

Linking closely with this, in how the animals' were provoked, evoking sympathy from the reader, is how they 'could stand it no longer' as the 'lashing' of the whips is the final straw. Orwell has used the word 'lashing' to suggest a brutality about this, which would cause the reader to sympathise with the animals.



(Section A continued)

1c) Control is shown by Orwell in many forms within the extract. Firstly, in how he ~~cannot~~ not control his ~~own behaviour~~ addiction - being portrayed as an alcohol - thus leading to him losing control of his farm <sup>(poor maintenance)</sup> and eventually the animals.

Suggesting that Jones can not take control of himself, is how he 'loses' money, thereby signalling self-pity, which is shown in the word 'disheartened'. This inevitably causes him to drink alcohol, ~~as~~ removing the final signs of control left. The word therefore Jones spends his days 'lounging' and 'drinking' as opposed to keeping control of his farm.

As a result of this, the animals revolt, just as the Russian ~~to~~ citizens did against their leader - under the wisdom of Marx. The use of 'sudden uprising' suggests this clearly. That the Jones has been unable to prevent this - thereby keeping control of the matter.

As well as this, the animals were also shown to lose control of their own actions also. ~~The~~ This is repeated in how they had 'flung' themselves, suggesting a lack of control in their actions. This statement is accompanied alongside a direct way of also stating this - in how 'the situation was quite out of their control'. The use of these points within close proximity, allow Orwell to suggest a lack of control on behalf of the animals to the reader.

(Section A continued)

1d) Another section where control is shown by Orwell is on pages 63, ~~64~~ <sup>64 and 65 (Battle of the windmill)</sup> 64, where the animals ~~are~~ have lost control of Animal Farm momentarily, allowing Frederick to gain control.

In the word 'refuge', the animals are displayed as ~~be~~ having lost control: the word refuge meaning to be without a home. Therefore, the use of this word suggests that the animals ~~have~~ have lost Animal Farm already (even though this is not the case) however it simply replicates the thoughts of the animals, in how they have only lost <sup>control</sup> control. ~~This~~ <sup>Control</sup> can be regained.

Also, by Orwell stating <sup>is</sup> that control was in the enemy's 'hands' By mentioning this, Orwell is suggesting control ambiguously. Firstly the obvious way <sup>(saying it)</sup> giving the reader this information. ~~It~~ However, ~~the~~ the reader will recognise that the use of the word 'hands' is significant. That only humans have hands. Therefore the use of this categorically states that only the humans have control here, but also that the humans are gripping the control - having more of it - as a feature of hands is opposable thumbs.

Further on, the animals regain their courage and defeat the human invaders. This is shown in the words 'charged' and 'forc<sup>ed</sup>ing'. These are words which display power, therefore the animals are shown to be stronger at this point in time. As a result, they have more control.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner comment

Part (a): The candidate has made a few observations about Jones. The point about his 'fellow men' showing little respect is a perceptive point and therefore gains a mark just into Band 3. 6 marks.

Part (b): This response begins with a clear focus on the question and explores specific words and phrases in order to explore the theme of sympathy. Ideas are clearly expressed and a perceptive understanding is demonstrated. Band 5, 10 marks.



Part (c): A range of points are made in this response, such as Jones' 'addiction' and his loss of control and how the animals gain and lose control. Ideas are supported with relevant examples from the extract. There are explicit and implicit examples of control. The response is assured. Band 4, 8 marks.

Part (d): The candidate helpfully guides the reader to their chosen extract. An interesting personal interpretation of the word 'refuge' is made. There is some assured exploration of the 'hands' image and other ideas are supported with relevant examples. Band 4, 8 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the high performance criteria. On the whole, there is consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 3 marks.



### **ResultsPlus** examiner tip

Candidates should select specific words and phrases from the extract(s) and formulate point, evidence, explain answers for each example provided.

Often candidates benefit from locating and highlighting the evidence in the extract first and then working through each of the examples in order of the text.

## **Question 2**

### **Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde**

A full range of marks were awarded for this question.

Part (a): This part of the question, which required candidates to focus on the character of Dr Jekyll, was tackled effectively on the whole, although, as with the previous series, there were some candidates who were predominantly narrative in their approach. Candidates often provided a quotation, which they then paraphrased, but then instead of exploring it in any detail, or recognising its implications, they simply moved on to the next quotation. Candidates whose achievement was in Band 1 sometimes did not paraphrase accurately, for example stating that the reference to 'the large handsome face of Dr Jekyll' tells the reader that 'Dr Jekyll is a tall man'. A further characteristic of weaker responses was a tendency to attempt to read a great deal into wording that was fairly commonplace, while leaving much richer territory unexplored.

The strongest responses engaged much more readily with subtleties of expression and inference; the majority fell between these two positions. One response at the top of Band 2, for example, reported that Dr Jekyll 'seems to be quite sensitive about the topic of Mr Hyde'. This was then reinforced with a reference to textual evidence, i.e. that 'As soon as his name is mentioned Jekyll('s) face changes completely' and this was then backed up with a relevant quotation. The candidate went on to explain that 'This also shows that Jekyll is quite a secretive person'. This approach, of considering a quotation from several different angles, and making valid points about it, is characteristic of the sort of response that can be deemed 'thorough'.

Part (b): This part of the question required candidates to comment on the effect of language in the presentation of Mr Utterson, and comments on his character were generally sound. Candidates seemed to have a clear understanding of his personality; linking that with the ways in which it was represented through language sometimes

proved more challenging. Weaker responses described events in the novel, for example 'Stevenson uses Utterson to try to bring the conversation about the will up' without explaining what Utterson's behaviour revealed about his character. There was also a tendency to stray from Utterson and to focus on other characters instead.

Part (c): This part of the question required a consideration of the theme of secrecy. This question evoked some effective responses, the most successful of which recognised a variety of different manifestations of secrecy and provided convincing textual evidence to support the focused analysis of these. Less successful responses struggled to articulate their views with precision: 'the significance of secrecy is big'. In responses that were less successful still, candidates relied on evidence or events that were out of extract and so could not be credited.

Part (d): The vast majority of candidates made an effective choice of extract and one of the most popular was from the 'Story of the Door'. Again, stronger responses recognised a range of levels on which secrecy was represented, and it proved to be a theme with which candidates were able to engage.

Some responses by candidates who had scored highly in the first parts of the exam were frustratingly short or even non-existent, and it is clear that time management remains an issue (for this question). Candidates need to be reminded again that the maximum mark for part (a) is 8, and that allocating too much time to that section is likely to result in a loss of marks elsewhere on the paper. Part (d) now carries up to 3 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar, so that candidates who write nothing are really penalising themselves heavily.

Two examples are provided for this question. The first is a Band 1 response and the second gains marks in both Bands 2 and 1.

<sup>A</sup> <sup>Clear</sup>  
In the extract Stevenson makes it clear that  
Mr Dr Jekyll is a tall man. "The large handsome  
face of Dr Jekyll" the word large shows he is  
a tall man. Stevenson also shows that Dr Jekyll  
does not want to talk about the will. "I do  
not care <sup>to hear more</sup> ~~any more~~ this is ~~at~~ This shows  
that Jekyll does not want to talk about  
death. Dr Jekyll trusts what he believes. "I know  
that he is a good fellow" The words I know  
shows he is confident that he is a good  
man. "This is a matter I thought we agreed to stop"  
This shows Jekyll is not happy talking about  
the will and also ~~to~~ show he wants them  
to stop talking about the will. The Stevenson  
also says <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ "blackness ~~and~~ about his  
eyes" <sup>also</sup> shows that Jekyll was unhappy  
talking about the will.

Stevenson shows Utterson uses Utterson to bring the conversation about the will up. "You know I have never approved of it" This makes everyone talk about it and also makes Jekyll unhappy about the will. "Well ~~As~~ I tell you again" this also ~~makes~~ gets Utterson to talk about the will because Utterson is trying to find out more about the will so he wants to keep talking about it.

Utterson is a man who believes in himself. "You know you me: I am a man to be trusted" This shows that Utterson thinks everyone believes in him and also that he believes in himself and is confident that Jekyll does as well.

Stevenson shows secrecy in the extract by making Jekyll not want to talk about it. "This is a matter I thought we agreed to drop" This shows the Jekyll does not want to talk about

(Section A continued)

it and also shows we don't want anyone else to. However it shows that they have spoke about it before because they all agreed they wouldn't talk about it again. "Ruthlessly disregarding the fresh topic" This also shows that they don't want other people to hear about it and to want to change the subject from the will. "I am a man to be trusted" This shows that Utterson wants Jekyll to trust him that it will not be spoken about and that even one will be told about the will. "Hyde-bound pedant" The word Hyde shows that they don't want people knowing about the will or anything. Secrecy is also shown because everyone was spoke about what the will says.

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Secrecy is also shown in the <sup>last night</sup> ~~Gabriel~~ ~~murder case~~. "Mr Utterson" Poole was worried about ~~Mr Utterson~~ <sup>Dr Jekyll</sup> this is secrecy because the doctor would not know and ~~Mr Utterson~~ <sup>Jekyll</sup> ~~is a~~ ~~man~~ didn't tell him. "Here we are"

(Section A continued)

This shows Poole is anxious the girl out  
what is up. ~~with Utterson~~ so he says  
here we are to show the doctor that  
he needs to hurry up and get in the  
house. "Open the door" shows Poole needs  
to get in there but the doctor <sup>Mr Utterson</sup> does not  
know what to expect and doesn't know  
what is up. "Was that my master's voice"  
Poole ~~is~~ is not sure if it is or  
not.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

Part (a): The candidate refers to four pieces of evidence from the extract, but the points made are very repetitive or have been misinterpreted; for example, 'large handsome face' telling us Jekyll is 'tall'. The candidate repeats that Jekyll is unhappy to talk about the will. More points about the character are needed to progress to higher bands. A generally sound understanding has been demonstrated. Top Band 1, 3 marks.

Part (b): The candidate makes three references to the extract; the first two relate once again to the talking about the will. In the second paragraph the relevant point is made that Utterson 'believes in himself'. Specific words and phrases have not been explored. There is a generally sound understanding of language. Band 1, 2 marks.

Part (c): There are some relevant examples from the extract, but the comment is very repetitive and there is some misinterpretation. Band 1, 2 marks.

Part (d): An appropriate extract has been selected, but the candidate has not explored it in enough detail. The response is generally sound. Band 1, 2 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the threshold performance criteria. The response is reasonably accurate and errors do not hinder meaning. 1 mark.



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**examiner tip**

Candidates should spend more time on part (d) of the question and examine ONE extract in detail.



In the following example, although the parts of the question have not been labelled, each is clearly identified by the use of relevant sentence starters, which immediately provides some focus on the question.

From the extract, the character of Dr Jekyll seems to be quite sensitive about the subject of Mr Hyde. As soon as his name is mentioned, Jekyll's face changes completely. "The large handsome face of Dr Jekyll grew pale to the very lips, and there came a blackness about his eyes". This also shows that Jekyll is quite a secretive person, and doesn't want to tell Utterson the truth.

Also in the extract, it shows Dr Jekyll as being desperate, because he pleads with Utterson not to speak of Hyde no more, in which he says 'I beg of you to let it sleep'. This quote also backs up the idea of Jekyll being quite sensitive of the matter, and that he ~~does~~ tries to be a good friend



(Section A continued)

to Utterson by not telling the truth, as their friendship could suffer.

In the extract, the character of Utterson the language used to present the character of Utterson affects the reader's view of him, because in the extract, it shows Utterson as being quite ruthless ~~to~~ at the start of the extract.

"you know I never approved of it" pursued Utterson, ruthlessly disregarding the fresh topic.

The writer uses the description of what Utterson says to full effect, showing that Utterson is someone who likes to get his own way soft or.

Also in the extract, the writer's language shows Utterson as being a bit demanding, as he wants to get his point across to Jekyll straight away, by firstly changing the topic that they was talking about, to know trying to get answers out of Jekyll about the matter of Hyde in Jekyll's

(Section A continued)

will. "you have told me so... well I tell you so again", ~~the~~ Jekyll is trying to change the subject, but Utterson is having none of it. The language the writer used adds effect on the character of Utterson's way of having his own way with Jekyll.

In the extract, the significance of secrecy is ~~big~~, big, because Jekyll is keeping the truth from Utterson.

In the extract, Utterson is trying to find out the real reason and truth about Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

Jekyll is pleading with Utterson to not speak of it any more, although Utterson is claiming that he can be trusted. The whole extract is really about Utterson trying to find out the secret about Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. "Jekyll, said Utterson, you know me: I am a man to be trusted..... Make no doubt I can ~~can~~ get you out of it." ~~the~~ This shows Utterson trying to

(Section A continued)

~~the~~ Reason <sup>with</sup> ~~the~~ Jekyll, and to also try and find out what is going on, so he could potentially help his friend.

However, Jekyll wants to speak none of it, and says 'It is one of those affairs that ~~cannot~~ cannot be headed by talking' this shows that Jekyll is definitely hiding something. So overall, I feel that the significance of secrecy in the extract is big, because the extract is mainly about secrecy.

Another part of the novel is which here is a case of secrecy is the bit where Utterson first meets Mr Hyde. The significance of secrecy is big, because Mr Hyde is hiding the fact that he is really Dr Jekyll. In this ~~the~~ part of the novel, the writer supports this because Mr Hyde doesn't want his face seen by Utterson at first, and Hyde 'hesitates' when asked to show his

(Section A continued)

Face. 'Now I shall know you again  
Said Utterson, 'It may be useful'  
The writer's language that  
he used helped ~~to~~ ~~show~~ the significance  
of ~~the~~ this part, because it's part of  
when Utterson first met Hyde.



### ResultsPlus examiner comment

Part (a): The candidate has identified that Jekyll is sensitive, changes completely and begs Utterson to 'let it sleep'. The candidate is beginning to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the character. Band 2, 5 marks.

Part (b): This is a sound response. The candidate identifies that Utterson is 'ruthless', 'demanding', 'has to get his own way' and 'is trying to get answers'. More analysis of specific words or phrases would have enhanced this response. Top Band 2, 4 marks.

Part (c): This response is more concise and a sound understanding is demonstrated. References are made to the extract in order to explore the theme of secrecy. Band 2, 4 marks.

Part (d): The candidate has selected an appropriate extract when Utterson first meets Hyde. One main point is made in that Hyde does not want his face to be seen. The response is generally sound. Top Band 1, 2 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the threshold performance criteria. The response is reasonably accurate and errors do not hinder meaning. 1 mark.



### ResultsPlus examiner tip

It is always helpful to guide the examiner to the extract selected in part (d). An introductory paragraph is not required; a brief subheading will suffice.

### **Question 3**

#### **The Hound of the Baskervilles**

Responses for this question were a somewhat disappointing. There were some very good responses seen, but many candidates seemed to struggle with some, if not all, parts of this question.

Part (a) required candidates to explore the character of Sir Charles Baskerville in the extract. Few candidates referred to Sir Charles' ill health or his need for reassurance from Mortimer. Most responses focused on Sir Charles feeling scared or frightened.

Part (b) asked candidates to explore the language used to present Mortimer in the extract. Often rather than identifying the ways in which language is used to illustrate Mortimer through what he says and does, candidates tended to give an overview of the character lacking in textual support

Part (c) required candidates to explore the theme of supernatural in the extract. Although this is a recognised theme, some candidates found this part of the question difficult. There was some misunderstanding of the theme of the 'supernatural' and often candidates provided their own interpretations.

Part (d) required candidates to explore the significance of the supernatural in one other part of the novel. More successful candidates referred to the appearance of the hound towards the end of the novel and also discussed the atmosphere and setting in order to create a supernatural and Gothic atmosphere.

This first example gains marks in Band 1 for all parts of the question.

a) From this extract we discover about Sir Charles Baskerville that he is a very nervous and scared man. I know this because it states that "Sir Charles's nervous system was strained to breaking point". This shows that if his nervous system was at breaking point he is clearly fearing that something very bad is going to happen; this foreshadows what is about to happen in the rest of the novel.

Another point that shows he is very scared and nervous is when it says that "Nothing would induce him to go out upon the moor at night". This is saying that he is that scared of the legend of the hound, he is scared to go out at night. Also when it says "incredible as it may sound to you Mr. Holmes" again emphasizes how scared he is, shows that ~~more~~ Mr. Holmes should even be shocked by it.

b) The effect of the language used to describe Dr. Mortimer in this extract makes him sound like quite a brave man. ~~But~~!

(Section A continued)

know this because it keeps on repeating the fact how Sir Charles is in a very bad state, but nevertheless Mortimer is staying strong. It shows how brave he is when after they see the "large black cat" he goes and sees what it was.

Another point is that this extract makes Dr. ~~Mr.~~ Mortimer out to be quite a ~~loyal~~ loyal and good man. He expresses this when he says that he stayed with him all of the night he was suffering and the fact that he done every instruction that Sir Charles carried out to him. This sums up his character throughout the book.

(Section A continued)

c) There is a great significance of the supernatural in this extract. It shows that back when the book was set, there was a firm belief in the supernatural and this is proven here by Sir Charles Baskerville as he strongly believes ~~in~~ this legend about the hound hunting down his ancestors that much his "nervous system was strained to breaking point."



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

Part (a): The candidate identifies that Sir Charles is nervous, scared and in fear. A range of evidence is used to support these repeated points. A sound understanding is demonstrated. Band 1, 3 marks.

Part (b): A range of points are made about Mortimer being: brave, strong, loyal and good. Unfortunately there is not enough use of evidence to support these points. The response is generally sound. Band 1, 2 marks.

Part (c): One point is made about Sir Charles' belief in the legend, which is supported with a piece of relevant textual evidence. Band 1, 1 mark.

Part (d): Rather than exploring one area of the text in detail, the candidate has provided a summary of the final chapter. There is no evidence or language analysis, but there is reference to the question. Band 1, 1 mark.



SPG: The candidate has met the high performance criteria. On the whole, there is consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 3 marks.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner tip**

Remind candidates to spend approximately 10 minutes for each of the parts (a), (b) and (c) and about 15 minutes on part (d).

In the following example, the candidate gains confidence. This is mostly a sustained response.

a) In the extract Sir Charles Baskerville is seen to be a man on the edge, who is terrified of the smallest things as he has just recently ~~been~~ heard about the curse that has been put on his family. "Sir Charles's nervous system was strained to breaking-point." Arthur Conan Doyle has used the word "strained" in this quote to show to the reader how scared Sir Charles Baskerville was. The word "strained" is a very powerful one and has very strong connotations, because of this it makes the reader think that Sir Charles is very scared of the curse and shows that Sir Charles believes in curses and other mysterious things.

Also in the extract it highlights how relieved Sir Charles Baskerville would be if the curse was lifted. "So excited and compelled was he." The words "excited" and "compelled" both have connotations of happiness or fun and this shows to the reader that Sir Charles is happy to see the hound. The relief of Sir Charles to see the hound ~~was~~ would of been huge and that is why words such as "excited" and "compelled" were used, to show how much of a burden

(Section A continued)

burden the curse is.

b) In the extract Mortimer is ~~seen to be~~ trying to take after Holmes by describing everything he has done with Sir Charles and this makes him seem like a student to Holmes. "Three weeks before the fatal event." The way in which Mortimer even includes the date of his arrival, "three weeks," shows that he is trying to be thorough in his investigation and impress Holmes. Mortimer uses words such as "fatal event" to show that he is a robot to Holmes and he still has feelings to the tragedy which has took place.

Also in the extract Mortimer is seen to be a man who cares for people and looks after them. "I whisked round... I was compelled to go down." The words "whisked" and "compelled" show that Mortimer will always try to keep people's nerves at bay and will always come round Sir Charles house to satisfy his needs. Even though Mortimer may sometimes do things quick, "whisked", he is always a humble person, "compelled", who is always willing to help.

c) The extract has several quotes supporting the idea of the supernatural and this could be due to tension or setting. ~~The~~ ~~words~~ "Some ghostly presence constantly haunted him". The words "ghostly presence" have hints that a ghost may appear

(Section A continued)

Through the book and this is part of the supernatural. As the "ghastly presence" has been wrote in the book this builds tension and suspense for the readers as you think something scary is about to happen. Also the word "haunted" suggest that something bad is going to happen and builds anticipation throughout the novel.

Also in the extract <sup>the</sup> Supernatural is constantly there and this has very scary connotations. "ever seen any strange creature or heard the baying of the hound." The words "strange creature" suggest that something bad is lurking in the book and this will make the readers ~~wish~~ want to read on to see what happens to this "strange creature". Also the words "baying of the hound" have negative connotations as a vicious dog is normally known as a hound and if it is "baying" then this too adds to the suspense of the book.

d) In chapter <sup>four</sup> there is a lot of acts in which the supernatural takes place. "A hound it was, enormous coal black hound." The way in which "hound" is used twice in the quote shows that Watson can not believe his eyes and this "hound" is unlike anything he ~~knows~~ has ever seen before, it was supernatural. As this has happened it makes the reader associate with Watson and be scared too as a supernatural beast is heading straight for him. This builds suspense and makes the reader want to

(Section A continued)

read on to find out what happens to the hound.

Also in chapter ~~the~~ fourteen the description of the hound sounds to be supernatural. "Fire burst from its open mouth." The words "fire burst" show that this hound can not be real so must be supernatural and this makes the audience worried for Watson as something supernatural is running towards him with an "open mouth". Dogs have got a lot of teeth and if they are running with an "open mouth" this will have an effect on the audience as it has negative connotations.

In chapter fourteen a lot of fire is used to symbolise the anger and terror of this supernatural hound. "Smouldering glow... outlined in flickering flame." Flames and smoke are always damaging and affecting people's lives, if these things are coming from the hound then this will make the reader think that it has been sent out to kill, and this builds the tension in the book.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

Part (a): This response starts well and the candidate identifies that Sir Charles is: 'on the edge', 'terrified', 'scared' and 'believes in the curse'. The response deteriorates from the second paragraph, with some misinterpretation of his 'excitement'. Based on the first paragraph, a sound understanding is demonstrated. Band 1, 3 marks.

Part (b): After a confused start, this response improves. A sound understanding is demonstrated in the second paragraph. Ideas are supported with some relevant textual evidence and there is reference to specific words and phrases. Band 2, 4 marks.

Part (c): The candidate selects appropriate evidence. There is sustained reference to the supernatural in both setting and narrative. The candidate makes a range of connections and provides an overall view of the supernatural in the extract. Band 3, 5 marks.

Part (d): The candidate has chosen areas of Chapter 14, when the hound appears. There is some focus on the question and a good exploration of the 'fire' that 'burst from its mouth'. The response is a little repetitive and more from the one selected extract could have been discussed; however, a thorough understanding has been demonstrated. Band 3, 6 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the high performance criteria. On the whole, there is consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 3 marks.



**ResultsPlus**  
**examiner tip**

Candidates should be encouraged to use short, embedded quotations.

## **Question 4**

### **Felicia's Journey**

There were fewer than one hundred responses for the *Felicia's Journey* question. One is included here.

Question 4 provided candidates with an extract from Chapter 4.

Part (a) asked candidates to comment on the character of Felicia's father and part (b) on the language used to present her great-grandmother. The theme for parts (c) and (d) focused on memories.

The majority of the responses seen gained marks in Bands 2 and 3.

This response is one of the more successful responses seen. On the whole, an assured understanding has been demonstrated.

From this extract I can see that Felicia's ~~father~~ father's life very much revolves around his grandmother. He is a very routinised man and everything he did was the same everyday "was the same as it ever was when he entered the kitchen at a quarter past five" this could give the reader the impression that his character always had things 'just so' and wasn't familiar with change. Trevor presents his character as worn-out, he lists Felicia's father's daily routine as though it is a chore that he feels he must just 'accept' and get on with. Trevor uses phrases like "her father reported" the word 'reported' sounds dull and formal, even though he is talking about a family



(Section A continued)

member showing that, even though he looks after his family, there is no close bond between him and his family.

(b) Trevor uses un-affectionate language when ~~speaks~~ writing about Felicia's Great-Grandmother. When ~~the~~ characters are talking about her he uses pronouns "How's she been" "Yes, she's struggling on" this is impersonal as they are not using her name. When Trevor describes Felicia's Great-grandmother he does in a negative way, "her great grandmother's occasional grunt of impatience". The onomatopoeia "grunt" is a negative connotation of how ~~the~~ she sounds creating an ~~un~~ unpleasant image of Felicia's great-grandmother in her mind.

~~Trevor~~ ~~expresses~~ Felicia's thoughts are generally expressed as bad when thinking about her great-grandmother, Trevor uses the term 'the old woman' when

(Section A continued)

Felicia is thinking about her, this is repeated in the ~~new~~ extract. Also when Felicia is thinking about her she tries thinking about something else "Not wishing to think about the old woman... she tries to divert her thoughts" the verb "divert" suggests Felicia doesn't want to steer away from the subject completely, but didn't 'wish' to think about her great-grandmother

(c) The significance of memories in this extract is often expressed by the character of Felicia remembering parts of her home life back in Ireland. Trevor writes "Felicia is not entirely successful when she tries to divert her thoughts" this can show the idea of being homesick as Felicia is constantly thinking about her home and is 'unsuccessful' when she tries to think of something else. The memories that the old woman had shared with

(Section A continued)

Felicia's father had 'long been rooted in his sensibilities' so the memories in this novel can often have an effect on other characters lives

(d) When Felicia is remembering when her and Johnny had sex ~~the~~ her memory was very significant to show how she felt about Johnny and about how ~~the~~ naive her character is. Trevor uses complex sentences, this suggests ~~the~~ Felicia has remembered this memory very precisely as she has thought about it a lot. Trevor chooses for Felicia not to remember the actual sex but everything before this could show she wasn't even thinking about what she was doing she just thought about the fact she thought he loved her "loving her". Although from her memories we can see that Johnny may not have felt the same way as he says "you're great Felicia" he only uses the word "great" which isn't an overly flattering comment.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner comment

Part (a): The candidate begins with a valid point and identifies that Felicia's father's life 'revolves around his grandmother'. Points are made about his 'routine' and liking things 'just so'. Further points are made such as Felicia's father being 'worn out' and his routine language is 'dull and formal'. Band 3, 7 marks.

Part (b): This is a perceptive response. There are a number of language points including: 'un-affectionate' [sic]; the use of pronouns making this 'impersonal' [sic]; onomatopoeic 'grunt' and negative terms used when referring to 'the old woman'. The response is confident and a number of language points have been made. Band 5, 10 marks.

Part (c): This response is sustained and focuses on the theme of memories throughout. More examples would have qualified the response for a higher band. Band 3, 6 marks.

Part (d): The candidate is beginning to demonstrate an assured understanding. The candidate focuses sharply on the question and the response is rooted in the language used within the chosen area of the text. Just into Band 4, 8 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the high performance criteria. On the whole, there is consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 3 marks.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner tip

Succinct and maturely expressed points are credit-worthy.

## **Question 5**

### **Pride and Prejudice**

There were less than 60 responses to this question; however, a full range of marks were awarded.

The extract was taken from Chapter 14 and asked candidates to explore the character of Mr Collins in part (a) and the language used to present Mr Bennet in part (b). The theme for both parts (c) and (d) was social manners.

The following response is, on the whole, thorough and sustained.

a) from the extract we discover that Mr Collins believes he is good with women but isn't. we see this ~~in~~ in line 5: "elegant compliments," which just shows he's so naive, as Mr Bennet is almost holding back laughter, he's almost an opposite of Mr Bennet in the way that he just doesn't have that same spark that he and Elizabeth share. we also discover that Mr Collins is extremely dull: "monotonous solemnity" ~~to~~ Aust. Aust. Aust. has made Mr Collins an over exaggerated character as he is such a boring character and so to show even though he has money for Elizabeth and security she believes in more than that, ~~etc~~ and so he is a good starting point to show her depth of character and strength as a woman at that time. Also we discover that he is opinionated: "much offended". As he is a <sup>very</sup> religious man he has strict rules in the bible which he follows and believes is



(Section A continued)

right so therefore he has a very narrow view of other opinions and thinks that his way is the only right way which is quite different to Mr Bennet who is more open minded.

B) ~~The~~ the language in the extract suggests that Mr Bennet is quite sarcastic "flattering with delicacy", as here he is being sarcastic to Mr Collins because he dislikes him but at the same time knows he needs to be nice to him as he will inherit ~~the~~ his property, leaving his wife and children left without a home, the language also suggests he is almost a polar opposite to Mr Collins, 'absurd' ~~but~~ Mr Bennet clearly shows much more about him as Mr Collins is narrow minded and naive whereas Mr Bennet is <sup>quite</sup> open minded and ~~is~~ extremely witty and sharp. ~~We also~~ the language also suggests that Mr Bennet has a close and interesting relationship with Elizabeth: "glance" he looks over at her because they will both be thinking the same thing and they are extremely similar. The dialogue also gives us quite a big idea of how Mr Bennet is, as there is not as much description, so we get the idea he is witty and

(Section A continued)

Sharp with remarks and in general an intelligent person, also the fact that it is an allegorical novel comes into play in the extract as Mr Bennet knows that Mr Collins is wrong to marry his daughter and him and Elizabeth share that idea that it is much more than money, - it is love.

c) Social manners are significant in the extract because Mr Collins thinks they are ~~very~~ very important: "much offended"; when Lydia interrupts him, he is a very 'proper' person and so holds social manners as one of his most important qualities in a person. So he thinks very little of Lydia. Social manners are also significant because it shows ~~how~~ the difference of Lydia and her older sisters ~~as~~ "bid... to hold her tongue" and so separates them from her as in the end she marries, not really for love but for pride as her mother has got in her head that they need to marry whereas Jane and Elizabeth find love and so this part of the extract really shows us how different they really are. Social manners are also significant to show how important social manners were in those times, as

(Section A continued)

Mr Bennet even though he dislikes Mr Collins is extremely v polite as the importance of first impressions are very great.

D) pg 127 - 129

Social manners are significant in this part of the novel because here they are with Lady Catherine and social manners are more of a ~~really~~ need here ~~for~~ than anywhere else ~~is~~ but it shows how strong Elizabeth's character is as she is no different with her than anyone else and is not even put off as everyone else is ~~was~~ as her stature is extremely high. She ~~sees~~ ~~is~~ just sees Lady Catherine as a person who is too proud. Also we see that Mr Collins ~~is~~ ~~extremely~~ has extremely good manners when with Lady Catherine 'agreeing to everything' it shows he has little character as he is almost scared as she is much more important. It is also significant as it is an allegorical novel and shows Elizabeth's depth of character and so she is a role model for women, to this day as she is so strong. Another way which social manners

(Section A continued)

are significant in this extract is because it shows how important they were at the time and that first impressions meant everything, as Lady Catherine would judge Mr Collins if he were not well mannered. Also as we don't get much of a description of the characters the dialogue is important - which shows their social manners to learn about the characters, for instance <sup>Lady</sup> Catherine is not seen much in the novel and so the ~~the~~ dialogue shows she has rather little social manners "very strange."



### ResultsPlus examiner comment

Part (a): The candidate has identified a number of points about Mr Collins, such as his naivety and being 'dull' and 'boring'. The candidate continues by saying that Collins is 'opinionated' and has a 'very narrow view'. Ideas are supported with relevant evidence from the extract. Band 3, 6 marks.

Part (b): The candidate has made a range of points contrasting the characters of Mr Bennet, Mr Collins and Elizabeth. A number of points are made about Mr Bennet, but more points about him would have qualified the response to a higher band. The response is sustained and working towards Band 4. Band 3, 6 marks.

Part (c): The response focuses on 'social manners', but more references to the extract would have benefited this response. The majority focuses on Mr Collins being 'much offended' by Lydia's interruption. This is a sound response. Band 2, 4 marks.

Part (d): The candidate helpfully and succinctly guides the examiner to the chosen extract. The answer is sustained, although more direct reference and close analysis of the chosen extract would have enhanced this response. Band 3, 6 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the high performance criteria. On the whole, there is consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 3 marks.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner tip

Encourage the use of frequent and selective quotation.

## **Question 6**

### **Great Expectations**

There were less than 50 responses for the question and a range of marks were awarded.

The extract was from Chapter 9, when Pip returns from Miss Havisham's and he is questioned by Pumblechook and Mrs Joe.

Part (a) asked candidates to explore the character of Mrs Joe and in part (b) the language used to present Pumblechook. The theme of dishonesty was the focus for parts (c) and (d).

The following example is a sustained response. The candidate has engaged with each part of the question, although more successfully in some parts than in others.

a. From this extract I can discover that Mrs. Joe's character has been consistent throughout the novel. She is abusive both physically and verbally towards Pip. In this particular passage, Mrs. Joe is 'very anxious to know all about Miss Havisham's' and 'asked a number of questions'. She is accompanied by Pumblechook with the great dislike of Pip - calling his nature 'bullying'. Pip goes on to exploit the recollection of his time at Satis House; to Mrs. Joe's great disbelief. The language Dickens uses to present Mrs. Joe is with a eager and avidity as she believes what Pip is telling her. Her nature in the past has been violent against poor young Pip (for whom we have sympathy for).



(Section A continued)

and is dominant in this extract.

"Mrs. Joe stared with utter amazement" shows us that Mrs. Joe is naive - uneducated and would carry on believing anything that Pip says. (increasing our dislike of her even more)

b. Dickens's language concerning Pumblechook's character tells us he's just as eager as Mrs. Joe to find out what Pip's been up to but poses a more overbearing quality. He keeps personifying Pip as 'dear boy' in an ironic, mocking way as we know that Pumblechook has no ~~concern~~ <sup>concern</sup> for Pip. He is jealous that Pip gets to spend time in the mansion and with Hursthead, that he wants to know all the details.

"Mr. Pumblechook folding his arm tight on his chest" here Dickens uses body language to present the inner emotions of Pumblechook. By this quote, we can infer that

(Section A continued)

he's jittery and on edge. This is very effective as we can easily analyse his feelings and grasp what he's real intentions are. Pumblechook 'preyed upon by a devouring curiosity' which shows he's desperate for information - quick firing questions such as "large or small?" enforces this idea of trying to attain information. From the language that is used to display Pumblechook in this extract gives off various subtle effects such as understanding his standpoint and achieving another perspective other than Pip's. From the language it's clear that Pumblechook cares more about his social class (being ~~associated~~ associated with Miss Havisham) than Pip's own well-being (which also increases our dislike of his character even more.)

(Section A continued)

c. Throughout the novel, dishonesty is explored by using Dickens's characters to display the life-lessons he's trying to embody.

This extract's boldest theme is 'dishonesty' as Pip exploits the reality of his situation and tricks Mrs. Joe and Pumblechook to believe him. He goes on to do this because 'I should not be understood' and 'Miss Havisham too would not be understood' which creates a parallel world between his life with Miss Havisham and Estella and his home life. This is vastly significant as it's the first time he expresses any feelings towards how he feels about Miss Havisham who becomes to play a huge part in Pip's later life, and begins to entertain the impression of dishonesty. Pip goes to say 'very tall and dark' in describing Havisham's character which

(Section A continued)

hugely contrasts with reality. If he had been honest with them, the series of events that followed would have been different. It was significant that Pip lied in order for him to keep visiting Satis House to see Miss Havisham and Estella or his life would have turned out differently. Readers may view this as Pip twisting the truth to give him an advantage on becoming distant from Mrs. Joe.

"I was frantic - a reckless witness under torture - and would have told them anything" expresses the lengths that Pip would go to, of being dishonest for the greater good.

(Section A continued)

d. Dishonesty has proven to be a re-occurring theme that runs throughout the novel. The follow up on the events, however, as the events that becomes the most significant.

An example of this is when Pip steals for Magwitch (on whom he met on the marshes) for food and drink. We come to see that Magwitch is an escaped, fearful convict - and when he's caught he lies for Pip's sake - claiming that he stole the goods 'from the blacksmith'. He apologises to Joe, who says 'your welcome to it'. This is highly significant as we see that Magwitch has good morals despite what we might think of him.

Another example of dishonesty in the story is when Miss Havisham uses her ward 'Estella' for a ploy to lure Pip in, and to break



(Section A continued)

his heart after gaining his trust. We see that Miss Havisham is psychologically damaged, and learn to forgive her actions as by the end she realises her mistakes and seeks forgiveness - and is consumed by fire (would have been seen as god's punishment)

Jaggers is one representative character as he represents dishonesty. Dickens had remarked him as a 'dirty lawyer' figure. He is constantly washing his hands which represents him cleansing all the bad things he's done away such as dishonesty





**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

Part (a): The candidate demonstrates a thorough understanding of the character of Mrs Joe. The first point about being 'consistent' in the novel is not rooted in the extract. Her 'abusive' nature 'both physically and verbally' are not supported with evidence from the extract. The response improves with references to her being 'curious', 'eager' and showing 'idiocy' [sic]. A final point is made about Mrs Joe being 'naive'. Band 3, 5 marks.

Part (b): This is an assured response. The candidate refers to a number of points relating to the language used to present the character of Pumblechook. In addition to the use of his 'ironic' language, the candidate explores the use of body language in order to present his 'inner emotions' and how he is 'deperate' [sic] when questioning Pip. The summary of Pumblechook caring 'more about his social class', although unsupported with evidence, is assured. More examples from the extract would have secured a mark more firmly in the band. Band 4, 7 marks.

Part (c): The candidate has demonstrated an assured understanding when exploring dishonesty within the extract. There are layers of understanding. Sharper reference to the extract would have secured a mark in the top band. Band 4, 8 marks.

Part (d): This is a sound and relevant response; however, the candidate has referred to more than one extract. Had the candidate explored just one extract in detail, a mark in a higher band could have been secured. Band 2, 4 marks.

SPG: The candidate has met the high performance criteria. On the whole, there is consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 3 marks.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner tip**

When responding to part (d) of a Section A question, candidates should only refer to one extract of similar length as the given extract – or about one page of the chosen text.

## Section B

### Question 7

#### Anita and Me

Candidates were asked to consider the importance of Sam Lowbridge in the novel. A range of responses were seen, although most of these were given a mark in Band 2 or 3. Often candidates did not consider enough specific examples in the text where Sam Lowbridge features.

This following essay is an example of a Band 2 response.

Question 19

Question 20

Typical 60's

Racist

Doesn't realise the consequences of his actions

Confident

Sam

Flirty

Tries to flirt with Meena

---

Sam Lowbridge is an important character in the novel as he represents the typical view of racism in the 60's. For example, when the school is being demolished Sam arrives and shouts out 'If you want a nigger for a neighbour vote Labour!'. This use of the word 'nigger' implies that his views on coloured people are negative. It is clear from the fact that he yelled at the camera lens shows that he had meant to hurt people, and wanted to express his opinion nationally.

~~Sam is also a confident person~~ On the other hand, Sam doesn't expect some of the consequences of his actions. This

(Section B continued)

made clear at the end of the novel, when Meena makes it clear what she thinks of Sam, who was 'genuinely surprised' at her thoughts. This shows us ~~us~~ that Sam did ~~not mean to harm Meena~~, 'never meant' to hurt Meena, just everyone else, and did not expect her to take this view.

This section of the novel also shows us how flirty Sam is. ~~to~~ Having just had sex with Anita, Sam turns on Meena and believes that the only way to apologise to her is to kiss her. This tells us that Sam is a flirty person, which is important because it influences our opinions of him. It also shows us that Sam ~~may not be~~ <sup>is</sup> as good with words as the typical 60's teenager. This suggests that ~~his mind~~ he doesn't think in the same way as the others in the novel, which explains his eagerness to express his opinions.

Sam is also shown as a confident person, which is significant in the novel because it makes him stand out from everyone else in the novel. His confidence is shown at the summer Tollington fête, where at the end of the event, he was the only person to speak out to Reverend Ince. However, this also suggests that he feels he speaks for the whole of Tollington, because ~~they~~ <sup>everywhere there were</sup> ~~were~~ all ~~very~~ <sup>expressing</sup> 'discontent and 'mutter of discontent and resignation'. This may

(Section B continued)

have influenced his decision to further the conversation by showing his ~~for~~ the first signs of racism in the novel.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner comment

The candidate demonstrates a sound understanding of Sam Lowbridge, but the response is not sustained. There are some references to Sam's racist behaviour, although these could have been developed further. More exploration of Sam's anti-social behaviour, such as his reputation of being the 'wild boy of the yard' or his 'vendetta' against Butch, could have been considered. More specific references to events in the novel where Sam features would have benefited this response.

AO1: Band 2, 6 marks.

AO4: Band 2, 9 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is considerably accurate. 4 marks.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner tip

Encourage candidates to plan their responses for Section B, but not to spend too much time doing so!

## Question 8

### Anita and Me

The thematic question for *Anita and Me* asked candidates to consider the significance of lies in the novel.

There were very few responses to this question, but an example of a Band 3 response is included here.

The following response is sustained and maintains a sharp focus on the question.

The significance of lies throughout the novel is what helps bind the book together as it is what Meena uses to meet Anita and how Anita meets and treats Meena.

Lying is significant in the first part of the novel as it is what brings Meena and Anita together. This is shown when Papa says: "Are you going to tell me the truth? Or shall we go inside and ask Mr Overod what happened?"

This is significant as Meena would not have started talking to Meena if she had not stolen the money for sweets and he papa had marched her up to the shop. The lies that Meena had told meant that Anita spoke

(Section B continued)

to her because she was seen as 'bad'. This is significant as this is ~~what~~ what started the friendship.

Lies are also significant as it is what makes Anita start to talk to Meena when she says: "That's my dad, that is. He was in the Navy. He got medals for blowing up the Jerrys." This shows the significance of lying as ~~the~~ Anita had lied to Meena to impress her, ~~and~~ and had started the friendship from it. In ~~addition~~ addition to this, this lie ~~also~~ also shows how knowledgeable <sup>Meena</sup> ~~Anita~~ is because she ~~says~~ <sup>says</sup>: "I wondered why he had taken a particular dislike for men with this name..." This shows that Meena is not that knowledgeable because she has no clue that the Jerrys were a nickname for the Germans, showing that lying is her way of sounding knowledgeable - by making things up.

Lies are significant ~~because~~ as it ~~is~~ is what makes Meena popular with Anita. This is shown when Meena takes the diamond



(Section B continued)

necklace to show off to Anita and then loses it. This is significant in terms of lying because the necklace belonged to her mother, who had asked her and she had said no, and by lying she would not only get away from it but she would impress Anita also. ~~The~~ At the time many new immigrants and immigrant descended children wanted to fit in with the children who were British and lying would be one of the ways this would happen.

In conclusion

lying is significant throughout the novel as it is what helps keep the story moving, therefore it is essential and without it the story may not work so well.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

The candidate focuses on Meena's lying and recognises that it is significant as it brings Meena and Anita together as friends. A range of examples are presented, such as when Anita lies to Meena about her father and Meena's dishonesty when she steals the necklace. Other examples could have been included, such as the theft of the collection tin from Mr Ormerod's shop and Meena's lies when she blames Baby. The novel begins with a lie and ends with Meena deciding to tell the truth.

The response is sustained and the candidate has presented an explanation of the significance of lies within the novel.

AO1: Band 3, 9 marks.

AO4: Band 3, 13 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is considerably accurate. 4 marks.

## Question 9

### Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress

This question asked candidates to explore the significance of 'Four-Eyes' in the novel. The novel remains one of the least popular options, but the responses seen are often very successful.

The following response is sound. The initial brief planning has helped the candidate maintain focus on the question.

Plans

Four eyes books help the little seamstress in the ghetto

Four eyes bringing the books causes Luo & Mao to steal them

Significant of four eyes

The books help Luo & Mao for the headmans books

gives Luo and Mao books and books are forbidden

Build a relationship between Luo + Seamstress

In this book four eyes doesn't do much but he has a big significant of Luo, Mao and the Little Chinese Seamstress.

In the book Dai Sijie writes about how four eyes giving the boys the books even though it is forbidden. It says 'The books you promised us'. This shows that four eyes has giving some books to the boys even though four eyes knows it's forbidden. This has a significant because even though they are forbidden he still brings them because

(Section B continued)

he loves books so much. Also the books are forbidden because it gives the wrong view about the world.

The boys love stories so much that they decide to steal them, and if Gaur Eyal had never had brought those books with him they wouldn't of got stolen and the boys wouldn't have an excuse to go and see the little Seamstress. It says in the extract: 'I went first with the torch and Luo followed behind me carrying the suitcase. This shows that the boys steal the books. This is because they love to read and want to read to the Seamstress because they want to spend time with her.'

When Gaur Eyal brought the books he wouldn't even think that it <sup>would have</sup> ~~was~~ a significantes on the little Seamstress. It says 'I have a proposition to make: If you can help my girlfriend she'll be grateful to you for the rest of her life, and I'll give a book of balcas'. If Gaur Eyal had never of brought those books he would have never been able to make a deal with the doctor and therefore the little Seamstress wouldn't be able to have an abortion. Also Ma could have got in serious trouble

is the doctor had told but he took that risk and the doctor help the seamstress all because of four eyes books.

~~Four eyes had a book that help the~~  
~~big help the seamstress to say.~~

The books help Luo and the little Seamstress build a relationship. 'The books Luo read to me'. This shows that due to four eyes the Seamstress was able to have an excuse to see Luo and is four eyes hadn't of brought the books that Luo and the Seamstress probably hadn't of met which would cause a big significant of the story.



### ResultsPlus examiner comment

The main focus of the response are the forbidden books that Four-Eyes owns. The response does become a little narrative when explaining about the boys stealing the books, but the candidate recognises that Four-Eyes' books bring Luo and the Little Chinese Seamstress together. More examples of key events where Four-Eyes features in the novel, such as the collecting of folk tales or the drinking of buffalo blood, would have benefited this response.

AO1: Band 2, 7 marks.

AO4: Band 2, 10 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. There are errors, but there is sufficient accuracy to place this just into Level 2. 3 marks.



### ResultsPlus examiner tip

When selecting a character question, candidates should refer to key areas of the text where that character features. For each of these examples, the candidate should explain **how** and **why** the character is significant or important.

## Question 10

### Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress

There were fewer than ten responses for this question so an example has not been included.

## Question 11

### Heroes

This question asked candidates to consider how Francis is affected by his war injuries.

The example included here demonstrates an assured understanding of the novel and keeps a sharp focus on Francis' war injuries.

Francis' war injuries affect his function to breathe normally as they cause problems that such as:

"My nostrils are like two small caves and they sometimes get blocked and I have to breathe through my mouth. This dries up my throat and makes it hard for me to swallow.

I also become hoarse and cough a lot."

Since Francis' ~~nose~~ caves (nostrils) get blocked and cause him to breathe from his mouth, it must become tiring for Francis to have to deal with such an easy, simplistic task- such as breathing, with such difficulty everyday. Even more so when Francis breathes from his mouth his throat dries up causing him to 'become hoarse and cough a lot.'

(Section B continued)

Another task Francis' injuries cause difficulties for is speaking. (something ~~was~~ you would naturally have no difficulty with).

"In the past few weeks, my gums began to shrink, however, and the dentures have become loose and they click when I talk and slip around inside my mouth."

'My gums began to shrink' suggests Francis' face was swollen once, therefore when his swelling decreased his dentures have become loose, causing a problem for Francis expectantly when he speaks (as they slip around and aren't secured in place).

His injuries have also caused Francis a lot of irritation and pain.

"My ~~thighs~~ ~~skin~~ I mean, the skin that forms my cheeks was grafted from my thighs and has taken a long time to heal. My thighs sting when my pants rub against them."

The injuries to his face has caused skin from his thighs to be grafted to his cheeks in order to maintain a face. However consequences of this ~~operat~~ surgery mean that whilst his thighs heal, they cause insistent rubbing against his pants, causing them to 'sting'.



(Section B continued)

Another problem Francis' 'cures' cause him is his breathing whilst sleeping.

"I double my pillow under my head to prevent the phlegm from running down my throat, causing me to ~~choke~~ choke and cough."

This adds to the list of problems Francis faces, problems that would simply be minor occurrences to ~~an~~ any other person (sleeping, talking, breathing).

Not only have Francis' injuries affected him physically, but mentally it must be ~~excruciating~~ excruciating to have to endure ~~p. stranger's~~ strange stares and long glances of horror.

An example of this is when Francis finally feels comfortable and confident to remove his bandages, and walk ~~down~~ through London.

"As I walked along, I became aware of people coming upon me and turning away, or giving me wide walking space. A small boy holding his mother's hand suddenly cried out and pushed his face into his mother's skirt. I wondered what had scared him until I saw him peeking at me again with one big eye, before bursting into tears."

(Section B continued)

This kind of behaviour towards Francis from the public, must make Francis feel even more insecure about confidently strolling through the streets, as he feels self-conscious when people give him 'wide walking space' undoubtedly trying to avoid him as his injuries have caused his appearance to be terrifying. This is proven by the way his appearance causes a small boy to cry and hide. Therefore not only has Francis' injuries caused his appearance to be painful, but also ashamed.



### ResultsPlus examiner comment

The candidate explores Francis' war injuries both mentally and physically. A range of points have been made about the difficulties Francis' injuries cause him and points are supported with relevant textual reference. Some of the examples are too long, but an assured and confident understanding is demonstrated throughout the response.

AO1: Band 4, 12 marks.

AO4: Band 4, 18 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'high performance' Level 3: on the whole, candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 5 marks.



### ResultsPlus examiner tip

Candidates should avoid copying large extracts of the text. Short or embedded quotations are more effective.

## Question 12

### Heroes

There were few responses to this question and therefore an example is not included here.

## Question 13

### Of Mice and Men

This question asked candidates to consider the significance of Curley's wife in the novel. By far, this was the most popular question and a full range of responses were seen.

Some examiners commented that some candidates did not do themselves justice because they did not fully cover the role of Curley's wife's importance in the text, often referring to her being a 'tart' or to wearing 'red' clothes but very often the key events in the text where Curley's wife features were omitted – even her death in Section 5 of the novel. Her dream and her loneliness were often discussed. In more successful responses, candidates were able to take an overview in addition to focusing on key scenes. There were some very good answers which used language and evidence appropriately. A range of generalised AO4 points were made, suggesting that Curley's wife was representative of the role of all American women at the time; however, AO4 points were mostly integrated rather than being stand-alone points.

This is the first of three examples. This response is illustrative of a Band 1 response.

Curley's wife is significant in the novel 'Of mice and men' because she represents the ~~women~~ <sup>women</sup> in the 1930's. She was expected to clean the house, make dinner every day, and look after the children (if she had any). However, Curley's wife's dream was to get away from Curley and become a movie star, meaning that she disliked Curley. So to ~~escape~~ <sup>escape</sup> her husband she would ~~write~~ <sup>write</sup> the other ~~men~~ <sup>men</sup> on the ~~farm~~ <sup>farm</sup>. She says to Lennie in chapter 5 "He says he was gonna put me in movies. Says I was a natural. Soon's he got back to Hollywood he was gonna write to me about it." This suggests that she is trying to impress Lennie with her dream and let him know that she didn't plan ~~on~~ <sup>on</sup> becoming the wife to Curley.

John Steinbeck doesn't give Curley's wife a name because he wanted to relate ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> the context of the novel. As it was set in the 1930's, women were owned by her husband, so as she was owned by Curley, Orwell decided to

(Section B continued)

name her by 'Curley's wife' to show possession over her. This signifies that the context the novel was set meant that women were treated differently to how they are now. I believe that the fact she is known as a possession and not her own name is unjustified yet shows great significance ~~in~~ <sup>throughout</sup> the novel.

Curley's wife hates her husband for treating her the way he does so she flirts with the other workers to ~~get to~~ <sup>get to</sup> him. George describes her as "piece of jail bait" this suggests that ~~the~~ George knows what kind of girl ~~of~~ Curley's wife is, ~~she~~ <sup>he</sup> thinks that she flirts with men until her husband sees him make a move, so that Curley will fight him and possibly get the ~~other~~ other man locked up for ~~severely~~ hurting him as he's so small.



**ResultsPlus**

#### examiner comment

The candidate begins by commenting on the role of women and linking this to Curley's wife's dream. The second paragraph focuses on her lack of name and being a 'possession'. The final paragraph explores how she is a 'piece of jail bait'. Sufficient examples are presented to place this at the top of Band 1, despite the confused references to George Orwell. More development of ideas would have benefited this response. The response is mostly sound, although generalised.

AO1: Band 1, 4 marks

AO4: Band 1, 5 marks

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is mostly accurate. 3 marks.

This second example is awarded marks in Band 3. It is sustained and includes a range of points.

A major theme of the book is loneliness and Curley's wife shows this theme through her character. Curley's wife is significant because she acts as both a group and pivotal point in the story. She represents how women were treated at the time. During the time in which the book is set women were considered a man's property. This is shown in the novel as the character is known only as "Curley's wife" and nothing else. This shows how women were treated because we only know her because she is tied another character in some

(Section B continued)

manner: In this case she is the wife (and therefore the <sup>Curley</sup> property) of ~~Curley~~. She is only recognised by her marriage to Curley which shows the lack of ~~her~~ rights and respect for women as we do not bother to learn her name or her background. She represents the "loneliness of possession" meaning that because she is considered <sup>property</sup> curless ~~wife~~ she has no friends or attention amongst the ranks of the farm. Other characters represent loneliness in a different way. Crooks: Shows how the segregation of different races creates loneliness and Candy: Shows how ~~the~~ lack of companionship also creates it. Curley's wife acts as a turning point when she is killed by Lennie in chapter 5. She targets ~~the~~ Lennie as a friend because he's too foolish to see <sup>past</sup> her flirtatious behaviour. She says "I get myself ~~total~~ ~~lonely~~ lonely" to him multiple times and confides in him for support and companionship. Up to this point our only image



(Section B continued)

of Corley's wife has been of a flirtatious young tart as evidenced by George saying "Jesus, what a tramp" and "Don't you ever look at that bitch". The bottom line is she is ~~is~~ desperate for attention and does not get any from Corley or others as evidenced by her persistent repeating of "I get awful lonely". Once she is dead we hear no more comments of her being a "tart" or a "tramp" only a description of her ~~face~~ face. It shows how lonely she was and that ~~she~~ she was only seen for what she truly was (a young girl, desperate for attention) after her untimely demise. This is shown from the ~~the~~ description "The meanness and the plannings and the discontent and the ache for attention were all gone from her face. She <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ very pretty and simple". This makes a very significant character as she shows how in the story we ~~never~~ <sup>never</sup>

(Section B continued)

Know someone's true issues and intentions until they lay dead in their simplest form.



### **examiner comment**

This is a sustained response which maintains a focus on the question. There is a main focus on Curley's wife's loneliness, but a range of points are made throughout the response such as her lack of name and rights, her confiding in Lennie and her flirtatious nature. Although there is some repetition, there is evidence of some thoughtful engagement, such as her acting as a 'turning point' in the novel. This is a sustained response supported with some relevant textual detail.

AO1: Band 3, 9 marks.

AO4: Band 3, 12 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is mostly accurate. 4 marks.

In this final example, the candidate is awarded full marks.

Curley's wife is a very significant and prominent figure in *Of Mice and Men*. Through the character of Curley's wife, Steinbeck expresses many themes of the book which relates to the themes and ~~feelings~~ <sup>feelings</sup> of real people during the time the book was written - the mid-1930s.

~~It is through Curley's wife that Steinbeck~~  
Curley's wife is significant for her portrayal of loneliness in the novel. Although being recently married to Curley, the boss's son, she is displayed as a character who ~~is~~ is stuck in a loveless marriage and has no one to talk to. This is exemplified when ~~she is shown~~ <sup>she is shown</sup> confiding in Lennie, 'I don't even know like Curley,' and her amusement is shown when she ~~doesn't~~ <sup>wants to</sup> know who broke Curley's hand. ~~Along with~~ <sup>Along with</sup> Curley mistreating her, she is ~~also~~ <sup>also</sup> dismissed by the rest of the ranch hands who call her names like 'tart' and 'jailbait'. It is

(Section B continued)

implies to the reader that she has no one to talk to and that she is not respected by the ranch hands. Her lonely state is shown when she is talking to Lennie. 'She demanded, "You listenin'?"' The use of the word 'demanded' tells the reader that she is used to people listening to her and when she is careful to see that the people she speaks to take heed of what she is saying. Her lonely state makes the reader aware that the atmosphere of ranches is a lonely one with most people in the ranches being lonely even the wife of ranch hands. It elicits a response of hopelessness from the reader and makes the reader aware of the cruel hard world.

Curtley's wife is also significant in her display of the theme of prejudice. This is shown in the chapter 5 of the novel when she berates Crooks for his cold behaviour towards him. She makes the reader aware of the racial prejudice when she refers to Crooks as 'Nigger'. It is laced with insult and the use of this word is related to the context of the novel. In the 1930s, black people had to face lots of discrimination in America just because of their colour and the use of the word 'Nigger' enlightens the reader to the fact that Crooks is discriminated against and he is treated badly by <sup>so many</sup> ~~the~~ people due to his colour. Prejudice against racism is further emphasised <sup>by Curtley's wife</sup> when she says 'Do you know what I can do to you if you open your trap?' Here she is referring to the fact that she can get

(Section B continued)

Crooks lynched without a trial ~~and~~ for rape because of his ~~lack~~ lack of rights as a black man to get a fair trial. It elicits a response of protest from the reader and it makes them hate the world of where people are racist.

In the same scene with Crooks, Curley's wife is significant for her ~~represent~~ expressing the theme of the predatory nature of humans. Curley's wife admits to being very lonely to Lennie in chapter 5, but yet she still attacks people who have even less power than she has. In scenes like this Steinbeck gives out a very clear message that oppression doesn't only come from the ~~outside~~ <sup>strong</sup> outside. It comes from the ~~world~~ world also. ~~She~~

Curley's wife is also important ~~for~~ because it is through her that Steinbeck explores the theme of dreams. In chapter 5, while talking to Lennie she says 'I coulda made somethin' of myself - coulda been in the movies'. Here she reflects on her dream and her failure to achieve her dream of becoming a movie star. ~~She~~ They way she says 'coulda' in the past tense gives the impression that she has given up her hope of her achieving her dream of being a movie star. ~~She~~ is vital for Steinbeck giving a message of how events that occur makes people lose hope and give up in their dream. Here it being her marriage to Curley.

In addition to that it is with her that Steinbeck gives a message of how poorly women were treated ~~was~~ in the 1930s. Her nameless state makes her appear as an ~~an~~ object rather than her being a human. It makes her seem as if she is

(Section B continued)

helpless and that she is only ~~significant~~ important on the ranch because of Curley and her relation to him. Her being nameless makes the reader aware that women may have been treated poorly <sup>on</sup> the ranches during the 1930s and it implies that they were ~~the~~ seen as an object rather than as a human. This is emphasised when we are told that she was called names like 'tart' and 'jailbait'. It gives light on how ~~women~~ women did not belong in the lifestyle of a ranch hand and it was unusual for women to be in ranches.

In conclusion Curley's wife plays a major role throughout the novel. She is key in many of the themes and it is through her that Steinbeck expresses the themes of loneliness, prejudice, predatory nature of humans, dreams and many more. She is vital in giving a message to the audience that



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

This is a maturely expressed response which explores a number of points about Curley's wife. The first point relates to her loneliness and her 'loveless marriage' and supports ideas with embedded quotations. There is an understanding of language and points are skilfully integrated into the response. The candidate explores Curley's wife through the theme of prejudice and incorporates the social, cultural and historical context within the examples provided. A perceptive point is made about the 'predatory nature of humans' and Curley's wife's 'power'. The character is further explored through the theme of dreams and her place on the ranch. Even though the candidate has run out of time, the response is convincing and offers some perceptive comment. One could argue that more could be included in the response, but marks are awarded for what the candidate has achieved.

AO1: Band 5, 16 marks.

AO4: Band 5, 24 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'high performance' Level 3: on the whole, candidates spell, punctuate and use the rules of grammar with consistent accuracy and effective control of meaning in the context of the demands of the question. 6 marks.





The significance or importance of a character can be explored through the themes, chapters or key events.

## Question 14

### Of Mice and Men

Question 14 asked candidates to explore the settings **in** the novel. In some instances, candidates explored the settings **of** the novel through the social, cultural and historical context. A flexible approach was adopted when marking this question. If candidates exemplified their points with examples from the text, then they were awarded appropriately for this. The majority of candidates approached the question through the physical settings, such as the location by the pool, the bunk house and the barn. More successful responses explored the differences of the setting at the beginning and end of the novel.

This is the first of two examples. The candidate is awarded marks in Band 1.

The book starts and finishes in the same place as it goes in a circle. This is a clue in a parable with a lake in it. In the description of this place lots of different animals are mentioned these animals are all ones who are sweet and innocent this could represent Lennie as he is sweet, innocent child who acts how he does as he knows no better. The place was "lifeless" this shows how no matter what is happening could be wrong or it could be disturbed by the snap of a twig. However when they come back there at the end of the book there is no mention of any animals. This makes

(Section B continued)

The reader think it is almost like the first can sense the impending doom for Lenin. The fact the he starts to imagine things at the end of the book also shows that almost subconsciously he know what is going to happen to as he is back where this story started and where it will eventually end.

The setting of the bunk house is very drab and limp. This is deliberate as it conveys the feelings of the ranch hands as they have no permanent home family or friends they have to move with the work. This is because of the wall street crash which lead to world wide depression. It also has the minimum amount of furna shings in the room as because the workers move on so frequently they don't have the ranch ~~how~~ owners don't get to know them enough to care about them so they don't put any thing personal in as it is also cheaper. This is most over as when it is said about the sheps

(Section B continued)

Only being "nailed [to the wall was] an apple box with the opening for wood."



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

There are some generally sound points made about the ranch hands' lack of possessions, but the references to the 'forest with a lake' and other inaccuracies such as 'no mention of animals' at the end of the book limit this response to a lower mark in Band 1. Contextual points are provided in some of the examples provided.

AO1: Band 1, 2 marks

AO4: Band 1, 2 marks

SPG: This achieves 'threshold performance' Level 1. The response has a number of errors but, on the whole, these do not hinder the meaning of the response. 1 mark.

This is an example of a response which moves just into Band 2.

The significance of settings in the novel is to make/show the audience imagine what it feels like to be there. A good setting in the novel is when it quotes (page 1) "On the Sandy bank ~~when~~ under the trees the leaves lie deep and so crisp that a lizard makes a great skittering if he runs among them". This gives off a good setting because it gives the reader a better understanding of how it looks in Soledad and what noises can be heard.

It's also a good setting because when it says, "On the Sandy bank", it gives, again the reader/audience a taster of what George and Lennie are in. ~~and~~ It also shows that,

(Section B continued)

not only does the reader know it's a 'Bank,' but it's a 'Sandy bank.' This gives of a calm setting to the reader.

Another reason to why it's a good setting structure is when it says "the leaves lie so deep and so crisp". This shows it's a good setting structure because when the word 'Crisp' is ~~said~~ said, you can almost imagine the sound of the leaves ~~crack~~ cracking. It also gives of a ~~cool~~<sup>Autum</sup>/Summer setting because in the Summer/Autum the leaves are always crisp and under the tree's.

Also, another reason to why it's good setting is because it says, "a lizard makes a great skittering if he runs among them". This is good because the word 'skittering' suggests that you can imagine the noise that the lizard would make when he skitters across the leaves.

(Section B continued)

Another quote in the novel that explores the significance of setting in the novel is when it quotes (Page 2), "Evening of <sup>a</sup> hot day started the little wind to moving <sup>m</sup> along the leaves. The shade climbed up the hills toward the top". This quote is good because, it gives off the setting as a warm, ~~pleasant~~ ~~pleasant~~ ~~pleasant~~ <sup>evening</sup> because when it says 'evening of a hot day' suggests that the day had been warm and bright.

Another reason to why this is a good quote is because when it says 'The shade climbed up the hills' gives off the ~~impression~~ <sup>setting</sup> that after a lovely, hot day, the shade and darkness was coming into the 'picture'. The word 'climbed' suggests to the reader that the shade was actually climbing up the hills.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner comment**

This is a sound response. The candidate has provided a range of PEE points, although the interpretations provided are very literal. Marks just into Band 2 are awarded. There is a sound understanding of the settings explored, but the response would have benefited from more development and more examples.

AO1: Band 2, 5 marks.

AO4: Band 2, 6 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is mostly accurate. 3 marks.





Candidates should try to provide a range of examples from different areas of the chosen novel.

### **Question 15**

#### **Rani and Sukh**

There were very few responses received for this question.

### **Question 16**

#### **Rani and Sukh**

In this question, candidates were asked to consider the significance of family honour in the novel.

The following example is a brief response to the question. The response is generally sound.

Family honour is very significant in this novel, as it is one of the main themes included as well as Love, revenge, culture and more.

The Sandhu's and Bains' families are both Punjabi. They believe in no relationships/sex before marriage which their families would choose the husband/wife for them to marry. Which Rani's family strongly believed in. Especially her brother, Divy, as he said to Rani "Anyhow I hear you doing that shit - you're dead." By this he meant having a boyfriend. That would be against what they believe in and she would be going against.

The Bains and Sandhu's still try to keep their

(Section B continued)

families honour by always getting into fights after what happened in the Punjabi in the 1960's. As Sukh said to Rani "Football-Sunday League game against the enemy" Referring the enemies to the Sanhu's.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner comment

The candidate has provided a very brief response and appears to have run out of time. There are some examples of family honour and some references to the novel. Ideas are undeveloped and the context points are slightly stronger than the exploration of events within the novel.

AO1: Band 1, 3 marks.

AO4: Band 1, 5 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is mostly accurate. 4 marks.

## **Question 17**

### **Riding the Black Cockatoo**

There were no responses seen for this question.

## **Question 18**

### **Riding the Black Cockatoo**

There were no responses seen for this question.

## **Question 19**

### **To Kill a Mockingbird**

This question asked candidates to consider the significance of Boo Radley in the novel. Candidates explored key areas of the text where Boo features. This question was tackled with enthusiasm by some candidates but, instead of addressing the issue of 'significance', there was a tendency simply to relate the episodes of the novel in which Boo Radley had featured. This meant that a number of responses were narrative rather than analytical, preventing them from moving into the higher mark bands.

An examiner commented: 'In a number of responses, valid parallels were drawn between Boo Radley and Tom Robinson, but the emphasis on Tom was sometimes so extensive that the focus on Boo was almost lost. Ironically some candidates went further still and concentrated so much on generic material to do with context that Boo was effectively left marginalised and shuffling in the shadows; like Heck Tate, some candidates seemed reluctant to place him under any kind of spotlight!'

'Bolt-on' context that did not bear any direct relation to the chosen character was, unfortunately, still rife, despite guidance from previous reports on the exam and, doubtless, from teachers. Statements like 'the book was written by Harper Lee, who

lived in Alabama when black people had no rights and if they were believed to have done something they wouldn't even stand a chance in a trial [sic] as an all white jury would find them guilty anyway' – did not fulfil the requirements of the task, and suggested that some candidates struggled to apply what they had been taught, simply re-processing a mass of background information without considering the character they had actually been asked to write about.

Better responses integrated context with a perceptive analysis of Boo's role within the novel; it was the latter that needed to be the focus, and candidates should be encouraged to utilise contextual material only where it illuminates the behaviour or situation of the character in question.

Although the following response appears sustained, it tends to re-tell the story rather than answering the question and, as a result, only demonstrates a generally sound understanding of the significance of the character.

Boo Radley as know by the children of Maycomb, Alabama, in the story, who's real name was Arthur Radley. The book was written by Harper Lee, who lived in Alabama when black people had no rights and if they were ~~found~~ believed to have done something they wouldn't even stand a chance in a trial as an all white jury would find them guilty anyway.

~~Arthur Radley~~ As a teenager Arthur Radley caused alot of problems and one day he was convicted but instead of going to jail his father agreed to keep him locked in his house, this is where he stayed for the rest of

(Section B continued)

his life. Every summer a boy called Dill would come and stay and Scout and Jem would play with him, they would make up schemes to try and get Boo to come out of the house because they thought he was this big, ugly and mean monster that eats cats. They do this all summer, and one day Boo left treats for them in a hole in the tree but it takes them a while to figure out it's from Boo, this shows that Boo is not as mean as he used to be.

// When Atticus gets the children air rifles he tells them they can shoot at any bird they like but not a mockingbird <sup>as it</sup> because it doesn't cause anybody harm it just makes music, also it has a literary meaning and that is to kill a mockingbird is like killing someone that is small and weak and hasn't hurt anybody. This is one of the lessons Scout and Jem learn.

One night Scout and Jem are outside and because one of the nansboroughs house is on fire. Boo Radley

(Section B continued)

puts a blanket around Scout but she never notices and flips out after she found out what Boo did. The next summer Dill comes round again and this time they come up with a scheme to get Boo out of the house, but Nathan, Boo's brother shoots at them and Tom gets his pants stuck. The next day Boo fixes them and leaves them outside for him. On Halloween night Scout and Tom are attacked by Bob ~~the~~ Ewell with a knife but Boo Radley comes out and saves them but Scout and Tom don't realise this till after. Atticus and the Sheriff want to do and Atticus wants to say Tom did it but ~~he~~ ~~the~~ the Sheriff says Bob tripped on his own knife. Atticus doesn't want to do this as he doesn't want to show the children that he is bending the law to save himself and clear Atticus's name, ~~after~~ after seeing the trial. However Scout understands this and says its like killing a mocking bird as the town will treat him like a hero and Boo Radley doesn't want this kind of attention.

This is important as it means Scout has learned the lesson of not to kill a mockingbird because Boo Radley is a mockingbird as he is not hurting anyone. When Scout is walking Boo Radley home because he is scared it shows that Boo Radley is still childish in some ways. Then when Scout is on the porch he realises how Boo must have felt everyone making fun of him which teaches Scout how not to judge someone until you walk around in their shoes. This makes Boo Radley significant as it teaches Scout of valuable lessons which means she is becoming a mature adult.



### ResultsPlus examiner comment

This response explores a number of points relating to Boo, but the response is largely narrative. The response covers Boo's early life, the games the children play on him, the treats left in the tree, the Mockingbird link and other events where the character features. A mostly sound understanding is demonstrated.

There is some background information at the beginning of the response, which is not linked to the character, but the examples provide enough evidence of context through the actions of the character. The AO4 content is slightly stronger than the AO1.

AO1: Band 1, 4 marks.

AO4: Band 2, 6 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is mostly accurate. 4 marks.



### ResultsPlus examiner tip

Candidates should avoid re-telling the plot of the text. Specific and focused examples in relation to the question should be presented.



## Question 20

### To Kill a Mockingbird

This question asked candidates to explore the significance of courage in the novel. This question did not attract quite as many responses as Q19, but for those who attempted it, 'courage' was a theme that provided plenty of material, and episodes such as the trial, Mrs Dubose's illness, and Boo Radley's role in saving the children from Bob Ewell, were all identified by candidates as manifestations of courage in varying forms. What differentiated responses most sharply was not necessarily the range of material presented – although in order to access the higher bands a degree of range was necessary – but, rather, the ability of the candidate to analyse the impact and implications of this material within an examination of the significance of courage. The latter needed to be brought more sharply into focus within predominantly narrative statements such as 'he [Atticus] knew his reasons but no one seemed to listen, mostly Aunt Alexandra, who did' nt [sic] like anything Atticus was doing, and took it upon herself to try and change his verdict'. This reference to textual detail was used to evidence the fact that 'everyone' gave Atticus 'grief', but the sweeping nature of the comment doesn't reflect the precision or perceptiveness that would enable the candidate's response to move out of Band 1.

The following response is sound, but not enough development of examples is provided in order to present a sustained and thorough understanding of the novel.

Courage is a massive theme through out "to kill a mockingbird" but the most memorable example of courage is how Atticus stood up for Tom Robinson, a black man that has been accused of beating and raping a white lady. Just to stand up for someone who beat and raped a ~~white~~ lady in general is shocking however Atticus stood up for a blackman at a time of racial diversity and black people not being treated equally. Atticus knew that he would have a lot of people against what he was doing and he knew he will lose respect and his reputation as a well respected intelligent lawyer, he knew standing up for Tom Robinson will effect his life forever and it will effect his childrens life aswell. Atticus also says "every lawyer has a case that will effect them emotionally" and this is a perfect example of that. Courage is also displayed the night

(Section B continued)

Jem saves Scout's life. After that moment Jem and Scout became a lot closer and their bond became stronger. Courage is displayed when Scout goes to school and everyone teases her about her father sticking up for a blackman and Scout doesn't fight them this time but instead she ignores them and carries on supporting her father Atticus. Jem also has to be courageous as he has to look after his little sister Scout and ignore the children that try to tease him about his father sticking up for a blackman but yet both Scout and Jem never question their father's decision and support him and are proud of him. Another act of courage which isn't very important to the plot is when Jem touches Boo Radley's door that is supposed to be haunted. Although this isn't important it gives us an early example of Jem's characteristics and personality it tells us very early on that Jem is brave. To conclude courage is the main theme in "To kill a mockingbird" courage is displayed for different reasons some for good (Atticus) and some for bad (Jem touching Boo Radley's door) but it is displayed.



**ResultsPlus**  
examiner comment

The candidate begins by referring to Atticus' courage when he represents Tom Robinson and a number of points follow, albeit very briefly. Had the candidate explored each of the examples in more detail, the response could have qualified for a higher band. The candidate keeps focus on the question and refers to 'courage' several times throughout the response.

AO1: Band 2, 7 marks.

AO4: Band 2, 10 marks.

SPG: This response achieves 'intermediate performance' Level 2. The response is reasonably accurate, although there is a lack of apostrophes and paragraphs. 3 marks.



**ResultsPlus**

**examiner tip**

Development of ideas from the examples provided and some thoughtful engagement are necessary for a response to qualify for higher bands.

## Paper summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice.

- A full range of marks was awarded and most candidates were able to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the texts they had studied. In many cases, candidates demonstrated enthusiasm and engagement in their responses. Marks are awarded in relation to key areas of the mark bands and whether a candidate demonstrates a generally sound; sound; sustained and thorough; pertinent and assured; or convincing and perceptive understanding.
- *Animal Farm* remains the most popular text for Section A and *Of Mice and Men* for Section B. Some excellent responses were seen for these texts and for the less popular options, such as *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*.
- For Section A, centres should remind candidates to use only the information contained within the extract in order to answer parts (a), (b) and (c) of the question. Candidates who made several points, and supported these with examples from the extract, qualified for marks in the higher bands. The only section of the four-part question that requires candidates to explore another area of the text is part (d).
- For part (d), candidates should select and explore one extract of their own choice. The extract should be approximately one page in length of the chosen text and relevant to the given theme.
- Centres are reminded that AO4, the social, cultural and historical context, is not assessed in Section A (four-part questions). A number of candidates are still not labelling their responses clearly and often omit to identify (by crossing the appropriate box) the question number that they are answering. When responding to Section A, candidates may re-use examples provided for other parts of the question.
- For Section B, successful responses were those that had developed their ideas fully, showing some insight and analysis and kept a sharp focus on the question. It was surprising to find that many of the responses to Question 13, Curley's wife, did not always explore her death or the ultimate consequences for Lennie.
- In Section B responses, candidates are now integrating the social, cultural and historical context of the novel with specific examples from the text, rather than adding them as an afterthought or stand-alone points. AO4 is best approached through providing specific examples of characters, events and themes within the novel and not treated separately by providing background information that is unrelated or often irrelevant to the question.
- Fewer candidates are writing their Section B response in the Section A answer space. Centres are thanked for reminding candidates to respond in the correct area of the answer booklet and are asked to continually remind candidates of this. Candidates' understanding of the rubrics of the examination has improved significantly.
- Centres should be congratulated on the excellent subject knowledge and the delivery of the specification. Thank you.

## **Grade boundaries**

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