

General Certificate of Secondary Education

English 3703

Specification B (Mature) Paper 1H

Mark Scheme

2008 examination – June series

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

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Set and published by the Assessment and Qualifications Alliance.

SPECIFICATION B ENGLISH MATURE 3703

Paper 1 Media and Non-fiction Higher Tier 3703/1H Mark Scheme Summer 2008

General

Examiners may use their own systems of marking, but they must show through a brief comment at the end of each response and symbols in the body of the text how they have arrived at their mark. The comment should be related to the Skills-Related descriptors in the mark scheme. Each page on which there is writing must be ticked.

Skills-Related descriptors indicate the level of achievement required for candidates to be awarded the mark at the top of the given mark range. Content-Related descriptors are an indication of the kinds of responses candidates might make in order to achieve the marks in the range.

Assessment Objectives

The candidates' work will be assessed according to the relevant assessment objectives for Reading and Writing and the level descriptors. The questions in the two written examination papers together test all assessment objectives for Reading and Writing. Individual questions focus on particular assessment objectives, and these are identified below the reprinted question.

READING - Assessment Objectives

Candidates are required to demonstrate the ability to:

- 2(i) read, with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them;
- 2(ii) distinguish between fact and opinion and evaluate how information is presented;
- 2(iii) follow an argument, identifying implications and recognising inconsistencies;
- 2(iv) select material appropriate to purpose, collate material from different sources, and make cross-references:
- 2(v) understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects, and comment on ways language varies and changes.

Section A: Reading Media and Non-fiction Texts

1 Media Texts

In your pre-release booklet look again at 'I Live With 70 Other Widows' on page 5 and at the text dealing with 'The police cell' and 'The prison cell' on page 7.

What differences do you find in these texts?

Write about:

- the content of each text
- the use of pictures
- fact and opinion in the texts.

(13 marks)

Specific

Examiners are required to consider how far candidates:

- **interpret** texts with **understanding**; (2(i))
- follow an argument and distinguish opinion; (2(ii) and 2(iii))
- select appropriate references to support and extend comment; (2 (iv))
- evaluate the use of language and layout in the presentation of information. (2(ii) and 2(v)).

Award a mark out of **13** for **Reading**. Assess answers in terms of the grid below i.e. the **Skills-Related** levels on the left-hand side of the page and the **Content-Related** levels on the right-hand side of the page. Ring the mark in the margin at the end of the answer.

Remember that to be placed in a level a candidate's work will **satisfy most** (**but not necessarily all**) **of the criteria for that level**. The precise mark awarded within that level must be determined by the extent to which the answer matches the descriptors set out in the appropriate level. The **Content-Related** descriptors present features and examples, to which candidates refer in support of their answers. Any valid responses should be rewarded.

Remember that candidates are writing under timed examination conditions.

the structure of the article is very

the photographs simply record details

the design is very simple

clear

Skills-Related Descriptors Content-Related Descriptors Level 1 I Live With 70 Other Widows 0-3 marks it is an article in a magazine Key words: 'limited' the article describes how a retired widow lives in a community Shows limited interpretation, insight and there are factual details about Jane understanding of the content of the texts: Dellar's life condition may offer copying or irrelevant quotation it discusses her feelings shows limited ability to distinguish fact the picture shows Jane Dellar on a from opinion; balcony shows limited ability to follow argument shows limited ability to select or quote The police cell/ The prison cell material in support of the answer: shows limited awareness of how the the articles are factual writer(s) use language, structure and there is no reference to individuals presentation. the structure of the article is very clear the design is very simple the photographs simply record details Level 2 I Live With 70 Other Widows 4-6 marks the article provides factual detail Key words: 'some', 'relevant' about Jane Dellar's living space and relationships some of the aspects of Jane Dellar's Offers some relevant interpretation, life with her husband are described insight and understanding of the content of the texts: Jane Dellar expresses her opinions may offer paraphrase, narrative account honestly or extended quotation at times; the language of the article is shows some ability to distinguish fact appropriate for a quality newspaper from opinion; the picture of Jane Dellar is a very effective image showing her smiling shows some ability to follow argument, and identify implications relevant to the on the balcony of her flat the headline is intriguing and draws the reader into the article shows some ability to select or quote relevant material; collates some material or make some The police cell/ The prison cell cross-references; shows some understanding of how the the articles are factual and contain writer(s) use language, structure and statistics presentation to achieve their intended there is no human element as focus effect, often through simple identification for the reader of features. prisoners' faces are obscured

Skills-Related Descriptors Content-Related Descriptors Level 3 I Live With 70 Other Widows 7-9 marks the article presents an interesting life choice that Jane Key words: 'clear', 'appropriate' Dellar made the article covers a range of aspects of Jane's life and Offers a clear interpretation, insight personal history and understanding of the content the article mixes facts and opinions throughout of the text(s); Jane's relationship with her husband is given some makes appropriate references to prominence the text(s): there is a very positive tone to Jane's opinions shows a clear ability to distinguish the picture has a cheering quality and is large in relation to fact from opinion and begins to the text evaluate the presentation of Jane herself is the centre of attention in the photograph information; although she is framed within in her own flat, which is in shows clear ability to follow turn framed within the building appropriate argument, and identify implications; The police cell/ The prison cell shows clear ability to select or quote material appropriate for the articles are factual and contain statistics without purpose; providing any particular order to the information collates appropriate material or the human element is marginally present in one of the makes cross-references in support photos of the answer; one of the photos is completely bare show clear understanding of how the structure relies on a matched paring of articles

the design is very simple

the photographs dominate the article in terms of space

the writer(s) use language,

structure and presentation to

achieve their intended effect.

10-13 marks

Key words: 'detailed', 'perceptive'

- Offers a full and detailed interpretation, insight and understanding of the content of the texts;
- makes perceptive references to text(s);
- shows in a detailed and perceptive way an ability to distinguish fact from opinion and evaluate the presentation of information;
- shows a sustained ability to follow argument, identify implications and recognise inconsistencies;
- selects or quotes pertinent material and makes perceptive supporting comments;
- collates material and makes perceptive cross-references in support of the answer;
- shows detailed understanding and sensitive appreciation of how the writer(s) use language, structure and presentation to achieve their intended effect.

For the mark of 13, candidates should display consummate ability in the skills cited above, together with sustained sensitivity to language.

I LIVE WITH 70 OTHER WIDOWS

- the article explores a key issue in life in a very effective way
- Jane Dellar's optimism and positive approach is evident throughout
- the language is direct and unambiguous
- Jane's current life is clearly presented through the facts
- Jane expresses many opinions and comes across as a strong and forthright person
- there is some focused lexis: 'service widows', 'garden centres', 'younger ladies' etc which effectively convey aspects of Jane Dellar's world
- the first person narrative gives a sense of authenticity
- the composition of the picture is very clever in the balance between Jane Dellar and the building
- the bright flat light of the picture, with elements such as the flowers and Jane's smile, conveys the sense of a optimism
- the headline has a humorous quality to it
- the article ends in a very positive way and Jane's gratitude and possible religious values come across

The police cell/ The prison cell

- the physical environment is emphasised in the information given and reflected in the style
- the language is emotionless and direct
- one of the photos emphasizes rectilinear elements
- the structure relies on a matched pairing of articles
- ironically, the picture of the prison cell seems more inviting
- the photographs dominate the article in terms of space and this might be to produce an effect of shock or surprise on the reader
- the photograph of the prison cell has an artificial quality to it with both prisoners reading magazines

READING - Assessment Objectives

Candidates are required to demonstrate the ability to:

- 2(i) read, with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them;
- 2(ii) distinguish between fact and opinion and evaluate how information is presented;
- 2(iii) follow an argument, identifying implications and recognising inconsistencies;
- 2(iv) select material appropriate to purpose, collate material from different sources, and make cross-references:
- 2(v) understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects, and comments on ways language varies and changes.

2 Non-fiction Texts

Read the extract on the opposite page, which comes from Hugo Hamilton's book, *The Speckled People*, in which the writer recalls features of his home life.

What differing approaches to home life do Hamilton's mother and father display? How does the language and structure of the extract bring out the differences?

(14 marks)

Specific

Examiners are required to consider how far candidates:

- interpret texts with understanding; (2(i))
- follow an argument, identifying implications; (2(iii))
- **select** appropriate references to support and extend comment; (2 (iv))
- evaluate the use of language and layout in the presentation of information. (2(ii) and 2(v)).

Award a mark of **14** for **Reading**. Assess answers in terms of the grid below i.e. the **Skills-Related** levels on the left-hand side of the page and the **Content-Related** levels on the right-hand side of the page. Ring the mark in the margin at the end of the answer.

Remember that to be placed in a grade band a candidate's work will **satisfy most (but not necessarily all)** of the criteria for that level. The precise mark awarded within that level must be determined by the extent to which the answer matches the descriptors set out in the appropriate level. The **Content-Related** descriptors present features and examples, some of which candidates might refer to in support of their answers. Any valid responses should be rewarded.

Remember that candidates are writing under timed conditions.

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Skills-Related Descriptors	Content-Related Descriptors		
Level 1 0-3 marks			
 Key words: 'limited' Shows limited interpretation, insight and understanding of the content of the texts; may offer copying or irrelevant quotation; shows limited ability to distinguish fact from opinion; shows limited ability to follow argument; shows limited ability to select or quote material in support of the answer; shows limited awareness of how the writer(s) use language and structure. 	 The extract deals with some aspects of home The mother and father are different kinds of characters The mother is gentle The father seems to be quite harsh The first section is like a recipe The second part describes the father's behaviour 		
Level 2 4-6 marks Key words: 'some', 'relevant'			
 Offers some relevant interpretation, insight and understanding of the content of the texts; may offer paraphrase, narrative account or extended quotation at times; shows some ability to distinguish fact from opinion; shows some ability to follow argument, and identify implications relevant to the answer; shows some ability to select or quote relevant material; collates some material or make some cross-references; shows some understanding of how the writer(s) use language, structure and presentation to achieve their intended effect, often through simple identification of features. 	 Hamilton writes about aspects of family life like cooking and the radio the description points out specific items and details of life some of the feelings of the mother and father are presented Hamilton uses interesting words and phrases such as 'air-kisses', 'yelp', 'echoing along the walls' Hamilton understands the life of the people described the atmosphere of home comes across quite well the narrator is interested in describing his parents the writer uses present tense 		

Level 4 10-14 marks

Key words: 'detailed', 'perceptive'

- Offers a full and detailed interpretation, insight and understanding of the content of the texts;
- makes perceptive references to text(s);
- shows in a detailed and perceptive way an ability to distinguish fact from opinion and evaluate the presentation of information;
- shows a sustained ability to follow argument, identify implications and recognise inconsistencies;
- selects or quotes pertinent material and makes perceptive supporting comments;
- collates material and makes perceptive cross-references in support of the answer;
- shows detailed understanding and sensitive appreciation of how the writer(s) use language, structure and presentation to achieve their intended effect.

For the marks of 13-14, candidates should display exceptional ability in the skills cited above, together with sustained sensitivity to language.

- a full and close engagement with language is evidenced throughout the response
- candidates in this band may identify and analyse such aspects of style as lexical variety (e.g. use of abstract nouns like 'respect', 'affection' with the mother; verbs denoting action such as 'nods', 'pushes' in relation to the father); a range of simple and complex sentences providing a distinct pace and rhythm to the excerpt
- the use of figurative and imagistic language: 'the taste of doubt', 'stuck to the ceiling'; the use of language related to emotion such as 'unhappy cake', 'love letter', etc. in the first paragraph
- the use of present tense gives the extract an immediacy and impact
- the use of the second person 'you' throughout provides a relationship between narrator and reader and the repetition of the word at the end of the first paragraph has a haunting rhythm
- some candidates may be able to read into the description a sense of Hamilton's feelings of wonder and perhaps puzzlement
- some candidates may suggest there is a dark side to the extract with a hint of threat or violence in the father's attitude and conduct
- the piece is effectively balanced and structured around an emotional contrast
- the best answers will be distinguished by sustained sensitivity to language, appreciation of the subtler nuances of interpretation and some awareness of the qualities of a highly crafted personal memoir

WRITING – Assessment Objectives

Candidates are required to demonstrate the ability to:

- AO3(i) communicate clearly and imaginatively, using and adapting forms for different readers and purposes;
- AO3(ii) organise ideas into sentences, paragraphs and whole texts using a variety of linguistic and structural features;
- AO3(iii) use a range of sentence structures effectively with accurate punctuation and spelling.

Section B: Writing to Argue, Persuade, Advise

It is sometimes said that young people now remain at home for too long and fail to establish an independent life.

Write a newspaper article in which you argue for or against the view that young people have the right to remain at home for as long as they wish.

(27 marks)

Two separate marks must be **awarded and recorded separately** for **Writing**. One mark is awarded for AO3(i)/(ii) and is out of 18. The other is for AO3 (iii) out of 9. The total available marks for Section B questions is therefore 27.

For AO3 (i)/(ii)), assess answers in terms of the levels below, i.e. the **Skills-Related** descriptors and the **Content-Related** descriptors on the right-hand side of the page.

For AO3(iii), use the separate set of levels which follow. Ring the marks in the margin at the end of the answer, with the AO3(i)/(ii) total above the AO3(iii) total. **Note that two marks will be awarded which must be indicated separately added together.**

Remember that to be placed in a level a candidate's work **will satisfy some (but not necessarily all) of the criteria for that level**. The precise mark awarded within that level must be determined by the extent to which the answer matches the descriptors set out in the appropriate level. For AO3(i)/(ii), the **Content-Related** descriptors present features and examples, to which candidates refer in support of their answers. Any valid responses should be rewarded.

Remember that candidates are working under timed examination conditions.

Skills-Related Descriptors

AO3(i)/(ii) Communication Level 1a 0-3 marks

Communication

- Communicate few ideas with limited success:
- engage the reader in a limited way by reference to one or two ideas, e.g. makes brief reference to the topic which reiterates the question;
- show limited awareness of the purpose and intention of writing the article e.g. by simple definition of the topic;
- may attempt a formal article frame, though register may vary between formal and colloquial or slang, sustaining neither;
- use of devices such as the rhetorical question, or lists which may not be appropriate or effective;
- limited vocabulary evident with arbitrary or little use of persuasive markers.

Organisation of Ideas Level 1a

 Show evidence of erratic paragraph structure; show limited variety of structural features, e.g. onesentence paragraphs, some punctuated quotation if appropriate.

Communication Level 1b 4-6 marks

Communication

- Communicate ideas with clarity and some success:
- engage the reader by presenting persuasive ideas with some clear reasoning – though links in between different points may be tenuous, e.g. make reference to the issue and its consequences;
- show awareness of the purpose and intention of writing the article e.g. by stating the writer's views;
- write an article though register may vary between formal and colloquial or slang, or the tone may be unvaried, e.g. relentlessly dogmatic;
- use devices such as the rhetorical question, lists, exaggeration but not always appropriately;
- use limited vocabulary but including argumentative/persuasive markers e.g. 'in the first place', 'finally'.

Organisation of Ideas Level 1b

- Use of paragraphs which may enhance meaning;
- use a variety of structural features, e.g. short paragraphs, quotation or dialogue if appropriate.

Content-Related Descriptors

Content-Related descriptors for Levels 1a and 1b

Candidates may show evidence of these content features:

- show that the topic of leaving/staying at home has been understood
- show that the focus of the article is on arguing a case
- express a straightforward point of view with some clarity using some words and phrases suitable for persuasion;
- use some information and examples to illustrate the point of view put forward;
- make at least one valid point to support the position adopted with some conviction;
- establish closure, perhaps through a conclusion

Skills-Related Descriptors	Content-Related Descriptors					
AO3 (i)/(ii) Communication Level 2a Marks 7-9	Content-Related descriptors for levels 2a and 2b					
 Write in a way which shows clarity of thought and communicates with some success; engage the reader by presenting the case with some reasoning and clear, persuasive ideas, e.g. a number of good reasons why it makes sense to save money; state the purpose and intention of writing the article possibly sustained by reiteration, e.g. by regularly reaffirming the chosen point of view; write an article, the tone of which is appropriately serious but may lack subtlety, and modulation of tone; use devices such as the rhetorical question, lists and overstatement but perhaps not always appropriately, or use over much; use some words effectively including argumentative/persuasive markers e.g. 'based on my experience'; 'many people say that' 	 Candidates may show evidence of these content features: show understanding that the article is concerned with arguing that young people have the right to remain at home for as long as they wish, or vice versa state clearly the point of view which is to be put across to readers 					
 Organisation of Ideas Level 2a Use paragraphs in a whole text; use a variety of structural features e.g. different paragraph lengths, dialogue; present developed ideas which hold together. Level 2b	 offer examples, information, details to support the topic, e.g. through anecdotal evidence present points in a 					
Marks 10-12 Communication	coherent way to establish a logical sequence for persuasion					
 Write in a way which shows clarity of thought and communicates with some success; engage the reader with more detailed argument and persuasive ideas e.g. make reference to consequences and implications; clearly state and sustain the purpose and intention of writing the article e.g. by articulating evidence which conclusively persuades the reader; write an article, the tone of which is appropriately serious and which may show subtlety and employ e.g. emphasis, assertion, reason; use devices such as the rhetorical question, lists or hyperbole as appropriate; use words effectively including argumentative/persuasive markers e.g. 'taking into account all the evidence'; 'An even more convincing reason is Organisation of Ideas Level 2b Employ paragraphs effectively in a whole text; use a variety of structural features e.g. different paragraph lengths, dialogue, indented sections if appropriate; present well thought out and developed ideas in sentences. 	 begin to show ability to argue in an articulate way using more general, ideas than just anecdote and specific example present clearly expressed sense of closure 					

English B (Mature) - AQA GCSE Mark Scheme 2008 June series **Skills-Related Descriptors** Content-Related Descriptors AO3(i)/(ii) **Content-Related Communication Level 3a** descriptors for levels 3a 13-15 marks and 3b Candidates may show evidence of these Write in a way which shows clarity of thought and communicates in a content features: convincing way; engage the reader with detailed, developed argument, a variety of persuasive ideas, some attempt at abstract concepts, relevant detail, e.g. show a complete grasp employ facts and figures, if appropriate; of the issue as make clear and sustain purpose and intention of writing the article e.g. by presented within the article which is focused identifying material which convinces the audience that it is sensible to and relevant: save money: make sound points by write an article, the tone of which is appropriately serious but also ensuring that effective manages to show a degree of manipulative subtlety; use devices such as the rhetorical question, humour and irony which may supporting material is presented without influence the reader: recourse to show appropriate use of more interesting words including inappropriate anecdote confrontational/persuasive markers e.g. 'It goes without saying, given the or received opinion; evidence....'. give well selected details which contribute Organisation of Ideas Level 3a to eloquent and sophisticated reasons write a whole text in continuous prose; for making the case for employ paragraphs which contribute to clarity of, and enhance, meaning; a young person use a variety of structural features, e.g. different paragraph lengths. remaining at home or indented sections, quotation, as appropriate; vice versa Level 3b employ an effective 16-18 marks vocabulary and syntax Communication which allows a clear presentation and which Write in a way which shows clarity of thought and communicates in a establishes an convincing and compelling way; eloquent command of engage the reader with detailed, succinct argument, a range and variety the task:

- of persuasive ideas, abstract concepts, precise and relevant detail, e.g. employ facts and figures, make a moral appeal, introduce an ironic tone
- make and sustain clearly the purpose, intention and objective of writing the article:
- write an article, the tone of which is appropriately serious but also manipulative and subtle, employ e.g. assertion, reason, sophistication;
- use linguistic devices such as the rhetorical question, hyperbole, irony in an effective and appropriate way;
- show control of an extensive, appropriate vocabulary.

- indicate some knowledge, or cite other sources, to offer coherent suggestions as a means of developing the persuasive function of the article

Organisation of Ideas Level 3b

- Write a whole text in continuous prose;
- employ paragraphs effectively to enhance meaning including, e.g. onesentence paragraphs;
- use a variety of structural features, e.g. different paragraph lengths, indented sections, quotation, bullet points, as appropriate;
- present complex ideas in a thoroughly coherent way.

NB. For the mark of 18, candidates show consummate ability in the skills cited above, together with particular flair, originality and control of extended linguistic devices.

- offer more generalised points which might explore the broader aspects of the topic such as the idea that leaving home is a very significant step and might have an impact on the family network
- provide a satisfactory and clear sense of closure that is appropriate to the task.

AO3(iii) Accuracy Level 1 0-3 marks

- Write with some control of agreement, punctuation and sentence construction;
- organise writing using sentence demarcation which is sometimes accurate:
- write simple and some complex sentences;
- show accuracy in the spelling of words in common use;
- use standard English appropriately.

AO3(iii) Accuracy Level 2 4-6 marks

- Write with control of agreement, punctuation and sentence construction;
- organise writing using sentence demarcation which is mainly accurate;
- employ a variety of sentence forms;
- show accuracy in the spelling of words in common use in an increasingly ambitious vocabulary;
- · use standard English appropriately.

AO3(iii) Accuracy Level 3 7-9 marks

- Use complex grammatical structures and punctuation with success;
- organise writing using sentence demarcation;
- employ a variety of sentence forms to good effect including short sentences;
- show accuracy in the spelling of words from an ambitious vocabulary;
- use standard English appropriately.

SPECIFICATION B MATURE (3703) PAPER 1 HIGHER TIER

COVERAGE OF ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

Assessment Objectives	Questions		
	1	2	3
2(i)	✓	✓	
2(ii)	✓	✓	
2(iii)	✓	✓	
2(iv)	✓	✓	
2(v)	✓	✓	
3(i)			✓
3(ii)			✓
3(iii)			✓