

Mark Scheme (Results) Summer 2010

GCSE

GCSE English A (1203) Paper 4H - The Craft of the Writer

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SECTION A: MODERN POETRY

In Such a Time as This

| Question | Indicative content | Mark |
|----------|--|--|
| Number | | |
| 1 | Assessment Objectives: read with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them. understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects. | Total for Section A: 25 marks for Reading |
| | A successful answer will focus on: the way in which the setting is presented the relationship between this and the development of the ideas and atmosphere the poets' language. | |
| | Reward all reasonable, valid points and comments which show a sound grasp of the text and of the requirements of the question. | |
| | Candidates are free to select and comment on textual details in a variety of ways. They are not expected to deal with every possible point, and may be rewarded for a comparatively small number of points if these are effectively developed and supported by well-chosen textual evidence. | |
| | The following section illustrates <u>some</u> points candidates may make, but examiners should evaluate other responses on their merits, being alert to unusual comments which are well explained and substantiated. | |

Death in Leamington

Textual Evidence

| The descriptions of the setting woman's situation evening visit large window in room her handiwork lying around untouched nurse's failure to notice/carries on with routines fireplace with coal fire fading of the house's appearance used to be grand house is shut down finally | 'Died in the upstairs bedroom' 'Light of the ev'ning star' 'Plate glass windowbig round' 'The lonely crochet unstirred' 'alone with her own little soul' 'covered the fire with coal' 'Stucco is peeling' 'Yellow Italianate arches' 'Turned down the gas' |
|--|--|
| The ideas and atmosphere her fading away echoes the setting loneliness of her death silence of her room like the town | 'Gray, decaying face' 'Throughout poem' 'drifted into the place silent bedstead' |

 The use of language Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: simple rhythm and rhyme scheme direct speech imagery of dying house/dying woman subdued mood use of comparisons (house/person)

The Send-off

- The descriptions of the setting a dark atmosphere as the soldiers leave atmosphere of secrecy few observers home becomes unfamiliar
- The ideas and atmosphere the emotive language sense of conspiracy soldiers' grim appearance/imagery of death/beauty sense of guilt sympathy for the forgotten men sadness on return

Textual Evidence

- 'Close, darkening lanes'
 'Siding-shed'
 'Dull porters.... Casual tramp'
 'Village wells up half-known roads'
- 'Grimly gay' 'Secretly... wrongs hushed up' 'Breasts were struck... white with wreaths' 'Wrongs hushed up' (Throughout) 'A few, too few for drumbs and yells'
- The use of language Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: words evoking atmosphere alliteration, assonance rhetorical questions imagery tone and mood paradox/oxymoron personification

<u>Please refer to the common grid at the end of the poetry section when deciding the marks to be awarded for the chosen poetry question.</u>

| Question Number | Indicative content | Mark |
|---|---|--|
| Assessment Objectives: read with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects. A successful answer will focus on: | | Total for Section A: 25 marks for Reading |
| reflections on past experiences/events how these feelings are explored the writers' language. | | |
| Reward all reasonable, valid points and comments which show a sound grasp of the text and of the requirements of the question. | | |
| Candidates are free to select and comment on textual details in a variety of ways. They are not expected to deal with every possible point, and may be rewarded for a comparatively small number of points if these are effectively developed and supported by well-chosen textual evidence. | | |
| | The following section illustrates <u>some</u> points candidates may make, but examiners should evaluate other responses on their merits, being alert to unusual comments which are well explained and substantiated. | |

The House

- The places or events very large house cold throughout wind-swept place
 - infested haunted very dark close to the sea people drowned there lambs killed in the yard birds close to the house few visits from neighbours piano
- The writer's feelings frightening to a young child impression of strange, mysterious events there was a piano it was his home, where he grew up

Textual Evidence

...a dozen bedrooms Each of them cold ...wind battered the windows...blew down power-lines Rats lived in the foundations... cockroaches Friendly ghost Sunlight never took over the interiorhalf a mile was the Atlantic ration of the drowned lambs bled dry Crows sitting... Neighbours never entered... ...did have a piano upstairs

Nostrils huge to a child Throughout But it did have a piano And I did grow...

• The use of language

Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: dramatic verbs simple, direct language strong images enjambement

NB: for the other poem, candidates may choose any ONE from the section *In Such a Time as This*, as long as a choice can be justified.

<u>Please refer to the common grid at the end of the poetry section when deciding the marks to be awarded for the chosen poetry question.</u>

Identity

| Question Number | Indicative content | Mark |
|---|---|--|
| 3 | Assessment Objectives: read with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects. | Total for Section A: 25 marks for Reading |
| A successful answer will focus on: what the central characters witnessed and felt how the sights and feelings made them fearful the writers' language. | | |
| | Reward all reasonable, valid points and comments which show a sound grasp of the text and of the requirements of the question. | |
| | Candidates are free to select and comment on textual details in a variety of ways. They are not expected to deal with every possible point, and may be rewarded for a comparatively small number of points if these are effectively developed and supported by well-chosen textual evidence. | |
| | The following section illustrates <u>some</u> points candidates may make, but examiners should evaluate other responses on their merits, being alert to unusual comments which are well explained and substantiated. | |

<u>The Barn</u>

Textual Evidence

| The sights confronting the person the piles of corn in sacks farmyard equipment cold floor lack of natural light lack of draughts - very hot metal implements shine through the dark cobwebs bats with bright eyes staring | 'Threshed corn' 'Two-lugged sacks' 'Armoury of farmyard implements' 'Smooth, chilly concrete' 'No windows two narrow shafts' 'Air-holesno draughts burned like an oven' 'Bright objects' 'Then you felt cobwebs' 'Bats fierce, unblinking' |
|---|--|
| • The fears hard to breathe from cobwebs this created panic feels as if he is prey to the birds lies down to avoid them sacks seem to attack him | 'clogging up your lungs' 'scuttled fast into the sunlit yard' 'Chaff/To be pecked up' 'lay face-down to shun' 'like great blind rats' |

• The use of language

Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: words which are particularly striking graphic imagery movement words similes alliteration

Mirror

Textual Evidence

'Day after day'

- The sights confronting the person (First stanza general, about looking into mirrors, but could be used as background evidence) woman looks deep into mirror to see her 'Searching my reaches for what she really real identity/appearance is' compares this image with what she sees by 'Turns to those liars, the candles or the candlelight or moonlight moon' she receives a true likeness 'Reflect it faithfully... harsh reality' repeatedly seeks reassurance 'She comes and goes' • The fears is afraid of what she sees in the mirror 'Tears and an agitation of hands' fears the change from youth to age 'In me she has drowned...' 'Rises towards her... like a terrible fish' old age is like a monstrous fish swimming in the mirror's lake inexorability of the change
- The use of language Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: repetition light and dark contrasted metaphor of water (sustained) imagery

Please refer to the common grid at the end of the poetry section when deciding the marks to be awarded for the chosen poetry question.

| Question Number | Indicative content | Mark |
|--------------------|--|------|
| 4 | read with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects. A successful answer will focus on: what happened to cause the change or reflection | |
| | how this affected the individual the writers' language. Reward all reasonable, valid points and comments which show a sound grasp of the text and of the requirements of the question. | |
| | Candidates are free to select and comment on textual details in a variety of ways. They are not expected to deal with every possible point, and may be rewarded for a comparatively small number of points if these are effectively developed and supported by well-chosen textual evidence. | |
| | The following section illustrates <u>some</u> points candidates may make, but examiners should evaluate other responses on their merits, being alert to unusual comments which are well explained and substantiated. | |

Death of a Naturalist

Textual Evidence

| The events causing the change or reflection | |
|---|---|
| scene at the dam at the start (first stanza | Throughout: positive images of nature, such |
| can be used to provide context) | as the following: |
| effect of the heat on the scene | 'sweltered in the punishing sun' |
| sense of heavy, steaming hot summer day | 'festered' 'heavyheaded' 'sweltered' |
| sound of bluebottles | 'wove strong gauze of sound' |
| sight of frogspawn | 'warm thick slobber of frogspawn' |
| sight of spawn developing into tadpoles | 'fattening dots burst' |
| 0 01 | 01 |

frogs: frogs perceived as angry aggressors sight of the frogs

sound of frogs

• The effect on the boy

had a sense of awe and wonder at sight was a passionate naturalist **at first** loved watching frogspawn develop **then** boy's feelings turn to horror and threat [sound and sight of bullfrogs] boy felt that nature was taking its revenge on him felt the spawn was now an enemy

'Angry frogs invaded...' 'gross-bellied frogs... loose necks pulsed ...great slime kings' 'slap and plop ... blunt heads farting'

[descriptions] ... 'best of all ...' 'I would fill jampotfuls ... ' '...wait and watch ...' 'obscene threat...' 'I sickened, turned, and ran ...'

'...gathered there for vengeance'

'If I dipped my hand ... '

• The use of language

Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: description of scene vivid language for frogs - sight/sound onomatopoeia words expressing boy's observations (childlike language) imagery heavy monosyllabic words alliteration (flax-dam festered ... coarse croaking)

NB: for the other poem, candidates may choose any ONE from the section *Identity*, as long as a choice can be justified.

<u>Please refer to the common grid at the end of the poetry section when deciding the marks to be awarded for the chosen poetry question.</u>

Nature

| Question Number | Indicative content | Mark |
|--------------------|---|--|
| 5 | Assessment Objectives: read with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects. | Total for Section A: 25 marks for Reading |
| | A successful answer will focus on: the strength of the natural imagery (sight and sound) how people respond to the events described the writers' language. | |
| | Reward all reasonable, valid points and comments which show a sound grasp of the text and of the requirements of the question. | |
| | Candidates are free to select and comment on textual details in a variety of ways. They are not expected to deal with every possible point, and may be rewarded for a comparatively small number of points if these are effectively developed and supported by well-chosen textual evidence. | |
| | The following section illustrates <u>some</u> points candidates may make, but examiners should evaluate other responses on their merits, being alert to unusual comments which are well explained and substantiated. | |

The Storm

 The images of sight and sound build-up of the waves against the breakwater sound of wind (alliterative) movement (onomatopoeic and alliterative)

rain

increase of wind thunder effect on trees spider comes down from light-bulb

cliff collapses under the storm

Textual Evidence

'Against the stone breakwater...Ominous lapping'
'Whines... whistling... whine of wires'
'Rattling of leaves... Street-lamp swinging and slamming'
'Fine fume...driving in from the sea...'
'Riddling the sand...'
'Flicking the foam'
'A crack of thunder'
'Bending the trees... shaking loose'
'...eases himself... half-way down to the ground'
'...the jutting sea-cliff collapses' • Their effect on the people people retreat to houses

anticipation/dread as storm approaches

listen to storm, hoping it will soon be over aware of the storm's moods

• The use of language

Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: ominous build-up descriptions of sea sound: wind, thunder onomatopoeia alliteration and assonance dramatic verbs thetorical question words expressing feelings

Break of Day in the Trenches

- The images of sight and sound description of dawn the rat's appearance description of soldiers description of effect of war on France description of weapons description of poppies
- Their effect on the person thinks about the horror of war: war kills arbitrarily and indiscriminately sense of fear poppies linked to humans sees the rat as in a better position than humans - stands above the fray

Textual Evidence

'The darkness crumbles...' 'Leaps my hand - a queer sardonic rat' 'Strong eyes, fine limbs, haughty athletes' 'Torn fields of France' 'Shrieking iron and flame...' '...Drop, and are ever dropping'

[Throughout] ... 'Bonds to the whims of murder'

'Quaver - what heart aghast?'

- 'Roots are in man's veins' 'Less chanced than you for life'
- 'English... Same to a German'

 The use of language Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: apostrophe rhetorical questions imagery of death/contrasted with life irony personification natural/unnatural actions

<u>Please refer to the common grid at the end of the poetry section when deciding the marks to be awarded for the chosen poetry question.</u>

In applying the grid, bear in mind the need for the 'best fit' approach.

closer to their cards' 'Creep to our bed... we wait; we listen' 'We lie close... breathing heavily, hoping' 'Lulls off, then redoubles'

'The last watcher indoors... Card players

| Question Number | Indicative content | Mark |
|--------------------|---|--|
| 6 | Assessment Objectives: read with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic, structural and presentational devices to achieve their effects. | Total for Section A: 25 marks for Reading |
| | A successful answer will focus on: what plants or animals are described the significance each poem ascribes to them for its themes the writers' language. | |
| | Reward all reasonable, valid points and comments which show a sound grasp of the text and of the requirements of the question. | |
| | Candidates are free to select and comment on textual details in a variety of ways. They are not expected to deal with every possible point, and may be rewarded for a comparatively small number of points if these are effectively developed and supported by well-chosen textual evidence. | |
| | The following section illustrates <u>some</u> points candidates may make, but examiners should evaluate other responses on their merits, being alert to unusual comments which are well explained and substantiated. | |

A Blade of Grass

Textual Evidence

| The object described it is covered in frost it is direct, unlike poetic imagery it is just grass, to the recipient | 'It has dressed itself in frost' 'More immediate' 'It is a blade of grass' |
|---|--|
| The way in affects the person's ideas or | |
| actions | |
| the blade of grass is offered as a present | 'I offer you' |
| the recipient feels it is inadequate and ridiculous | 'Not quite good enough' 'absurd' |
| it ought to be a poem (and in fact becomes a poem) | 'You say it is not a poem' |
| it symbolises the tragedy of advancing age and increasing cynicism/materialism | 'I write you a tragedy' 'as you grow older' 'more difficult to accept' |
| | |

• The use of language

Reward all relevant examples of language and comments on its effectiveness, e.g.: repetition and positioning (grass, poem) short lines and sentences I/you contrast personification (grass dressing itself)

NB: for the other poem, candidates may choose any ONE from the section *Nature*, as long as a choice can be justified.

<u>Please refer to the common grid at the end of the poetry section when deciding the marks to be awarded for the chosen poetry question.</u>

READING MARK SCHEME

The 'Best Fit' Approach

An answer may not always satisfy every one of the assessment criteria for a particular mark in order to receive a mark within that mark range. The 'best fit' approach should be used to determine the mark which **corresponds most closely** to the overall quality of the response.

| Mark Range | Understanding and interpretation of text | Understanding and evaluation of writer's use of language | Selection and development of appropriate material/textual references |
|---------------|---|--|---|
| 8-10 | fair understanding of the text some interpretative comment | some understanding of language an attempt to evaluate use of language | valid points some development some relevant textual support |
| 11-13 | generally sound grasp of the text reasonably secure interpretation | fair understanding of language reasonably sound evaluation of the use of language | mostly clear points some reasonable development generally appropriate examples/ references |
| 14-16 | sound grasp of the text secure interpretation | clear understanding of language sound evaluation of the use of language | a range of relevant points reasonable development appropriate examples/references |
| 17-19 | thorough understanding of the text thoughtful interpretation | good analysis of language thoughtful evaluation of the use of language | a good range of well-focused points sustained development apt use of examples/references |
| 20-22 | assured understanding of the text perceptive interpretation | confident analysis of language sensitive evaluation of the use of language | a variety of perceptive points coherent and fully developed ideas effective use of apposite examples/references |
| 23-25 | impressive command of the text cogent interpretation | penetrating analysis of language sophisticated evaluation of the use of language | a variety of astute and discriminating points commanding exploration of ideas deft use of apposite examples/ references |

This extension to the scale is only for use in circumstances where candidates clearly perform below the normal range on this question for this tier.

| 0-1 | rudimentary understanding | • minimal grasp of language | extremely limited content |
|-----|---|---|---|
| 2-4 | basic understanding | little awareness of language | unclear and/or undeveloped points |
| 5-7 | some understandingan attempt at interpretation | limited awareness of language | some relevant pointslittle development |

SECTION B: NON-FICTION

| Question | Indicative content | Mark |
|----------|---|--|
| Number | | |
| 7 | Assessment Objectives: read with insight and engagement, making appropriate references to texts and developing and sustaining interpretations of them understand and evaluate how writers use linguistic and presentational devices to achieve their effects. | Total for Section B: 25 marks for Reading |
| | A successful answer will focus on: the ways the diary entries enable Bennett to express his ideas the situations described in the entries the humorous way in which events are presented using textual evidence to substantiate points made. | |
| | Reward all reasonable, valid points and comments which show a sound grasp of the text and of the requirements of the question. In particular look for evidence that the candidates have understood how writing a diary has enabled the writer to shape his work. | |
| | Candidates are free to select and comment on textual details in a variety of ways. They are not expected to deal with every possible point, and may be rewarded for a comparatively small number of points if these are effectively developed and supported by well-chosen textual evidence. | |
| | The following section illustrates <u>some</u> points candidates may make, but examiners should evaluate other responses on their merits, being alert to unusual comments which are well explained and substantiated. NB most of the passage is presented in diary format, and candidates may draw their material from any of the entries. | |
| | Candidates may approach this task in an integrated way rather than divide their points in discrete sections. Points made may include the following: | |
| | The diary format: | |
| | This enables Bennett to have a succession of 'vignettes' (brief pictures in words) on particularly 'memorable' days. The use of dates shows the progression of ideas, time, the relationship between him and Miss S, and his own attitudes, from the 'first person and perhaps 'semi- detached' perspective (both participant and observer). | |

| Within the diary entries, Bennett focuses on such things as: | |
|--|--|
| The physical description of Miss S: | |
| Details of her unusual dress - duster dress, hats, eyeshades, telescopic skirts, lack of stockings, the pumps and slippers. Her voice and words, including 'schoolgirl slang'. Description of the mass of things inside the van. | |
| Sees her as a 'spectral figure', with a haunting appearance. | |
| What is interesting about her: | |
| The whole situation of her living in a van on his land. Her eccentric behaviour (examples: the Vincent Price episode; the encounters with the police. Her use of malapropisms (frisbee for freebee). | |
| The humorous elements in her story: | |
| Bennett's amusement about her antics, in the stories he tells (e.g. dangling her legs over the back of the van, or making home-made petrol substitute); sees her as a rich source of lively material for his own writing. | |
| His growing interest in her as a person: | |
| What is discovered about her earlier life (e.g. she had tried to become a nun on two occasions). His relief that her 'spree' to Devon had gone well and that people had been nice to her. | |
| NOW REFER TO PAGE 18 FOR THE ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE GRID. | |
| In applying the grid, bear in mind the need for the 'best fit' approach. | |

READING MARK SCHEME

The 'Best Fit' Approach

An answer may not always satisfy every one of the assessment criteria for a particular mark in order to receive a mark within that mark range. The 'best fit' approach should be used to determine the mark which **corresponds most closely** to the overall quality of the response.

| Mark Range | Understanding and interpretation of text | Understanding and evaluation of writer's use of language | Selection and development of appropriate material/textual references |
|---------------|---|--|---|
| 8-10 | fair understanding of the text some interpretative comment | some understanding of language an attempt to evaluate use of language | valid points some development some relevant textual support |
| 11-13 | generally sound grasp of the text reasonably secure interpretation | fair understanding of language reasonably sound evaluation of the use of language | mostly clear points some reasonable development generally appropriate examples/ references |
| 14-16 | sound grasp of the text secure interpretation | clear understanding of language sound evaluation of the use of language | a range of relevant points reasonable development appropriate examples/references |
| 17-19 | thorough understanding of the text thoughtful interpretation | good analysis of language thoughtful evaluation of the use of language | a good range of well-focused points sustained development apt use of examples/references |
| 20-22 | assured understanding of the text perceptive interpretation | confident analysis of language sensitive evaluation of the use of language | a variety of perceptive points coherent and fully developed ideas effective use of apposite examples/references |
| 23-25 | impressive command of the text cogent interpretation | penetrating analysis of language sophisticated evaluation of the use of language | a variety of astute and discriminating points commanding exploration of ideas deft use of apposite examples/ references |

This extension to the scale is only for use in circumstances where candidates clearly perform below the normal range on this question for this tier.

| 0-1 | rudimentary understanding | • minimal grasp of language | extremely limited content |
|-----|---|---|---|
| 2-4 | basic understanding | little awareness of language | unclear and/or undeveloped points |
| 5-7 | some understandingan attempt at interpretation | limited awareness of language | some relevant pointslittle development |

SECTION C: WRITING TO INFORM, EXPLAIN, DESCRIBE

| Question | Indicative content | Mark |
|----------|--|--|
| Number | | |
| 8 | Candidates are required to produce a letter to a friend setting out ideas on activities that do not require great expenditure. An appropriate written register will need to be adopted for the letter, with language suitable to the task: this may be quite informal, since it is a letter to a friend. | Total for Section C: 25 marks for Writing |
| | Candidates may interpret the requirement in a variety of ways, but are likely to focus on such ideas as the following: physical activities such as walking, swimming or cycling recreational activities that do not require expensive equipment or membership fees: for example, making or listening to music, dancing, painting spending time with friends or family reading, writing, games, radio/television. NB The interpretation of 'much money' should not be too strict - candidates may for example suggest activities that have an initial outlay (such as a computer), but thereafter have very few costs. | |
| | Lower band answers are likely to be very limited in content, with only simple ideas about the kinds of activity which could be recommended and a lack of explanatory detail. | |
| | Higher band answers may approach the task in a variety of ways, showing ingenuity and imagination. To be effective, they will communicate through their writing awareness of a broad range of possible activities. | |
| | The above points are possible indicators of content and approach, but examiners are asked to be particularly ready to accept various approaches , because of the open-ended nature of the task , and to accept any relevant and/or unusual examples or viewpoints. The focus of assessment is on the quality of the writing and on the clarity and effectiveness of the response, especially in developing interesting, inexpensive ideas. | |
| | In summary, successful answers will: convey to the reader a strong sense of the kinds of inexpensive activity which can be undertaken maintain a clear focus on relevant issues reveal a clear text structure, supported by effective paragraphing and the use of cohesive devices | |

| express ideas clearly and precisely, with appropriate development employ a range of sentence and clause structures appropriate to the task employ a range of appropriate vocabulary show ambition in, and maintain secure control over choices of grammar, punctuation and | |
|---|--|
| over, choices of grammar, punctuation and spelling. NOW REFER TO PAGES 23-24 FOR THE ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE GRIDS. | |
| In applying the grids, bear in mind the need for the 'best fit' approach. | |

| Question Number | Indicative content | Mark |
|--------------------|---|--|
| 9 | Candidates are required to describe a 'journey into the past', as a competition entry. An appropriate written register will need to be adopted for a competition entry, with language suitable to the task and a sense that the candidate is seeking to do well in the competition, by writing that is arresting and imaginative. | Total for Section C: 25 marks for Writing |
| | • Candidates may choose from a wide range of possible periods, but are perhaps more likely to opt for events in the twentieth century, because they will feel more confident in the period details. | |
| | • However, candidates should certainly not be penalised if they go for a more remote period. If they do, a certain leniency is needed towards historical errors or anachronisms, since this is not a history examination and candidates have no reference materials. | |
| | • The key thing is that the candidates should create a reasonably consistent feel to their description. | |
| | Lower band answers may well fail to establish a convincing sense of events or period, and may give only a very brief account of their journey into the past. | |
| | Higher band answers will respond fully to the question, giving the reader a clear description of a well-conceived scenario. | |
| | The above points are possible indicators of content and approach, but examiners are asked to be open-minded and to accept any relevant and/or unusual examples, approaches or viewpoints. The focus of assessment is on the quality of the writing and on the clarity and effectiveness of the description. | |
| | In summary, successful answers will: | |
| | convey to the reader a strong sense of the excitement of the journey described maintain a clear focus on relevant issues reveal a clear text structure, supported by effective paragraphing and the use of cohesive devices express ideas clearly and precisely, with appropriate development employ a range of sentence and clause structures appropriate to the task employ a range of appropriate vocabulary show ambition in, and maintain secure control over, | |
| | paragraphing and the use of cohesive devices express ideas clearly and precisely, with appropriate development employ a range of sentence and clause structures appropriate to the task employ a range of appropriate vocabulary | |

| NOW REFER TO PAGES 23-24 FOR THE ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE GRIDS. | |
|---|--|
| In applying the grids, bear in mind the need for the 'best fit' approach. | |

The 'Best Fit' Approach

An answer may not always satisfy every one of the assessment criteria for a particular mark in order to receive a mark within that mark range. The 'best fit' approach should be used to determine the mark which corresponds most closely to the overall quality of the response.

Assessment Objectives 1 and 2

| Mark Range | General Characteristics | Purpose and Audience | Communicative Effectiveness | Organisation |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| mark band one 0-3 | the writing achieves limited success at a basic level | there is little awareness of the purpose of the writing | the writing uses a limited vocabulary and shows little variety of sentence structure | organisation of the material is simple with limited success in introducing and developing a response |
| mark band two 4-7 | the writing expresses ideas which are broadly appropriate | there is some grasp of the purpose of the writing | the writing shows some evidence of control in the choice of vocabulary and sentence structure | organisation of the material shows some grasp of text structure, with opening and development, and broadly appropriate paragraphing |
| mark band three 8-11 | the writing expresses and develops ideas in a clear, organised way | there is a generally clear sense of the purpose of the writing | the writing includes well- chosen vocabulary and shows some evidence of crafting in the construction of sentences | organisation of the material is mostly sound, with a clear text structure, controlled paragraphing to reflect opening, development and closure, together with secure use of cohesive devices |
| mark band four 12-15 | the writing presents effective and sustained ideas | there is a secure, sustained realisation of the purpose of the writing | the writing has aptly chosen vocabulary and well-controlled variety in the construction of sentences | organisation of the material is fully secure, with a well- judged text structure, effective paragraphing and successful use of a range of cohesive devices between and within paragraphs |
| mark band five 16-17 | the writing achieves precision and clarity in presenting compelling and fully-developed ideas | there is strong, consistent fulfilment of the writing task, sharply focused on the writer's purpose | the writing has an extensive vocabulary and mature control in the construction of varied sentence forms | organisation of material is assured, with sophisticated control of text structure, skilfully sustained paragraphing and the effective application of a wide range of markers of textual cohesion |

Assessment Objective 3

| Mark Range | Punctuation | Grammar | Spelling |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| mark band one 0-1 | Basic punctuation is used with some control | Grammatical structuring shows some control | Spelling of common words is usually correct, though inconsistencies are present |
| mark band two 2-3 | Full stops, capital letters, question marks are used, together with some other marks, mostly correctly | Grammatical structuring of simple and some complex sentences is usually correct | Spelling of simple words and more complex words is usually accurate |
| mark band three 4-5 | Control of punctuation is mostly secure, including use of speech marks and apostrophes | Grammatical structures are accurate and used to convey meanings clearly, with only occasional errors | Spelling of a wide range of words is accurate |
| mark band four 6-7 | Punctuation is accurate, with a wide range of marks used to enhance communication, according to the particular focus within this triplet | A wide range of grammatical structuring is used accurately and effectively to examine the writer's chosen issues | Spelling is almost always accurate, with only occasional slips |
| mark band five 8 | Control of the full range of punctuation marks is precise, enabling intended emphasis and effects to be conveyed (eg by the deployment of semi-colons, pairs of commas or dashes to indicate apposition or interpolation) | Grammatical structuring is ambitious and assured, with sophisticated control of expression and meaning | Spelling of a wide and ambitious vocabulary is consistently accurate |

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