

## English A1 SL Paper 1 marking notes

### SL Paper 1 (Prose)

These notes to examiners are intended only as guidelines to assist marking. They are not offered as an exhaustive and fixed set of responses or approaches to which all answers must rigidly adhere. Good ideas or angles not offered here should be acknowledged and rewarded as appropriate. Similarly, answers which do not include all the ideas or approaches suggested here should not be so heavily penalised as to distort appreciation of individuality.

**NB:** Responding to the guiding questions is not compulsory. If they are answered, a high mark cannot be obtained if candidates only do so in list form. To gain high marks the answers should be fluently integrated and form a coherent structure.

A good commentary will:

- be aware of the role of the contrast between land and sea descriptions
- discuss characters in terms of their different roles and their predicament
- pay attention to the tone and effects of ll. 29—41.

A better commentary should additionally include some or all of the following:

- awareness of the use and effect of the land and sea contrast within the passage
- awareness of the nature of the narrative voice and tone
- discussion of alternation of narrative and dialogue as it provides a perspective on the real and the illusory.

### SL Paper 1 (Poem)

**NB:** Responding to the guiding questions is not compulsory. If they are answered, a high mark cannot be obtained if candidates only do so in list form. To gain high marks the answers should be fluently integrated and form a coherent structure.

A good commentary will:

- consider the advantages and disadvantages of the three forms of communication
- show understanding of the temporal sequence of the stanzas of the poem
- show how the physical details of the sequence of the poem affect the meaning - images, diction, detail.

A better commentary should additionally include some or all of the following:

- awareness of the attitude of the poet towards each stage of the poem
- awareness of the implications of the last stanza
- a distinction between the first two (narrative) and the final stanza (personal and evaluative).

**NB:** In addition to the content, the descriptors for presentation and language (Criteria D and E) will qualify the quality of the commentary.