

# English Writing Task

## Exemplar for shorter task

2006

### 1. Endangered Creature

A Tongo lizard is a endangered creature because it can eat up any sort of animals even humans. They like to live in the dark and they live in a Nest. they all don't like to live with each other and they live in woods and Rain forests. They mostly come out at night. They are very dark coulered so you can less see them in the night and they have very (scale) skin and (a long tail). They are very (dangeros) because they can sting you and make you very (ill) and they are poiseness and you could die. (Now days) there are very few of (them) and it may become extinct. (They) also eat plants and all sorts. They mostly live in country's like pensilvania, U.S.A. and lots more places.

Annotations:

- simple connectives (D2)
- repetition of subjects and verbs (D2)
- noun phrase with expansion (D2)
- use of adjectives (D2)
- simple adverbial (D2)
- sentences correctly demarcated (D2)
- a sentence boundary ignored (below D2)
- connections limited top pronouns referring back to the lizard (below D2)
- comma (D2)

### SENTENCE STRUCTURE, PUNCTUATION & TEXT ORGANISATION

#### Summary

Although connection in the text is mainly limited to simple pronoun reference, evidence of sentence demarcation together with adjectives and some expansion lead to an award of 2 marks. Variation of sentence construction – particularly subjects – and more developed use of reference necessary for award in the next band.

**Band D2 – 2 marks**

## COMPOSITION & EFFECT

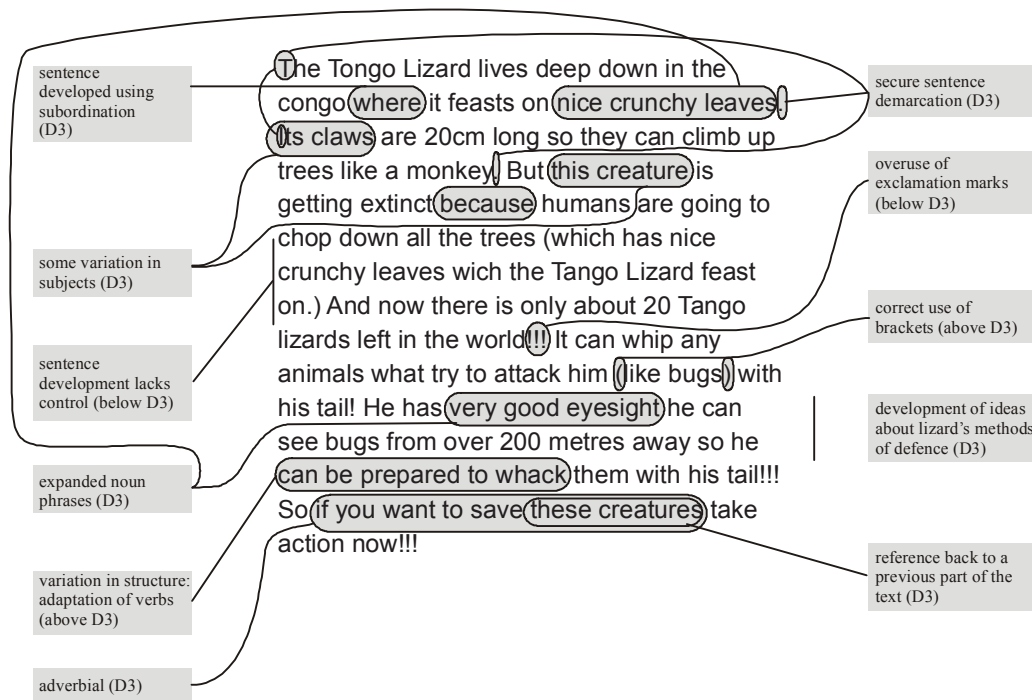
- Information about the lizard includes several aspects, eg location (*woods and Rain forests*), appearance (*very dark coulered*) (E2), although attempt at explanation is confused (*because it can eat up*) (below E2).
- Description is mainly objective (*like to live in the dark*) with some evaluation (*you couled die*) (E2).
- Some careful word choice (*Nest, scale*) but there is also vague reference (*all sorts, lots more places*) (E2).

### Summary

The description contains relevant detail about the lizard's behaviour and appearance. Despite an unsuccessful attempt at explanation, the informative approach, together with evidence of a mainly objective viewpoint merit the higher mark in Band E2.

**Band E2 – 3 marks**

## 2. Endangered Creature



## SENTENCE STRUCTURE, PUNCTUATION & TEXT ORGANISATION

### Summary

Evidence of developed sentence structure, expanded phrases and varied sentence openings suggest Band D3. Despite some loss of control (sentence expansion, exclamation marks), grouping of content and use of back reference confirm the mark.

**Band D3 – 3 marks**

## COMPOSITION & EFFECT

- Account is informative (*20cm long, from over 200 metres away*); some attempts to develop content (*because humans are going to*) (above E2).
- Objective description sometimes evident (*climb up trees*) although writer's evaluation dominates (*nice, good, take action now*) (E2).
- Some choices support description (*like a monkey, whip, attack*), but effect weakened by overemphasis (*with his tail!!!*) and repetition (*nice crunchy leaves*) (E2).

### Summary

This account includes information about the lizard's habitat and lifestyle to interest the reader. The use of some supportive vocabulary and explanation justify the higher mark in Band E2. Balance between the writer's views and impersonal description, together with greater stylistic consistency, necessary for award in next band.

**Band E2 – 3 marks**

### 3. Endangered Creature

The tongo Lizard lives in the Jungle he makes his nest out of twigs way up in the trees. They eat leaves, fruit from any tree, nuts and acorns. Tongo Lizards are big, they have a Green scaly Body with lilltle yellow eyes and small black claws. for hunting and eating there food. There used to be over 6000 Tongo Lizards now there are only nown to be about 5. if all the wild animals like foxes, wolfs and more keep on killing them, they will become extinct, therefor there will be no more tongo lizards. the more the wild animals come the less creatures that come. if People can rescue the tongo lizards now, we might be able to keep them going. Tongo Lizards are nown to be one of the fastest creatures in Europe.

expanded noun phrase (D3)

subordination used to develop sentences (above D2)

comma used in list (D2) but not consistently

connections built up (D2)

sentence boundaries using full stops and capital letters not secure (below D2)

some development of ideas (reasons why the lizard is endangered) (above D2) – but final sentence on another topic weakens idea development within a section

## SENTENCE STRUCTURE, PUNCTUATION & TEXT ORGANISATION

### Summary

Some sentence development through subordination and expansion give partial evidence for Band D3. However, sentence demarcation is not secure, and, though reference between ideas is evident, inconsistent grouping of ideas keeps the mark within Band D2.

**Band D2 – 2 marks**

## COMPOSITION & EFFECT

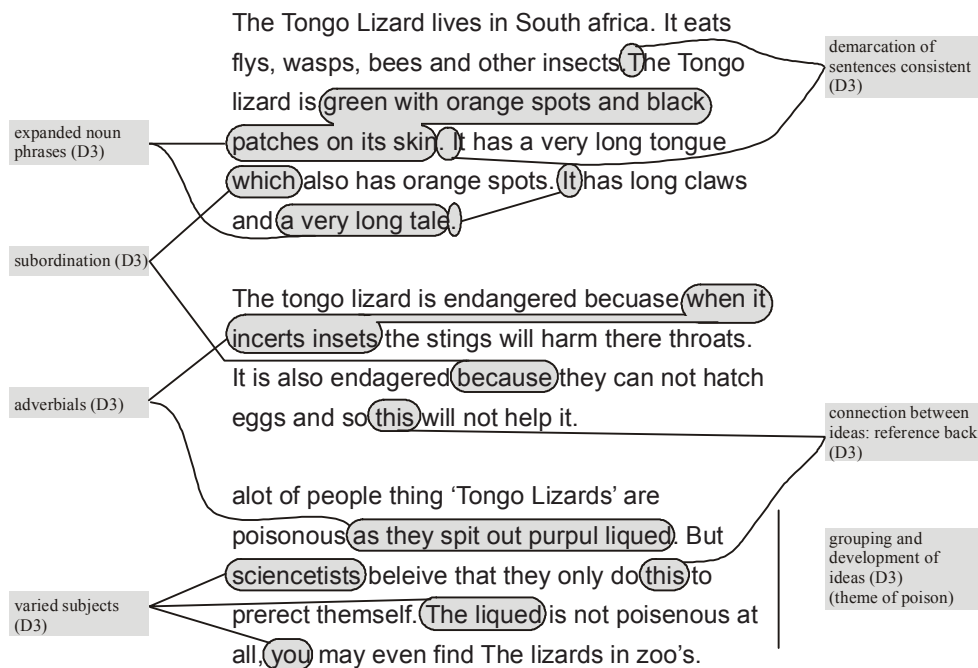
- Description includes explanation (*for hunting and eating there food, therefor there will be*); several aspects covered (*makes his nest, They eat*) (E3) although there is some repetition of points (*wild animals*).
- A detached viewpoint is evident (*noun to be*); writer's feelings are apparent but do not dominate (*we might be able to keep them going*) (E3).
- Specific vocabulary adds relevant detail to description (*twigs, acorns, small black claws*) (E3).

### Summary

This is an informative description of the lizard, covering a range of content and including explanation of its endangered status. These features, presented from an objective stance, merit Band E3; less repetition of content in the second half necessary for higher mark in band.

**Band E3 – 4 marks**

## 4. Endangered Creature



## SENTENCE STRUCTURE, PUNCTUATION & TEXT ORGANISATION

### Summary

Evidence of grammatically sound sentences with some development (subordination, adverbials, expansion) together with grouping of ideas and mostly secure demarcation merit Band D3. Use of sentence structure for economy of expression, particularly in the first section, and more evidence of within-sentence punctuation necessary for award in highest band.

**Band D3 – 3 marks**



## COMPOSITION & EFFECT

- Content is detailed and covers several aspects; adaptation evident in appeal (*great danger of being extinct*) (E4).
- Writer conveys awe for lizard's qualities (*beautiful, unique, powerful*); informative approach sustained (E4).
- Vivid visual description (*dazzling yellow skin*); emotive appeal (*tragedy*) (E4) although slightly weakened by use of first person (*I think*) and repetition (*amazing*).

### Summary

This descriptive piece combines informative detail and thorough content coverage with expression of concern for the lizard's plight, justifying an award of the higher mark in Band E4. Slightly greater stylistic control would be necessary for Band E5.

**Band E4 – 7 marks**

## 6. Endangered Creature

The Tongo Lizard is a herbivore and (will) eat about any plant in Indonesia. It (particularly likes) palm leaves and reeds so they are mainly up trees or in the water. They are hard to spot with there khaki and murky brown scales, (however) they (were hunted by) humans many years ago. Tongo Lizards are approximately the same size of a flattened brick, and just as heavy. Their slimy, sticky tails help them to climb up rough surfaces as well as their dagger-like claws. Their glowing red eyes are like rubies and (are) their disadvantage in defense. They (were given the) name Spiny Devil by the Aztecs whom thought they were evil spirits and (slaughtered thousands). The few that live among us (are hiding) in the palm trees waiting (until) they are given the respect they deserve.

Annotations:

- sentence variety: use of adapted verb forms (D4)
- organisation: use of emphasis (D4)
- use of passive (D4)
- comments about appearance grouped together, supporting thorough coverage (D4)
- varied connectives (D4)
- economy of expression (D4)
- range of punctuation used accurately (D4): commas, hyphen, use of capital letters for proper nouns

## SENTENCE STRUCTURE, PUNCTUATION & TEXT ORGANISATION

### Summary

Sentence variety is evident in the form of passive structures, adapted verbs and economical expression. These features, combined with a range of correct punctuation and well-organised ideas, justify the award of Band D4.

**Band D4 – 4 marks**

## COMPOSITION & EFFECT

- Effective placing of content adds significance, eg detail of Aztecs' belief (*thought they were evil spirits*) sequenced after visual description of lizard (E5).
- Authoritative voice sustained through geographical (*Indonesia*) and historical explanation; writer's view evident but controlled (*slaughtered, the respect they deserve*) (E5).
- Images support description (*dagger-like, like rubies*); technical vocabulary used meaningfully (*herbivore / plant*) (E5).

### Summary

This report presents a rich description of the lizard integrated with a knowledgeable explanation of its endangered status. The selection of style and content for purpose and convincing viewpoint justify an award of the top mark.

**Band E5 – 8 marks**