

X115/302

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2007

FRIDAY, 11 MAY
9.00 AM – 10.30 AM

ENGLISH
HIGHER
Close Reading–Questions

Answer all questions. **Use your own words whenever possible and particularly when you are instructed to do so.**

50 marks are allocated to this paper.

A code letter (U, A, E) is used alongside each question to give some indication of the skills being assessed. The number of marks attached to each question will give some indication of the length of answer required.



Questions on Passage 1

Marks Code

- | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|
| 1. Read lines 1–7. | | |
| (a) What two contrasting emotions does the writer have about the plan to put the great university libraries online? Use your own words in your answer. | 2 | U |
| (b) How does the writer’s word choice in these lines help to convey his view of the importance of “physical libraries” (line 5)? Refer to two examples in your answer. | 2 | A |
| 2. In your opinion, does the writer think Glasgow Council gave the library in Drumchapel a high priority? Justify your answer by close reference to lines 8–14. | 2 | U/E |
| 3. Show how the writer uses imagery and word choice in lines 15–24 to convey the “wonder of the library as a physical space”. | 4 | A |
| 4. Read lines 25–34. | | |
| (a) Show how the writer’s language in lines 25–29 conveys his attitude to the “MTV generation”. You should refer in your answer to such features as sentence structure, word choice, tone . . . | 3 | A |
| (b) Explain the “downward spiral” (line 34) to which the writer refers. | 1 | U |
| 5. (a) In your own words as far as possible, give four reasons the writer presents in lines 35–46 in favour of maintaining traditional public libraries. | 4 | U |
| (b) Show how the writer’s word choice in lines 41–46 emphasises the contrast between his attitude to libraries and his attitude to the internet. | 2 | A |
| 6. Read lines 47–54. | | |
| (a) Twice in this paragraph the writer refers to libraries as “custodians”. What does this word mean? | 1 | U |
| (b) Show how the language of lines 47–54 suggests that the writer has some reservations about the entertainment aspect of present day libraries and museums. | 2 | A |
| 7. How effective do you find the ideas and/or language of the final paragraph (lines 55–61) as a conclusion to the passage as a whole? | 3 | E |
| | (26) | |

Questions on Passage 2

Marks Code

8. Read lines 1–17.
- (a) Briefly describe the mood created in lines 1–3 (“I have . . . girl.”). 1 U
- (b) Show how the writer’s use of language in lines 3–9 (“We are . . . waiting.”) conveys a sense of awe. 3 A
- (c) How effective do you find the repetition of “perhaps” (lines 10–17) in conveying the writer’s recollections about libraries? 2 A/E
9. By referring to **one** example, show how the writer’s imagery in lines 18–23 conveys the importance of libraries. 2 A
10. Read lines 24–38.
In your own words as far as possible, explain:
- (a) what, according to the writer, the potential disadvantage of the online library is; 1 U
- (b) what, according to the writer, the advantages of the online library are. 3 U
11. Read lines 39–54.
- (a) Explain what the writer means by “there is no aesthetic substitute for the physical object” (lines 42–43). 2 U
- (b) Using your own words as far as possible, explain why the writer believes libraries will “survive” (line 45). 2 U
12. How effectively does the writer use the reference to the film *Desk Set* to conclude the passage in a pleasing way? Refer in your answer to the ideas and language of lines 55–62. 3 E
- (19)

Question on both Passages

13. Which of the two writers do you think presents the more persuasive argument in favour of public libraries?
Justify your choice by referring to the **ideas and style** of **both** passages. 5 E
- (5)

Total (50)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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