

X115/102

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2009

FRIDAY, 15 MAY
2.20 PM – 3.05 PM

ENGLISH
INTERMEDIATE 1
Critical Essay

Answer **one** question only.

Each question is worth 25 marks.



Answer ONE question only, taken from any of the Sections A to E.

In all Sections you may use Scottish texts.

Write the number of the question in the margin of your answer booklet.

The following will be assessed:

- **the relevance of your essay to the question you have chosen**
- **your understanding of the main points of the text(s) through some reference to the relevant areas of content**
- **your explanation of the ways in which aspects of structure/style/language contribute to the meaning/effect/impact of the chosen text(s)**
- **your personal reaction to the content or style of the text(s) supported by some textual reference**
- **the quality and technical accuracy of your writing.**

Each question is worth 25 marks.

SECTION A—DRAMA

Answers to questions in this section should refer to such relevant features as: conflict, character, key scene(s), theme, plot . . .

1. Choose a play which involves conflict between relatives or friends or groups of people.
Show how the conflict arises and say whether you find the outcome of the conflict satisfactory or not.
2. Choose a play in which a character gains your sympathy because of the way he or she is treated by other characters.
Describe how the character is treated by the others, and how he or she reacts, and explain why you feel sympathy for the character.

SECTION B—PROSE

Answers to questions in this section should refer to such relevant features as: content, key incident, character, theme, imagery . . .

3. Choose a novel **or** short story which has an important relationship between two people, or between a person and a place.
Say why the relationship is important and explain what happens to it by the end of the story. Go on to say what you feel about the ending.
4. Choose a novel **or** a short story **or** a piece of non-fiction which deals with a subject which interests you or shocks you.
Say what the subject is and why it arouses these feelings in you.

SECTION C—POETRY

Answers to questions in this section should refer to such relevant features as: content, word choice, theme, imagery, sound . . .

5. Choose a poem which is mainly about one person's experience.
Describe the experience and show how the poet uses particular words and phrases to help to make it clear to you how the person feels about the experience.
6. Choose a poem which describes a place or an event.
Briefly identify the place or event and go on to show how the poet's use of particular words and phrases gives a very clear description of the place or event.

SECTION D—FILM AND TV DRAMA

Answers to questions in this section should refer to such relevant features as: character, use of camera, key sequence(s), editing, sound/music, plot, setting . . .

7. Choose a film **or** TV drama* which uses many special effects.
Describe some of the special effects and say what they add to your enjoyment of the film or TV drama* as a whole.
8. Choose an important character from a film **or** TV drama* who is involved in a conflict.
Describe the part he or she plays in the conflict and explain how the conflict is made memorable.

* "TV drama" includes a single play, a series or a serial.

SECTION E—LANGUAGE

Answers to questions in this section should refer to such relevant features as: vocabulary, accent, dialect, tone, abbreviation, register . . .

9. Consider the language used by groups of people who are all interested in the same sport, or hobby, or job, or who all live in the same place.
What words and phrases do they use which are special to them, and how do these words and phrases help the members of the group to get along with each other better?
10. Consider the language used in any two advertisements you are familiar with.
Say which advertisement is more successful in persuading you to buy the product and, by referring to particular examples, explain why you think one is better than the other.

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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