

X270/12/01

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2015

FRIDAY, 15 MAY
9.00 AM – 10.45 AM

ENGLISH
HIGHER
Close Reading—Questions

Answer all questions.

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.

When answering questions coded “U—Understanding”, use your own words as far as is reasonably possible and do not simply repeat the wording of the passage.



Questions on Passage 1

Marks Code

*You are reminded of the instruction on the front cover:
When answering questions coded “U—Understanding”, use your own words as far as is reasonably possible and do not simply repeat the wording of the passage.*

- | | | |
|--|-------------|---|
| 1. Read lines 1–8. | | |
| (a) Explain why the writer considers James Bond to be a hero who is “anti-modern”. | 2 | U |
| (b) Show how the writer’s word choice in these lines emphasises the inferiority of “most modern men” to James Bond. | 2 | A |
| 2. The films “seem to celebrate technology”, but “Bond’s attitude towards technology is disdainful”. What evidence of this contradiction does the writer provide in lines 9–20? | 3 | U |
| 3. Show how the writer’s word choice and sentence structure in lines 21–31 make clear the contrast between Bond’s environment and the environment of his enemies. | 4 | A |
| 4. According to lines 32–37, why might the character of Bond have been a figure of “wish fulfilment for the post-imperial British”? | 2 | U |
| 5. Read lines 38–46. | | |
| (a) According to the writer in lines 38–41 (“That . . . technological age.”), why can the James Bond books and films be described as “twentieth-century folk epics”? | 2 | U |
| (b) Explain how the writer exemplifies this idea in the rest of the paragraph. | 2 | U |
| 6. Read lines 47–58. | | |
| (a) In what ways, according to the writer, might James Bond be regarded as having “moral certainty”? | 2 | U |
| (b) Show how the writer creates both a humorous and a serious tone in lines 52–58. In your answer you should refer to such features as register, sentence structure, word choice . . . | 4 | A |
| 7. Show how the writer’s imagery in lines 59–62 emphasises the importance of “Myths such as James Bond”. | 2 | A |
| | (25) | |

Questions on Passage 2

Marks Code

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- | | | |
|---|-------------|-----|
| 8. Read lines 1–10. | | |
| (a) Explain why the writer believes that James Bond has “achieved mission impossible”. | 2 | U |
| (b) Explain fully any one of the themes in the Bond film <i>Skyfall</i> . | 2 | U |
| 9. Referring to lines 11–21, explain why the writer believes the figurine on M’s desk is an important symbol in the film. | 3 | U |
| 10. Read lines 22–38. | | |
| (a) Show how the writer’s word choice in lines 22–26 creates a negative impression of Britain in the 1950s. | 2 | A |
| (b) In what ways does <i>Casino Royale</i> present a more positive impression of Britain? | 2 | U |
| (c) What evidence does the writer provide in lines 35–38 to support his view that Bond’s world was “fantasy”? | 2 | U |
| 11. Show how the writer’s use of language in lines 39–45 emphasises the appeal of the Bond films. | 2 | A |
| 12. Read lines 46–52. | | |
| (a) Explain the difference, according to the writer, between Bond in <i>Skyfall</i> and Bond in previous films. | 2 | U |
| (b) Discuss how effective you find the writer’s use of language in lines 49–52 in conveying the view of contemporary Britain which is presented in <i>Skyfall</i> . | 3 | A/E |
| | (20) | |

Question on both Passages

13. Consider what each writer says about James Bond.
- Identify **three** key areas on which they **agree**. You should support the points you make by referring to important ideas in the passages.
- You may present your answer to this question in continuous prose or in a series of developed bullet points.
- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 5 | U/E |
| (5) | |
| Total (50) | |

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