

X270/10/02

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2012

WEDNESDAY, 16 MAY
10.20 AM – 11.05 AM

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 has an important concern (such as teenage issues, poverty, family matters . . .).
Say what the concern is and go on to show how successfully **or** unsuccessfully it is dealt with by at least one of the characters.
2. Choose a play which has a scene which you would regard as important.
Say what happens in this scene and explain why you think it is important in the play as a whole.

SECTION B—PROSE

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

3. Choose a novel **or** a short story **or** a piece of non-fiction **or** a group of texts which deals with a subject that you found amusing **or** sad **or** that made you angry.
Say what the subject is and why it aroused these feelings in you.
4. Choose a novel **or** a short story which has a frightening **or** a surprising incident.
Describe the incident and show how the author's description of the incident and the characters involved makes it frightening or surprising.

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 describes an important incident **or** event.
Say what the important incident **or** event is and show how the poet uses words and phrases to describe it clearly.
6. Choose a poem which has an important message for you.
Say what the message of the poem is, and then go on to show how the poet makes the message clear.

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* that is concerned with present-day problems.
Say what the problems are and show how they are presented in an interesting way.
 8. Choose a key scene **or** sequence from a film **or** TV drama* which creates a turning point.
Describe what happens in the scene **or** sequence, and explain why this scene is important to the film **or** TV drama as a whole.
- * “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 of advertising aimed at a specific age group of people.
Explain some of the language features used and show how these features would appeal to your chosen age group.
10. Consider any aspect of language use which you have studied and enjoyed.
Explain which aspect of language use you most enjoyed studying in your investigation and go on to explain why you would encourage other people your age to carry out a similar investigation.

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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