

**X270/10/02**

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NATIONAL  
QUALIFICATIONS  
2015

THURSDAY, 14 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 deals with an interesting theme or topic.  
Say what the theme or topic is and show how the writer makes it interesting.
2. Choose a play in which a character has to face a problem.  
Describe the problem and explain how the writer shows the character trying to deal with the problem.

### 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 in which one of the main characters has to make a decision.  
Explain what the decision is and show how it is important to the rest of the story.
4. Choose a novel **or** a short story **or** a piece of non-fiction which creates a particular feeling in the reader such as: sadness, anger, regret, happiness, curiosity, fear, etc . . .  
Say what the feeling is and go on to show how the writer creates this feeling.

## 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 creates an exciting **or** dramatic **or** sad atmosphere.  
Say what the poem is about and go on to show how the poet creates the atmosphere.
6. Choose a poem which describes a place or an event.  
Briefly say what happens in the poem and go on to show how the poet uses words and phrases to clearly describe 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 involves conflict.  
Describe the nature of the conflict and show how the film or programme makers develop the conflict.
8. Choose a film **or** TV drama\* which has sequences where special effects are used.  
Describe what happens in these sequences and explain how the film or programme makers use special effects successfully.  
\* “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 a group of people who have a common interest, for example a hobby, a job, a location, an experience.  
Give some examples of the special terms and/or vocabulary they use and explain how such vocabulary helps your chosen group to communicate more effectively with each other.
10. Consider aspects of language which you use in some situations but not in others.  
Explain how you vary your use of language in at least two different situations and say how these changes help you to communicate more effectively.

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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