

X270/11/01

NATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS
2015

THURSDAY, 14 MAY
9.00 AM – 10.00 AM

ENGLISH
INTERMEDIATE 2
Close Reading—Questions

Answer all questions, **using your own words where asked to do so.**

30 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

Marks Code

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Explain in your own words what the writer means by “gizmos” (line 2). | 1 | U |
| 2. Show how one example of word choice in lines 4–9 helps us to understand the meaning of the expression “railed”, and say what that meaning is. | 2 | U |
| 3. Explain how effective you find the expression “swamped” (line 11) as an image or metaphor . | 2 | E |
| 4. (a) Show how one expression from lines 15–17 expands on the idea introduced by “for the better” (line 15). | 2 | A |
| (b) Show how one example of the writer’s word choice in lines 18–23 makes clear the nature of the change. | 2 | A |
| 5. Look at lines 28–31, and then: | | |
| (a) explain what is meant by “Language purists shudder”; | 2 | U |
| (b) explain in your own words one reason why they do so; | 1 | U |
| (c) explain how effective you find the writer’s use of “nonetheless”. | 2 | E |
| 6. Look at the paragraph beginning in line 37. | | |
| (a) Explain in your own words how the way we read and write is changing. | 1 | U |
| (b) Show how the writer’s imagery or word choice illustrates the nature of this change. | 2 | A |
| 7. Look at lines 42–45.
Show how the rest of the paragraph helps us understand in what way “the multifaceted nature of digital life can enhance” our reading. | 2 | A |
| 8. Explain how the words in brackets in lines 46–47 help the writer’s argument. | 2 | A |
| 9. Consider the expression “pickled in literary aspic” (line 51). | | |
| (a) Explain what the writer means by this description. | 1 | U |
| (b) What does this expression tell us about the writer’s attitude to Franzen’s views? | 1 | A |
| 10. Look at the paragraph in lines 52–54, and explain how this provides an appropriate link at this point in the passage. | 2 | A |
| 11. Look at lines 59–64, and then explain in your own words one reason for the now-traditional QWERTY keyboard layout. | 1 | U |

QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

Marks Code

- 12.** The writer tells us (line 73) “The e-book will not harm reading any more than the camera damaged the art of painting”.

Explain why this helps to strengthen his argument.

1 A

- 13.** Consider the final paragraph (line 76–78).

(a) Explain the appropriateness of the expression “control, shift or delete”.

1 A

(b) Explain how effective you find any other part of this paragraph as a conclusion to the passage as a whole.

2 E

Total (30)

[END OF QUESTION PAPER]

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