



National
Qualifications
SPECIMEN ONLY

S824/76/11

English
Reading for Understanding,
Analysis and Evaluation — Text

Date — Not applicable

Duration — 1 hour 30 minutes

Total marks — 30

Read the passages carefully and then attempt ALL questions, which are printed on a separate sheet.



The following two passages focus on the importance of trees.

Passage 1

Read the passage below and attempt questions 1 to 6.

In the first passage, Janice Turner gives her views on trees.

Watching the tree surgeon from the window, I felt I was witnessing a crime. One I'd authorised, like a Mafia hit. The oak tree — a dense, virulent, evergreen ball — loomed over the garden like a storm cloud. It had to be cut back. But as the chainsaw whined and branches tumbled, I wondered if I really had the right.

- 5 I'm a resolute city-dweller, but trees seem ever more precious these days: a rebuke to built-in obsolescence, a steady point in a churning world. My pear and apple trees are remnants from when South London orchards ran all the way down to meet the sea. The walnut tree reaches out a mammoth limb from my neighbour's garden to mine, like God's arm on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome. They are our living past, clocking up the years, ring by ring. They are calming like
10 cathedrals, reassuring us that they will endure even though we will not. No wonder the ancient civilisations believed they were gods; there are worse things to worship than a tree.

- And recently, reading how some protesters had been arrested trying to prevent ancient woodland being destroyed to make way for a three-mile link road to Hastings, I thought: yes, I'd go to prison for a tree. Indeed, the protesters who are digging tunnels in the mud and standing before the
15 diggers are not 'eco-warriors' or 'hippies'. Among them are young families, retired folk and ordinary dog-walkers. 'Local grandmothers', it was reported, came to swing in giant hammocks strung between the 400-year-old oaks.

- But this is their last stand. They can only slow the developers. By March the trees will be felled. Local people have fought for 20 years to save them, but they are on the wrong side of what the
20 government is determined to market as progress, however short-term, dubious and negligible the 'benefits'. The government squandered £56.8 million of government money on this very road, which will fill up with extra traffic — as new roads do — and lead in time to a glitzy new industrial estate, although Hastings town already has plenty of boarded-up premises from which to trade.

- 25 Development versus the trees. The government tells us that those who want to protect open countryside and woodland from being turned into endless Lego-brick estates are not conservationists, they are selfish, privileged people who, sitting comfortably in their own cheaply bought houses, have no care for struggling young couples who can't afford a family home. Anyway, what's a bunch of trees?

- 30 But people with no respect for trees show a special kind of arrogance: they think they're bigger than history. I'd argue that cutting down an ancient oak is worse than killing many types of animal. Certainly the more numerous species such as cows, monkeys or cats. A chainsaw slicing into a 300-year-old trunk is brutal, grotesque and unforgivable. Yet councils detest trees, employing municipal butchers to hack away at whole groves with all the sensitivity of gamers
35 annihilating aliens. Embarrassed stumps are all that remain. Chopping down a fine old tree is like shooting an elephant or harpooning a whale: the aching poignancy of an enormous creature whose size and strength nonetheless cannot save it. Except even the mightiest mammal can be bred to maturity in a few years. Not so a tree.

- It is astonishing, given how much people love them — planting them to mark special moments or
40 honour dead loved ones, measuring their lives by their seasonal changes — that officialdom loathes trees. One city council tried to remove a whole row of horse-chestnuts because conkers fell on cars and children might slip on leaves. Our local primary school cut down a fine tree beneath which generations of children had played, because the new head deemed its twigs and leaves too messy. Insurance companies fretting about subsidence would rather you took them all
45 down just in case. It's a wonder any tree survives a health and safety audit. A posh gardener once

suggested we cut down most of our trees and start again with fresh, more groovy varieties. This misunderstood the very point: trees are the antithesis of fickle fashion. But some crass homeowners can't bear the fluff-balls from plane trees messing up their hall carpet or the lime sap puking down on their shiny car bonnets. Neater to reach for the axe. Maybe garden centres
50 should start selling plastic trees: say goodbye to autumnal hell.

This contempt for trees is a worldwide issue. Visiting Burma, I learnt that its teak forests were flogged off to China by their government, who were desperate for quick cash, like a beautiful girl being forced to sell her hair. Iceland is barren because Vikings cut them all down in a year and Peru is logging away its resources.
55 Our country's trees will tumble to make way for the machines of progress. But for how much economic growth is it worth mowing down a wood? Trees are beyond priceless: they are our history inscribed in the natural world. Which rich men, planting beautiful orchards to their own glorious memory, have always known.

Adapted from an article in The Times newspaper, January 2013.

Passage 2

Read the passage below and attempt question 9. While reading, you may wish to make notes on the main ideas and/or highlight key points in the passage.

In the second passage, Colin Tudge gives his views on trees.

In New Zealand a few years ago I experienced more powerfully than ever the sheer gravitas of trees: in the presence of the world's largest kauri. Kauris are conifers, the biggest of their family. The great trunk of the kauri rises like a lighthouse out of the gloom: fifteen metres in circumference — it would touch all four walls in an average living room — and straight up,
5 leafless, for twenty metres or so. And then on its great horizontal boughs rests a virtual park, a floating island with an entire ecosystem of ferns and flowers. Some kauris are about 2000 years old. For the first 1400 years of the kauri's life, moas strutted their stuff around its base. Moas included the world's tallest-ever birds, like giant emus, which were preyed upon by commensurately huge but short-winged eagles. The moas and their attendant eagles are now long gone. The kauri
10 lives on.

The remaining kauri forest has been horribly reduced these past two hundred years, but the way modern New Zealanders look after the trees that are left to them is a model for all the world. Rare trees are no longer felled but existing planks are prized and meticulously recycled. Meanwhile, you can follow slatted wooden paths among the vast conifers. That's conservation;
15 that's intelligent ecotourism.

Similarly, if new farming economies are to come about, then trees must be at the centre of them. Yet, tree-based farming systems have to fight for survival against the massed ranks of the powers-that-be. The world's most powerful governments have made themselves answerable to the big companies — and they take pride in this. They call it 'realism'.
20 So although the things that need doing seem obvious, governments — and the big corporations whose interests they serve — have a quite different agenda. If we want life to be agreeable or indeed to continue at all, we just have to ignore the pressures from our ostensible leaders and do things the way they should be done: building new ways of life, whatever the pressures from on high. Again, trees show the way.
25 Outstanding among the world's many popular initiatives is the Greenbelt movement, a campaign

among Kenyan women to re-plant trees in places they used to grow. Now they have planted 30 million. They have transformed landscapes and changed entire economies and the whole tenor of life. This kind of thing, very simple, and achieved in the teeth of the modern economy (for who makes money out of it?), contributes far more to human wellbeing than, for example, cheap white goods from China, on which the economy of the modern world, egged on by our world leaders, is being built.

The broadest issue of all is the western conceit that we can ‘conquer’ nature, or indeed control it. This idea truly took off in the 19th century, and yet is taken still as a mark of modernity. In 1879 the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins lamented the felling of poplars: ‘O if we but knew what we do/When we delve or hew — Hack and rack the growing green!’ We still don’t know what we are doing but the hacking and racking continue more vigorously than ever. The only halfway sane approach if we want this world to remain habitable, is to approach it humbly. Trees teach humility. We need to take the world far more seriously. It would be a good idea to begin with trees.

Adapted from an article published on Colin Tudge’s website in 2005.

[END OF SPECIMEN TEXT]

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Passage 1 Article is adapted from ‘Cutting down a tree is worse than fox hunting’ by Janice Turner, taken from The Times, 12 January 2013. © The Times, 01 2013.

Passage 2 Article is adapted from ‘Trees, me, and all of us’ by Colin Tudge. Reproduced by kind permission of Colin Tudge.



National
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SPECIMEN ONLY

S824/76/21

English
Reading for Understanding,
Analysis and Evaluation — Questions

Date — Not applicable

Duration — 1 hour 30 minutes

Total marks — 30

Attempt ALL questions.

Write your answers clearly in the answer booklet provided. In the answer booklet, you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



Total marks — 30
Attempt ALL questions

Passage 1

1. Read lines 1–4.
Identify **two** feelings the writer had as she watched the tree in her garden being cut back. Use your own words in your answer. 2

2. Read lines 5–11.
By referring to **at least two** examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey the importance of trees. 4

3. Read lines 12–17.
Explain fully in what way the protestors are different from how we might expect them to be. Use your own words in your answer. 2

4. Read lines 18–24.
By referring to **at least two** examples, analyse how the writer uses language to create a tone of despair about the Hastings development. 3

5. Read lines 25–29.
Explain fully the government’s claims about the people who oppose their plans. Use your own words in your answer. 3

6. Read lines 30–38.
By referring to **at least two** examples, analyse how the writer uses both imagery **and** sentence structure to convey her opposition to the destruction of trees. 4

7. Read lines 39–50.
Explain any **three** reasons why organisations **and/or** people choose to cut down trees. Use your own words in your answer. 3

8. Read lines 51–58.
By referring to **at least two** examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey differing attitudes towards trees. 4

Question on both passages

9. Look at both passages.

Both writers give their views on trees.

Identify **three** key areas on which they agree. You should support the points you make by referring to important ideas in both passages.

You may answer this question in continuous prose or in a series of developed bullet points.

5

[END OF SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER]



National
Qualifications
SPECIMEN ONLY

S824/76/01

Marking Instructions

**English
Reading for Understanding,
Analysis and Evaluation**

These marking instructions have been provided to show how SQA would mark this specimen question paper.

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General marking principles for Higher English: Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (c) We use the term 'possible answers' to allow for any variation in candidate responses. Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's response.

Marking instructions for each question

Passage 1

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
1.			<p>Read lines 1-4.</p> <p>Identify two feelings the writer had as she watched the tree in her garden being cut back. Use your own words in your answer.</p> <p>Candidates must use their own words. No marks for straight lifts from the passage.</p> <p>For full marks two feelings must be identified.</p> <p>Marks awarded 1+1</p>	2	<p>Possible answers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • she felt troubled, disturbed ('I felt I was witnessing a crime') • she felt responsible, guilty ('One I'd authorised, like a Mafia hit') • she felt resigned ('It had to be cut back') • she felt morally uncertain ('I wondered if I really had the right.')

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
2.			<p>Read lines 5-11.</p> <p>By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey the importance of trees.</p> <p>2 marks may be awarded for detailed/insightful comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>1 mark for more basic comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>0 marks for quotation/reference alone.</p> <p>Marks may be awarded 2+2, 2+1+1 or 1+1+1+1</p>	4	<p>Possible answers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘ever more (precious)’ suggests trees’ increasing value • ‘precious’ suggests trees are valuable, to be cherished • colon ‘precious these days: a rebuke . . . ’ introduces two key reasons why trees are so important • ‘a rebuke to built-in obsolescence’ suggests trees criticise/stand in opposition to a world where products are designed to work for only a limited time • ‘a steady point in a churning world’ suggests trees offer permanence in a fast-changing, turbulent world • ‘remnants’ suggests these trees are surviving traces/fragments from the past • (personification of) ‘reaches out’ suggests a living creature seeking to make contact • ‘mammoth (limb)’ suggests something on a massively impressive scale • ‘like God’s arm . . . Sistine Chapel’ suggests trees have majesty, spiritual significance, awesome impact • ‘our living past’ suggests trees connect us to our heritage • ‘ring by ring’ suggests trees’ natural, organic, unhurried growth • ‘calming like cathedrals’ suggests their spiritual quality, majesty, that they are good for our inner well-being • ‘reassuring’ suggests they offer comfort

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘they will endure’ suggests permanence, continuity, resilience • ‘ancient civilisations’ suggests trees have been considered valuable throughout the ages • ‘gods’ suggests their almost religious significance • ‘worship’ suggests our attitude should be respectful, reverent, devotional • use in general of ‘religious’ language (‘God’s arm’, ‘cathedrals’, ‘gods’, ‘worship’) heightens trees’ spiritual significance

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
3.			<p>Read lines 12-17.</p> <p>Explain fully in what way the protestors are different from how we might expect them to be. Use your own words in your answer.</p> <p>Candidates must use their own words. No marks for straight lifts from the passage.</p> <p>For full marks, candidates must show understanding of both the expectation and the reality of how the protestors are.</p> <p>2 marks may be awarded for detailed/insightful comment.</p> <p>1 mark for more basic comment.</p> <p>0 marks for reference alone.</p> <p>Marks may be awarded 2 or 1+1</p>	2	<p>Possible answers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • we might have expected the protestors to be zealous environmental activists, dedicated conservationists and/or people who have rejected the conventional values of society ('not "eco-warriors" or "hippies"') • instead they are just ordinary people, a typical cross-section of the community, people of all ages and from all walks of life ('young families, retired folk and ordinary dog-walkers. "'Local grandmothers' . . .")

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
4.			<p>Read lines 18-24.</p> <p>By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to create a tone of despair about the Hastings development.</p> <p>2 marks may be awarded for detailed/insightful comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>1 mark for more basic comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>0 marks for quotation/reference alone.</p> <p>Marks may be awarded 2+2, 2+1+1 or 1+1+1+1</p>	3	<p>Possible answers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • short, blunt sentence(s) ‘But this . . . will be felled’ emphasises the inevitable fate that awaits the trees, the irresistible march of the developers • ‘last stand’ suggests a defensive position facing inevitable defeat • ‘only’ suggests (delay is possible but) defeat is inevitable • positioning of ‘By March’ at start of sentence suggests fixed, immovable timeline to destruction • ‘market’ suggests her scepticism about government policy of ‘selling’ the project as progress • list ‘short-term, dubious and negligible’ suggests the scale/variety of the government’s misguided thinking • ‘short-term’ suggests transient, limited nature of any benefits • ‘dubious’ suggests questionable, unlikely nature of benefits • ‘negligible’ suggests any benefits will be marginal, insignificant • inverted commas around ‘benefits’ suggests writer views these so-called benefits sceptically • ‘squandered’ suggests it is money wasted, thrown away • ‘fill up’ suggests road will become saturated, full to overflowing • parenthesis ‘as new roads do’ emphasises inevitable futility of government policy • ‘glitzy’ suggests showy, superficial nature of new industrial estate • contrast of ‘glitzy’ and ‘boarded-up’ emphasises the pointlessness of building new premises when existing ones lie empty and abandoned • ‘boarded-up’ suggests the development will be to the detriment of an already rundown, neglected Hastings

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
5.			<p>Read lines 25-29.</p> <p>Explain fully the government's claims about the people who oppose their plans. Use your own words in your answer.</p> <p>Candidates must use their own words. No marks for straight lifts from the passage.</p> <p>2 marks may be awarded for detailed/insightful comment.</p> <p>1 mark for more basic comment.</p> <p>0 marks for reference alone.</p> <p>Marks may be awarded 2+1 or 1+1+1</p>	3	<p>Possible answers include:</p> <p>The government claims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> these people are not interested in protecting the environment ('not conservationists') they are only interested in looking after their own advantaged position ('selfish, privileged people . . . sitting comfortably in their own cheaply bought houses') they have no interest in the fate of people less well-off, less fortunate than themselves ('no care for struggling young couples who can't afford a family home')
6.			<p>Read lines 30-38.</p> <p>By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to convey her opposition to the destruction of trees.</p> <p>For full marks candidates must deal with both imagery and sentence structure, but not necessarily in equal measure.</p> <p>2 marks may be awarded for detailed/insightful comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>1 mark for more basic comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>0 marks for quotation/reference alone.</p> <p>Marks may be awarded 2+2, 2+1+1 or 1+1+1+1</p>	4	<p>Imagery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'bigger than history' suggests the monumental, breathtaking scale of their arrogance '(municipal) butchers' suggests those cutting down the trees act indiscriminately, brutally '(all the sensitivity of) gamers annihilating aliens' suggests those cutting down trees act in a mindless, insatiable, ruthless, barbaric way 'Embarrassed stumps' suggests the pitiful, demeaning nature of the trees' fate 'like shooting an elephant' / '(like) . . . harpooning a whale' compares the destruction of a tree to the killing of nature's most magnificent, awe-inspiring creatures

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					<p>Sentence structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of colon (‘arrogance: they think . . . ’) introduces punchy summation of the enormity of the ‘special kind of arrogance’ • list ‘brutal, grotesque and unforgivable’ suggests the scale/variety of ghastliness involved in these actions • short, blunt sentence ‘Embarrassed stumps are all that remain’ emphasises how pathetic, vulnerable, insignificant a felled tree is • use of colon (‘a whale: the aching poignancy . . . ’) introduces the profoundly moving, deeply distressing nature of such events • positioning of ‘Except’ emphasises that the fate of a felled tree is even worse/more categorical than that of elephants and whales • short, blunt sentence ‘Not so a tree’ emphasises the destruction of a tree is absolute and final, quite different to even the most impressive or endangered of our natural creatures

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
7.			<p>Read lines 39-50.</p> <p>Explain any three reasons why organisations and/or people choose to cut down trees. Use your own words in your answer.</p> <p>Candidates must use their own words. No marks for straight lifts from the passage.</p> <p>For full marks three reasons must be dealt with.</p> <p>Marks awarded 1+1+1</p>	3	<p>Possible answers include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they are considered a danger to public property ('conkers fell on cars') • they are considered a danger to public safety ('children might slip on leaves') • they shed foliage, leaving things looking dirty and untidy ('deemed its twigs and leaves too messy', 'owners can't bear the fluff-balls . . . messing up their hall carpet', 'lime sap puking down on their shiny car bonnets') • they may contribute to land sinking, affecting buildings on that land ('subsidence') • certain trees are considered unfashionable and/or people want to replace some varieties with something more popular ('we cut down most . . . trees and start again with fresh, more groovy varieties')

Question	Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
8.	<p>Read lines 51-58.</p> <p>By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey differing attitudes towards trees.</p> <p>For full marks, at least two different attitudes must be covered</p> <p>2 marks may be awarded for detailed/insightful comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>1 mark for more basic comment plus quotation/reference.</p> <p>0 marks for quotation/reference alone.</p> <p>Marks may be awarded 2+2, 2+1+1 or 1+1+1+1</p>	4	<p>Possible answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘contempt’ suggests trees are regarded with hatred, scorn, disrespect • ‘flogged off’ suggests they are regarded as having little value, something to be sold quickly without much consideration • ‘desperate for quick cash’, ‘logging away’ suggests trees are regarded as dispensable, just simple sources of revenue • ‘like a beautiful girl being forced to sell her hair’ suggests trees are an attractive, natural feature which should be highly regarded • ‘barren’ suggests the bleakness of a landscape where trees have been treated with total disrespect, crass stupidity • ‘will tumble’ suggests governments/businesses consider trees disposable and so further destruction is inevitable • ‘machines of progress’ suggests governments/businesses are prepared to sacrifice trees for future developments • ‘mowing down’ suggests governments/businesses are happy to massacre trees in a ruthless way • ‘beyond priceless’ suggests it is impossible to put a value on trees • ‘history inscribed in the natural world’ suggests trees should be valued for offering a permanent record of our past and of who we are • ‘to their own glorious memory’ suggests people have always used trees as a testament to their own importance, as a fitting legacy to future generations

Passage 2

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
9.			<p>Look at both passages.</p> <p>Both writers give their views on trees.</p> <p>Identify three key areas on which they agree. You should support the points you make by referring to important ideas in both passages.</p> <p>You may answer this question in continuous prose or in a series of developed bullet points.</p> <p>Key areas of agreement are shown in the grid.</p>	5	<p>The following guidelines should be used:</p> <p>Award 5 marks for identification of three key areas of agreement with detailed/insightful use of supporting evidence.</p> <p>Award 4 marks for identification of three key areas of agreement with appropriate use of supporting evidence.</p> <p>Award 3 marks for identification of three key areas of agreement.</p> <p>Award 2 marks for identification of two key areas of agreement.</p> <p>Award 1 mark for identification of one key area of agreement.</p> <p>Award 0 marks for failure to identify any key areas of agreement and/or misunderstanding of the task.</p>

	Area of agreement	Passage 1	Passage 2
1	awe/wonder/majesty	trees have spiritual, almost religious significance ('like God's arm on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel', 'calming like cathedrals', 'there are worse things to worship than a tree')	kauri trees in New Zealand are magnificent and awe-inspiring ('sheer gravitas of trees', 'like a lighthouse out of the gloom', 'on its great horizontal boughs rests a virtual park', 'a floating island with an entire ecosystem')
2	heritage/permanence	trees are our link to previous centuries and are reliable features in an uncertain world ('a rebuke to built-in obsolescence', 'trees are our living past', 'a steady point in a churning world', 'reassuring us that they will endure')	kauri trees have outlasted the moa and are now treated with reverence in New Zealand ('kauris are about 2000 years old', 'The moas . . . are now long gone. The kauri lives on')
3	trees as teachers	trees make us question our place in the world ('I wondered if I really had the right', 'people with no respect for trees . . . think they're bigger than history', 'our history inscribed in the natural world')	we can learn from trees ('trees show the way', 'Trees teach humility', 'It would be a good idea to begin with trees')
4	people understand importance of trees	ordinary people campaign against their destruction/they are rich people's gift to posterity ('protestors . . . trying to prevent ancient woodland being destroyed', 'Local people have fought for 20 years to save them', 'planting them to mark special moments or honour dead loved ones', 'rich men, planting beautiful orchards to their own glorious memory')	New Zealand conservationists and Kenyan women understand their impact on quality of life ('way modern New Zealanders look after the trees . . . is a model for all the world', 'prized and meticulously recycled', 'they have transformed landscapes and changed entire economies')
5	trees sacrificed because of the misguided economic priorities of governments and businesses	governments worldwide dispose of them in the interests of 'progress' or to make money ('teak forests were flogged off', 'Our country's trees will tumble to make way for the machines of progress', 'for how much economic growth is it worth mowing down a wood?')	there is government opposition to tree-based farming/big business has a profit-driven outlook ('tree-based farming systems have to fight for survival against the massed ranks of the powers-that-be', 'achieved in the teeth of the modern economy')

	Area of agreement	Passage 1	Passage 2
6	trees treated without respect/brutally	trees are despised by officialdom and disposed of with little thought or in a savage way ('A chainsaw slicing into a 300-year-old trunk is brutal, grotesque and unforgivable', 'councils detest trees', 'all the sensitivity of gamers annihilating aliens', 'officialdom loathes trees')	Kauri trees have been subject to historical destruction ('kauri forest . . . horribly reduced these past two hundred years', 'western conceit that we can "conquer" nature', 'hacking and racking continue more vigorously than ever')

[END OF SPECIMEN MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]