

English Specimen Paper Mark Scheme

Assessment Criteria: Comprehension

- i. Candidates are required to respond to the comprehension text, demonstrating an understanding of the ways in which the writer's choice of form, structure and language shapes meanings.
- ii. Candidates should produce informed, independent opinions and judgements on the text.
- iii. Candidates' expression should be clear, accurate and insightful.

The very best candidates will show an excellent ability to select relevant knowledge to address the question, with effective use of references and quotation. They will be perceptive, fresh, with some originality in their treatment of the question. Complex ideas and arguments will be delivered with fluency and clarity. Answers will have a coherent structure, with logical progression. Expression will be accomplished and appropriate.

Assessment Criteria: Writing Task

- i. Candidates must communicate effectively and imaginatively.
- ii. Candidates should write clearly, using a range of vocabulary and sentence structures, with appropriate paragraphing and accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation.

The very best candidates will adopt an imaginative and bold approach to the question. They will communicate in a perceptive, fresh and subtle manner, manipulating complex ideas, with structural and grammatical features used cohesively and deliberately. They will use extensive vocabulary strategically, with accurate punctuation to aid emphasis and precision, and a range of sentence structures to achieve particular effects.