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Cambridge Assessment International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH **9695/31**

Paper 3 Poetry and Prose **October/November 2020**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 50

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

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Introduction

For general administrative guidance, see Notes for Examiners Handbook.

Assessment objectives:

AO1	The ability to respond to texts in the three main forms (Prose, Poetry and Drama) of different types and from different cultures.
AO2	An understanding of the ways in which writers' choices of form, structure and language shape meanings.
AO3	The ability to produce informed, independent opinions and judgements on literary texts.
AO4	The ability to communicate clearly the knowledge, understanding and insight appropriate for literary study.

Each answer is marked out of 25, in accordance with the levels mark scheme.

Each level is divided into strands: Knowledge (K), Understanding (U), Personal Response (P) and Communication (C).

Principles of Annotation

Annotating English Literature scripts has the following purposes:

- to follow best practice in assessing English Literature essays
- to record the comments and developing thought of the examiner doing the work of assessment
- to facilitate the summative comments and overall mark given to an essay.

The annotations made on scripts become public property following marking and may be cited as evidence in case of appeal. Annotations are therefore vital, not just in ensuring the mark given is what the student deserves, but also in making the marking process demonstrably clear to any potential reader.

Using the levels mark scheme

Place the answer in a level first. Look for the "best fit" of the answer into a level. An answer needs to show evidence of most but not necessarily ALL of the qualities described in a level, in order to be placed in that level. Then award a mark for the relative position of the answer within the level.

Candidates may address the question in many different ways. Do not expect any particular focus or approach and do not penalise answers for leaving out a particular focus.

Reward what is there, showing what you are rewarding, in your comments.

Consider all strands and weigh up the performance as a whole in placing the answer in a level, then show that you have done so in the summative comment, e.g. '*Level 3: A solid "K" of the text, with a "U" of the ways in which Forster uses form and language. The beginnings of "P" personal response shown and supported by the text. "C" is clear and appropriate throughout.'*

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Rubric Infringements

Where a rubric infringement has been committed, **examiners mark all responses.**

Scoris then automatically checks and calculates marks for rubric infringements, but this makes it extremely important that examiners **ensure that the correct mark is recorded against the correct question number.**

Candidates frequently mis-number or mislabel questions under the pressure of timed conditions. Thus it is vital that examiners **check the question and question number which candidates have answered against the question paper.**

Level 6 22–25 Very good work – *do not reserve this level for the very best work you see but ensure you put scripts into this level which fulfil the requirements described below. There will always be some candidates who are at a standard over the top of the mark scheme.*

K Evidence of a very good ability to select relevant knowledge to address the question with effective use of references and quotation. There may be evidence of sensitive awareness of the contexts in which the literary works studied were written and understood.

U Evidence of very good understanding of ways in which writers' choices of structure, form and language shape meanings with sustained analysis and sensitive appreciation of literary methods and effects and contexts, possibly including literary genres and conventions.

P Personal response to texts will be perceptive, often freshly personal, fully supported with quotation, and may show originality in approach to and treatment of questions.

C Candidates will express complex literary ideas and arguments with clarity and fluency. Answers will have a coherent structure, with logical progression and effectively linked paragraphs. *Expression* will be accomplished and appropriate.

In answers to passage-based questions, work will sustain an appropriate balance between critical appreciation of given extracts, based on detailed critical analysis, and consideration of the broader textual issues raised by the questions, and relate part of a text to its whole and vice versa in a seamless argument. There will be a very good appreciation of the effects of the literary features of the text, with detailed analysis supported by relevant examples from the passage and the wider text, where appropriate. There will be a very good knowledge of the appropriate context of the extract or work.

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Level 5 18–21 Proficient work

K Evidence of proficiency in selecting relevant knowledge to address the question with precise and integrated direct references to the text and supporting quotation. There may be evidence of awareness of the contexts in which the literary works studied were written and understood.

U Evidence of intelligent understanding of ways in which writers' choices of structure, form and language shape meanings, with analysis and appreciation of literary methods, effects and contexts.

P Evidence of personal response to the texts, relevant to the question, supported from the text, some originality of thought, straightforward and vigorously articulated, perhaps, rather than penetrating and subtle.

C *Expression* confident, with some complex ideas expressed with some fluency. *Structure* is sound. Literary arguments will be coherent, with progression of ideas through clearly linked paragraphs.

In answers to passage-based questions, work will show engagement with both the given extracts and the wider textual issues. There will be a confident relation of a part of the text to its whole. There will be a proficient appreciation of the effects of the literary features of the text supported by relevant examples from the passage and from the wider text where appropriate. There will be a good knowledge of the appropriate context of the extract or work.

Level 4 14–17 Competent work

K Evidence of competence in selecting relevant knowledge of the text to address with some pertinent use of quotation and direct references.

U Evidence of sound understanding of some aspects of ways in which writers' choices of structure, form and language shape meanings, with some analysis and appreciation of literary methods, effects and contexts.

P Evidence of personal response relevant to the question, supported from the text.

C *Expression* will be clear and generally accurate. *Structure* will be sound – material coherently organised with occasional insights. Candidates will express intelligent, straightforward ideas clearly, though there may be occasional loss of fluency with points not always strongly connected.

In answers to passage-based questions, work will cover both the passage and its relation to the whole text, and there will be some sense of a relationship between the text as a whole and its constituent parts. There will be competent appreciation of the effects of the literary features of the text and the analysis is supported by relevant examples from the passage.

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Level 3 10–13 Solid work

K Evidence of some ability to use relevant knowledge of the text to address the question.

U Evidence of clear understanding of some ways in which writers' choices of structure, form and language shape meanings, which may be partial and restricted to the more obvious aspects of the text.

P Evidence of personal response to the text, with the beginnings of a personal view or interpretation, relevant to the question and supported from the text.

C *Expression* will be mostly clear and appropriate with a clear, simple *structure* to the answer. Argument will be basically coherent, and assertive in tone. There is likely to be some reliance on paraphrase and narrative summary. Articulates simple ideas with clarity but there may be some imprecision and clumsiness of expression in dealing with more complex concepts. There may be occasional obscurity in the presentation of ideas and responses.

In answers to passage-based questions, work may be lacking in balance of approach, with over-concentration on the given extracts and little attempt to explore the broader textual issues. Conversely some answers may be in effect general essays, with insufficient treatment of the passages. There may be evidence of limited ability to negotiate between parts of a text and its whole. There will be some consideration of the literary features of the text with analysis of the features mentioned likely to be partial or restricted.

Level 2 6–9 Work of a basic standard

K Evidence of some limited ability to use knowledge of the text to address the question, with occasional use of supporting references or quotation.

U Evidence of some limited understanding of ways in which writers' choices of structure, form and language shape meanings.

P Evidence of some personal response to the text but not fully supported.

C *Expression* will be basically clear. There may be the occasional confused passage of writing. However, there will be no sustained loss of communication. There may be a simple *structure* to the answer with some evidence of an argument, which may lack coherence, with some repetition, assertion and relapse into narrative summary/paraphrase. There may be a tendency to drift from relevant discussion into material of tangential significance.

In answers to passage-based questions there will be some evidence of understanding of how part relates to whole. Treatment of the given extracts may well be sketchy or overlong and undiscriminating. Comment on the wider textual issues is likely to be general. There may be a lack of balance between passage and whole text. There will be some limited consideration of the literary features of the text.

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Level 1 0–5

K Evidence of some general knowledge of the text which may be narrative based and may contain errors, rarely relevant to the question and with little or no relevant quotation or selection from the text.

U There may be little or no evidence of understanding of form, structure and language, with some appropriate points made in response to the question. These will be limited and tend to be restricted to plot and characters – the latter treated very much as "real" people.

P There may be some signs of personal response, not developed into an argument and not fully supported from the text.

C Communication will be insecure. *Expression* may be weak with some breakdown in communication. *Structure* may be lacking: answers are likely to be partial, undeveloped, narrative commentary in approach; with the assertion of simple points rather than progressive lines of argument.

Answers to passage-based questions are likely to be seriously unbalanced, with an emphasis on narrative or paraphrase. Passages are likely to have been only partially understood and tentatively located contextually, with little coherent sense of the relationship between textual part and whole. There will be little or no mention or consideration of the literary features of the passage.

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