

International GCSE English Language

Specification B

Student Exemplars

Section A: Questions 1 and 2

Script A:

Read Text One in the Extracts Booklet, from *First Impressions – an Englishman in New York*, which is about a man's first experience of New York.

- 1 In lines 16–20 the writer describes the immigration process.

Identify **one** point the writer makes about the experience.

He found it unusual to be both photographed
and finger-printed

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

- 2 In lines 21–30, the writer leaves the airport and travels into the city.

State **one** thing the writer sees.

Starbucks

(Total for Question 2 = 1 mark)

Examiner comment:

Q1 – An accurate answer is given (1 mark). Q2 – An appropriate sighting is given (1 mark).

Script B:

Read Text One in the Extracts Booklet, from *First Impressions – an Englishman in New York*, which is about a man's first experience of New York.

- 1 In lines 16–20 the writer describes the immigration process.

Identify **one** point the writer makes about the experience.

They were photographed and finger-printed.

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

- 2 In lines 21–30, the writer leaves the airport and travels into the city.

State **one** thing the writer sees.

The writer saw the iconic Manhattan
skyline

(Total for Question 2 = 1 mark)

Examiner comment:

Q1 – An accurate answer is given (1 mark). Q2 – An appropriate sighting is given (1 mark).

Script C:

- 1 In lines 16–20 the writer describes the immigration process.

Identify **one** point the writer makes

The experience was of the check passport was painless and quick.

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

- 2 In lines 21–30, the writer leaves the airport and travels into the city.

State **one** thing the writer

The writer saw a Starbucks.

(Total for Question 2 = 1 mark)

Examiner comment:

Q1 – An accurate answer is given (1 mark). Q2 – An appropriate sighting is given (1 mark).

Script D:

- 1 In lines 16–20 the writer describes the immigration process.

Identify **one** point the writer makes about the experience.

One point the writer makes about the experience is that "It could see that it was going to take time as the entire human consense at our gate was waiting in line in front of me."

(Total for Question 1 = 1 mark)

- 2 In lines 21–30, the writer leaves the airport and travels into the city.

State **one** thing the writer sees.

The writer saw a Starbucks.

(Total for Question 2 = 1 mark)

Examiner comment:

Q1 – An accurate answer is given (1 mark). Q2 – An appropriate sighting is given (1 mark).

Section A: Question 3

Script A:

3 Explain how the writer presents his impressions of New York.

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including brief quotations.

(10)

The writer finds it strange when people walk and don't care what other think about them. ~~They~~ For example "It's also amazing how people just do not care who hears their conversations". This way the writer represents the character of the city by describing the personality ~~that lives~~ of people that live in New York. He tells us his impressions but also tell us about the city.

Also the writer uses descriptive detail ~~to help~~ For ~~his~~ example "a few big jeeps, a couple of stretch limousines". This helps us to create an image as well as understand how the streets of New York City are full of cars. He wants us to see what he sees.

In addition the writer uses ~~adverbs~~ adverbs to show his impressions. For example "The views when circling the city and coming in to land at JFK airport are spectacular". This makes us understand how impressed he is from the views of New York City before even ~~arriving at~~ going in the center. This shows us how amazing New York is.

Also the writer ~~shows the character of~~ talk about the services of New York. For example "There was little to do except wait". This way the writer shows us how good the services are and that they listen

to your demands immediately.

Something else I noticed is that the writer tell us about the architecture. For example "The view from the living room was certainly not quite what I was used to, being 89 floors up as opposed to one". This shows us that the buildings are very high, where a lot of effort was needed.

Examiner comment:

This is a Level 3 response to the question on the writer's impression of New York, as it demonstrates clear understanding and has appropriate examples. The comments are not sufficiently developed to move it into Level 4, for which a closer analysis of language and structure would be required.

6 marks

Script B:

The writer presents his impressions of New York by including that everyone can understand someone that is new, just came in New York as "they keep looking up all the time". We can understand how fascinated the writer is, as he never saw such a huge, ^{tall} buildings before, an image of how tall a building is, is created.

Moreover the writer ~~uses~~ by the use of metaphor presents his impression about the architecture, which calls "mind-blowing", we can see how impressive buildings and skyscrapers are! It makes the reader create an image of how they may be like and wonder what makes them such out of this world. Metaphors are used in order to make the reader not bored, ~~help them read~~ create them a clearer image and ~~at the same time~~ understand better what the reader tries to say, for example how magnificent walls, buildings were.

In addition the reader uses sensory language, "in fact exceeded my expectations"

the reader can "walk into the writer's shoes" and feel the excitement ~~the~~ New York gave him. Not only he was surprised, not only it was as good as he expected, but it was even better! It gives to the reader and writer the feeling that New York for sure worths the struggle and worths visiting.

The writer also separates the passage into categories by the use of subheadings, the style in which the passage is ~~read~~ written is more eye catching, "The skyscrapers" "The feeling of being on the film sets" it shows how impressed the writer was about the specific topics, and also wants to emphasise how ~~see~~ skyscrapers were, what ~~feelings~~ are the feelings ⁱⁿ ~~it~~ being on a film set, interesting things that will never leave his memory!

To sum up, the reader uses positive tone, with the right description to show how impressed he was and at the same time ~~show~~ ~~how~~ make the reader be impressed to! "...you'll find something that you recognise or which looks familiar

round". Imagine walking in a street
and in every corner find a well known
person or even your role model? or
people actors from your favourite
TV show. If this isn't impressive
then what is it?

Examiner comment:

This is a response which shows a clear understanding of the ways in which the writer shows his impressions of New York and makes appropriate references. The comments on how the writer refers to architecture are made well, with analysis of metaphor.

6 marks

Script C:

The writer presents his impressions of New York with the use of long sentences, for example "The first sight to greet... and a McDonalds." Using this long sentence it made me comprehend just how exciting New York was. The first thing he came into was due of the world's biggest tertiary sector firms, emphasising just how developed, and serviced-based economy ~~was~~ New York had.

Furthermore, the writer uses descriptive writing to show us his impressions of New York. For example "On the way I noticed how most Americans drive... running surveillance." With this way, it made me visualize the roads of New York I felt I was really standing there and staring at the amazing limousines and big jeeps.

Additionally, the writer uses powerful words, for example "wow" moments. It made the passage come to life. I felt just how excited the writer ~~was~~ when he saw the iconic Manhattan skyline. It emphasised just how beautiful and amazing place New

York is, by the reaction of this tourist/writer. Also, the writer uses elipsis. for example "I had arrived..." With this technique it made me, the reader take part in his story and think about what will happen next. It left it upon my mind to visualize just how amazing his experience was when he crossed the Queensboro Bridge.

In addition ~~lastly~~, the writer uses punctuation to help him describe his journey. ~~for example "New York - that they & for example "it's also (to my ears) amazing... person or on the phone"~~ Using brackets, it gave us the inside thoughts of the writer. He had seen amazing just how people not care who hears their conversations.

lastly, it uses first person narration. For example "I could see". Using this it made the passage and the feelings of the writer come to life and visualise his actions.

Examiner comment:

Thorough understanding is shown, with references which support the points that are made. The response engages with the writing, looking at specific techniques in a thoughtful way. A little more perceptive development of the points would have taken this response into Level 5.

8 marks

Script D:

Passage one is a good passage for the writer to present his impressions of New York. In passage one the audience that reads and the purpose is to inform.

Passage one is good since the writer provides a transition and overall description of what is actually going to happen and his position to the whole situation with the use of short sentences. For example "There was little to do except wait". The writer reflects his position to the reader providing an idea to the reader of what is actually going to happen. Transition and a difficult idea of a hard situation of life is passing through the mind of the reader.

Also passage one is good to see the various situation as with the use of short sentences and cypsis. For example "I had arrived". The idea of the following example gives transition and makes the reader question the emotions, the ideas and the difficult situation the writer is actually involved. With the following example a variety of sad feelings it is drifting through the mind of the reader as it shows that it life is hard when to go to another place to experience the each outcome of New York and what his actually impressions are.

Also the writer gives his impressions of New York through the awe-inspiring and detail experience of what he is actually facing. For example "You'll see those yellow five hydraulics, newspapers vending machine and Walk/Don't Walk signs" the writer reflects a crystal clear idea of what a person is going to face if it rises New York. Moving the writer to create an idea of how actually New York is as to presents a buzzing city with a lot of noise and buzzing through the streets.

Also the writer gives his impressions of New York through the use of the second person. For example "You'll see those yellow five hydraulics, newspapers vending machines and Walk/Don't Walk signs". The writer with the following example can give an idea for the reader to become part of the story and develop the idea of what it looks like to be there and as if it was there the writer offers him a crystal

clear view.

Also the view presents the impressions of New York with the use of alliteration. For example

"With the sun setting" The writer here gives the reader the idea of how it looks like and what an amazing view it is actually see if someone is in New York and faces the sunset along with the beautiful skylines across it shows how lucky a person actually is.

Examiner comment:

There is some sound understanding and valid reference to the text is made. The candidate's points are not always supported in a fully secure way, but there is relevance.

4 marks

Script E:

Q3. Explain how the writer presents his impressions of New York.

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including brief quotations. (10)

The writer presents his impressions about New York in a number of different ways.

To begin with, he shows how excited he is to see new things and experiences by using a lot of descriptive language to convey the 'spectacular' views and the 'most famous buildings of central New York'. He presents New York as something that is both familiar and exciting by describing it as 'being on a film set'. This makes the reader feel that the city is something different but also that it is very familiar with recognisable features of New York such as the 'yellow fire hydrants' and the road crossing signs which show the 'walk/don't walk' lights.

The writer also uses strong adjectives, such as 'amazing' and 'fascinating', to show his wonder at the city and he is overwhelmed by all the sights and the sounds, for he describes it as if 'somebody turned the volume up'. By using these words, we can see how his impression of New York is positive and somewhere everyone should go. He emphasises this idea further at the end with a summary of his positive impression of the city by saying how it 'exceeded my expectations' and that it should be on 'everyone's list of places to visit'.

However, the writer gives the reader a mixed impression of New York as, at the beginning of the article, he describes the journey and the airport in quite a negative way. He uses humour when describing the immigration process as he has to wait in a long queue for a long time but jokes that they were entertained by a video about New York 'on a continuous loop'. His first impression of the city at the airport, with the familiar shops and restaurants, is that he 'could be practically anywhere in the world'. He then cleverly uses ellipsis at the end of the short sentence 'I had arrived...' to show how his impressions change from New York being like any other place to an amazing city once he sees the Manhattan skyline.

This sense of location is also underlined by the writer by the way he uses proper nouns to describe the most well-known landmarks such as 'Manhattan' and the 'Empire State Building'. This helps to build the impression of New York as we know that these buildings are in this particular city and the writer helps us to enjoy the sights by letting us experience them with him: 'it's only when you get up high that you fully appreciate how mind-blowing New York architecture really is.'

Examiner comment:

The candidate shows a confident understanding of how the writer presents his impressions of New York and how the language and structure create effects. He analyses the changes from his thoughts whilst having to queue to the way he recognises landmarks and the breath-taking skylines. References from the text fully support the points and are well-integrated into the sentences.

9 marks

Section A: Questions 4 and 5

Script A:

- 4** In lines 1–19, the writer describes his journey to the ferry terminal.

State **one** of the difficulties the writer experienced.

He found himself squeezing through holes
in chainlink

(Total for Question 4 = 1 mark)

- 5** In lines 20–28, the writer describes the ferry crossing.

Name **two** things the writer finds unpleasant.

1 That the boat was crammed with people

2 That it was cold, the weather was bad

(Total for Question 5 = 2 marks)

Examiner comment:

Q4 – a correct example of a difficulty is given (1 mark). Q5 – Two unpleasant experiences are recorded (2 marks).

Script B:

- 4 In lines 1–19, the writer describes his journey to the ferry terminal.

State **one** of the difficulties the writer experienced.

"I arrived ~~late~~ breathless and late"

(Total for Question 4 = 1 mark)

- 5 In lines 20–28, the writer describes the ferry crossing.

Name **two** things the writer finds unpleasant.

- 1 "The boat was crammed with people, all of them English" ~~dementedly lively~~
- 2 "dementedly lively children" ~~children~~

(Total for Question 5 = 2 marks)

→ "The boat was crammed with people"

Examiner comment:

Q4 – The point about the writer's arriving 'breathless and late' is not a valid one, as it does not refer to difficulties faced by the writer. Q5 – Two unpleasant experiences are recorded (2 marks).

Script C:

- 4 In lines 1–19, the writer describes his journey to the ~~terminal~~.

State **one** of the ~~difficulties~~ the writer experienced.

He ^{was} squeezing through holes in chainlink fences.

(Total for Question 4 = 1 mark)

- 5 In lines 20–28, the writer describes the ~~terminal~~.

Name ~~two~~ the writer finds ~~unpleasant~~.

Examiner comment:

Q4 – A correct example of a difficulty is given (1 mark). Q5 – No response was recorded.

Script D:

4 In lines 1–19, the writer describes his journey to the ferry terminal.

State **one** of the difficulties the writer experienced.

The writer found it difficult to be squashing through holes in chainlink fences and piles blocking his way between unloading railway coaches with broken windows.

(Total for Question 4 = 1 mark)

5 In lines 20–28, the writer describes the ferry crossing.

Name **two** things the writer finds unpleasant.

1 The writer finds unpleasant the fact that the boat was crammed with people.

2 The writer finds also unpleasant is also that there people with blue lips and shaking hair were trying to convince themselves that because the sun was shining they couldn't possibly be cold.

(Total for Question 5 = 2 marks)

Examiner comment:

Q4 – A correct example of a difficulty is given (1 mark). Q5 – One point is clearly made and fully relevant. The second, however, does not quite score the point, as the example given does not quite indicate the writer's sense of things being unpleasant (1 mark).

Section A: Question 6

Script A:

- 6 How does the writer describe his thoughts and feelings about his trip to Dover?

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including **brief** quotations.

(10)

The writer shows how impressed he was from the views of the trip. ~~For example~~ For example "I was eager to see Dover again after all these years". This shows how excited the writer ~~is~~ is for his trip and how much he enjoys it ~~without~~ and that he does not regret about that trip.

Also the writer uses ^{an emotional} ~~the same~~ tone to show us how emotional he is about seeing again parts of his past - for example "and with a small cry of pleasure spied the shelter I'd slept in those many years ago". This shows the writer's experiences in the past and how much he loved them. This trip was important for him.

In addition he uses descriptive ~~used~~ language (10%) to show how old the place was. For example "it was covered in about eleven more layers of big-green paint but otherwise unchanged". This shows how ~~the~~ the writer sees the details of ~~sp~~ places. Also ~~the~~ when he says that is "unchanged" it shows how the writer ~~is~~ still loves that place even if it's very old, for him is the same.

Also the writer uses advanced vocabulary to ~~do~~ describe the sea. For example "though the water was bluer and more glittery than when I'd last seen it." This shows that the writer sees the place more beautiful than before and makes us ~~understand~~ create an image of

the sea.

Lastly the writer describes the architecture. For example "there being a row of elegant Georgian terraces, there was now a vast and unbecoming brick apartment block". This shows to us that the writer was sad that the old architecture was now changed and that it turned into something ordinary then something different.

Examiner comment:

Some thorough understanding and detailed references indicate that this merits a mark in Level 4, although the analysis would have needed to be sharper to make it worthy of the next level. The comments pick out some good examples of effective language.

7 marks.

Script B:

6 How does the writer describe his thoughts and feelings about his trip to Dover?

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including brief quotations.

(10)

The writer describes his thoughts and feelings about his trip by the use of first person narration "I found myself squeezing through holes..." the reader can see his feelings and thoughts clearer, crystal clear, and ~~easy~~ in this way is easier. ~~We can see from first hand~~ Moreover, he uses sensory, descriptive language, for instance "a small cry of pleasure spied the shelter..." a better image is created, the writer can see how happy and excited the writer was that his eyes were filled with tears of joy, ~~we can imagine~~ ~~him~~ Thirdly, his interesting plot ~~is~~ with long understandable, easy vocabulary sentences like "cheered by this thought, I strolled up the Forestone Road to the station and bought a ticket for the next train to London". ~~Makes the~~ Doesn't make the reader get bored by struggling to understand what

he is trying to say but he actually tries to make it as easy and as understandable as possible for us not to get bored and continue reading and understand his thoughts and feelings at the specific point.

Examiner comment:

Some clear understanding and comment but it is not always sufficiently developed. It just meets the Level 3 descriptors on the 'best fit' principle, with some valid points about how Bryson sustains the reader's interest.

5 marks.

Script C:

6 How does the writer describe his thoughts and feelings about his trip to Dover?

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including brief quotations.

(10)

The writer describes his thoughts and feelings about his trip to Dover using long sentences. For example "In the morning... promising day." Giving me this statement it gave me his program. It emphasised just how fast he was acting in order to catch his daily program.

Additionally, he uses descriptive writing. For example "I arrived breathless and hot". Giving me this sentence, it was like being there, visualizing his tired face. How ~~con~~comused he was and anxious he was standing there maybe even sweating. It emphasises just how he felt.

Furthermore, it uses ~~strong~~, ~~loud~~ words indicating action. For example "I strolled". Giving me such words in made me feel like I was actually there and staring him, and his movement. It described with precision his movements, as here, he was strolling up the Folkestone Road to the station.

At front of the ship

Also it uses ~~the~~ alliteration. for example "shoping street". Using this words, it made the phrase more memorable. As I was reading, it 'popped out' of the paper and stucked into my mind. In this way, the writer described the shopping centre, and made me memorise this phrase.

It used first person naration. for example "I boarded the ship". ~~Using this~~ By this way, it gave me an inside of how he acted and felt throughout the passage. It showed me his movement onto the ship.

Examiner comment:

Some understanding, so worth a Level 2 mark. However, the candidate loses focus on thoughts and feelings, and approaches the question as being purely about writing techniques.

4 marks.

Script D:

6 How does the writer describe his thoughts and feelings about his trip to Dover?

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including brief quotations.

(10)

The writer uses the use of his experience describes his feelings about his trip to Dover. The audience in the passage is adults and the main idea is to inform and describe.

The writer describes his thoughts and feelings about his trip with the use of the first person. For example "In the morning, I breakfasted early, settled my bill and stepped out to another promising day. With the following example the writer offers a directional way about getting ready and settled to be ready for his trip. It provides the idea of getting ready for the trip giving the sense of a directional line of the things that the reader believes that it is actually going to follow. Giving the reader a cozy line and comparison to continue.

The writer describes his thoughts and feelings about his trip with the use of short sentences. For example "I got sick on leaving home." With the following example the writer provides an emotional and descriptive idea of how much his true feelings were about the situation and about the trip that he is taking. Reporting the readers who don't like boats to don't take the following trip.

The writer describes his thoughts and feelings through the use of long sentences. For example "I sauntered into the crowd along Marine Parade and with a small cry of pleasure spied the shales I had spied in those many years ago." The description of the following sentence gives an idea for comparison and encouraging the reader to continue reading also an idea of a visual clear view of how the place actually looks like and the feelings that the writer actually has as he is strolling through the Marine.

The writer describes his thoughts and feelings through the use of a descriptive writing. For example "Tomball Street, the main thoroughfare used to rise, was wide and more measuring with traffic than I remembered and there was now a subway to the town square, which itself was unrecognizable." The writer with the following point of view gives an idea what the writer actually spots and what the writer actually recalls as it travels through the small island and what places of the island were not able to go recognised through his mind and through his trip. As in the following example we see

able to see what is actually stored on the writer's mind.

Also the writer expresses his feelings and thoughts with the use of the second person. For example "You could be anywhere really" The writer gives an idea for the reader to become part of it and to be summarised through his whole experience and what what his overall idea of being in a place like this it is. Also it offers the opportunity to become part of the reader of the story and try to avoid any further descriptions for the situations that it is going to be followed.

Examiner comment:

This is a response meriting a mark in Level 2, as some relevant comment on language is offered and there are valid references. To have moved the mark beyond Level 2, it would have been necessary to give a fuller analysis of the way in which effects are achieved to describe thoughts and feelings; there is perhaps over-reliance on sentence length, whether short or long.

4 marks.

Script E:

Q6. How does the writer describe his thoughts and feelings about his trip to Dover?

You should support your answer with close reference to the passage, including brief quotations. (10)

The extract is written in the first person, which helps us follow the writer's thoughts very closely as he uses the personal pronoun 'I' throughout. The structure of the extract also cleverly shows his train of thought about the day. It starts off positively with him having breakfast early and leaving the hotel to begin 'another promising day'. Even from the next line, we see how this might not happen, which gives the reader a sense of foreboding, as the map of Calais is described as 'inadequate' and this means that the walk to the ferry was longer than he thought. This causes him to be late for the ferry so in the space of the first paragraph, we go from him being positive to a lot less positive. The rest of the article carries on in this less positive way and even though the writer is 'eager to see Dover again', he is left disappointed. The article ends as it began, on a positive note with the writer 'cheered' and buying a ticket to London ready to start another new journey.

A mixture of humour and descriptive language is used to bring the scene on the ferry to life. The writer is already upset by his walk to the ferry and he then builds on this by using words such as 'mayhem' to describe the duty free shop on the ship. He also sees the humour in the situation by using a metaphor to describe the people on the deck as having 'blue lips and dancing hair' as they pretend not to be cold; the idea of the hair dancing seems to give the hair a life of its own.

Adjectives are a key part of the writer's description, and the extract chooses contrasting adjectives to describe the changes in his mood such as 'a small cry of pleasure' and 'unhappy'. He also uses verbs to create similar mood swings. This is shown where, because he is 'eager' to see Dover again, he talks about how he 'strode into the centre' of town which shows how positive and excited he is. The verb shows that he walks briskly and with a strong sense of purpose. However, by the end, he 'plodded distractedly through the streets', with the verb emphasising how he has become tired and downhearted and talks about how 'unhappy' he is to see how unfamiliar everything has become. This use of contrasting words to describe the way he walks and how this matches his thoughts, enables us to follow the changes in his feelings. Bryson is very skilful at letting us feel his disappointment at how much the place has changed. This creates a powerful sense of anti-climax.

Examiner comment:

In this response, the candidate concentrates on the contrasts between the writer's optimism and the feelings of disappointment which often take over. The use of humour is also included, with apt examples from the passage, accompanied by perceptive comments. Analysis of language and structure is discriminating.

9 marks

Section A: Question 7

Script A:

7 Compare how the writers of Text One and Text Two convey their ideas and experiences.

Support your answer with examples from **both** texts.

(15)

Both passages talk about experiences of travelling. Both are narratives ~~that are~~ in an entertaining tone.

The writer of text one writes more about the people of the country he visited. For example "It's also amazing how people just do not care who hears their conversations. This show that he is interested in the culture of the countries and what people live in it.

On the other hand the writer of text two talks about his experiences and the places he has visited. For example "I was eager to see Dover again ~~after~~ after all these years". This shows that the writer is more interested in having his own experiences to remember in the future.

The writer on text one uses descriptive detail to ~~show~~

Examiner comment:

There is an attempt at content based comparison and relevant references are made. This therefore deserves a mark in Level 2 even if it is not a complete response. To improve the quality of this response, for which 15 marks are available, a fuller explanation of the different ways in which the two writers convey their experiences, set out in a comparative way, would have been required.

4 marks

Script B:

7 Compare how the writers of Text One and Text Two convey their ideas and experiences.

Support your answer with examples from **both** texts.

(15)

Passage A and passage B are about trips the one in New York and the other in a small island. Passage A is written to inform whereas passage B is written to entertain.

To begin with passage A tries to pass his ideas and experiences by writing in first person narration. "I was already thinking about coming back". We can see that his first thought when he first left from New York was when he will return back again, by this thought we can understand that he had ~~an~~ fun and some nice experiences that wants to live again.

Secondly passage A uses a positive and efficient positive tone to show his ideas and experiences.

"It's also (to my ears) amazing how people..." We can see how surprised ~~and~~ he was by the people of New York that didn't care to

~~she~~ make their private life, not private at all. We can imagine walking on a street and hear everyone talking about a different personal person.

~~the~~ On the other hand, passage B achieves to pass his ideas and experiences by his descriptive sentences. The whole town centre seems uncomfortably squeezed by busy roads. we can see how annoyed but at the same time surprised the writer was by the population and the busy streets that people couldn't even move.

Examiner comment:

There is a clear attempt at comparison but it is underdeveloped. The suggestion that the two passages have different purposes is a worthwhile one, and there is an attempt to show differences in tone and descriptive techniques, though this would have needed to be more fully amplified for a higher Level mark.

5 marks

Script C:

7 Compare how the writers of Text One and Text Two ~~write~~ their ideas and experiences.

Support your answer with examples from **both** texts.

(15)

Both passages are about travelling experiences. Both aiming to inform and entertained.

The Text one had an array of techniques like subtitles. For example "The view on the way from the airport". Using this subtitles throughout the passage, it was more organized and I knew what was about to follow in each of the paragraphs. I knew from before that ~~it~~ in that paragraph he would speak about his first impressions on the way from the airport.

Additionally, ~~he~~ the writer used similes. For example "as high as the skyscrapers poked through the clouds as we descended". Using this technique it emphasised the height at which they were, as high as the skyscrapers but also the height of this hulking buildings. They were as high, as planes flew.

Furthermore, it used alliteration. For example "circling the city and coming". Using these phrase, three continuous words being spelled heard the same, it made it more memorable to me (the phrase) and stood out as I

was reading the text.

Pass Text two used figures for example "2 miles". Using this figures it made it more interesting since it emphasised just how further the ferry terminal was in reality, in comparison with the map.

In addition, it used personification. For example "dancing hair". The hair cannot actually dance, so by giving them life, human movement, it made me visualise their rhythmical movement & due to the air.

Lastly, it used image. The image shown on page 10 made the text more interesting. It made me feel like I was there too, staring at that ferry.

Also, it used his memory & as a help to make the text more personal. For example "with traffic than I remembered." Using this sentence it emphasised & the writer's confusion as to whether the roads differ to the west.

Examiner comment:

The opening sentence directly compares the two texts. This is followed by a range of points with examples, although sometimes the comparison is implicit.

7 marks

Script D:

7 Compare how the writers of Text One and Text Two convey their ideas and experiences.

Support your answer with examples from **both** texts.

(15)

In my opinion both passages are well developed according to ideas and experiences. Both passage is to describe and inform and the audience are actually edules.

In text two the writer gives an idea through its experience with the use of first person writing. For example "I didn't recognise anything" the following example provides an idea and situation of what overall position the writer is and

Examiner comment:

There is very little here: the answer is clearly not finished, perhaps because time ran out. The candidate needed to remember that this is the question with the highest marks in Section A, and hence to leave enough time for a full and sustained response.

1 mark

Script E:

Q7 Compare how the writers of Text One and Text Two convey their ideas and experiences.

Support your answer with examples from both texts.

(15)

The writers of the two texts convey their ideas and experiences about travel in similar and different ways.

There is a basic similarity in the fact that both of the articles are written in the first person. This means that they both have a very personal feel to them and, as readers, we feel more involved.

However, the writers convey their ideas slightly differently. The ideas in Text 1 are largely positive, as the writer in many ways enjoys his experiences of New York. Although he is annoyed and frustrated by the immigration process, he then talks enthusiastically about the city, using adjectives such as 'fascinating' and 'amazing' to describe his trip. He enjoys the sights he sees and describes them as 'spectacular', with the 'wow' moment when he saw the Manhattan skyline. The writer of text 2 is less enthusiastic. Although he starts off positively as he describes the 'promising' start to the day, he soon becomes upset by his long walk to the ferry, the ferry crossing and his travels. He uses negative language about Dover and describes it as 'unrecognisable' with 'derelict factories'.

Both writers describe their journeys and arrival in a different country – an Englishman in America and an American in England. On arrival, the writer of text one is initially rather disappointed as he describes seeing Starbucks and McDonalds and how it 'could be practically anywhere in the world' but his disappointment is then lifted by the wonderful views. Generally therefore there is a contrast in that he goes from negative first impressions to a more positive picture, whereas the opposite is true for Bryson. In text 2, the writer is in the end disappointed in his experiences of Dover, since he finds that it is 'indistinguishable' from any other English town with a 'Boots and WH Smith'. Also, like the writer of text 1, Bill Bryson soon finds some sights that are familiar and become a 'point of reference'.

Similarly, the two writers end their pieces in what appears to be the same way; however, the importance of the two endings is very different, as the writers reflect on the experiences they have had. Both end with the writer leaving the place they have visited. The writer of text 1 is 'already thinking about coming back' as he takes off to go home, whereas the writer of text 2 is glad to be leaving. In the last lines, he leaves the hotel he used to stay in and 'bought a ticket for the next train' without going in. He is very pleased to leave and certainly does not seem to be planning to come back!

The writers structure their works very differently. Text 1 is easier to read and pinpoint the main points as the writer uses clear headings and directs the reader to particular areas of his experiences such as 'the skyscrapers' and 'the scale of the place'. It is more informative and seems to have been written for a magazine to encourage visitors to come to New York. Text 2 is more narrative and is a much more personal view of Dover. It does not seem to be aimed at readers who might be thinking of visiting Dover.

Both writers are quite informal when describing the places they have visited. In text 1, the writer uses colloquial language such as 'wow' and talks about how the experience was 'mind-blowing'. By using this casual language and hyperbole, the reader is making his article very accessible and readers can relate to his experiences. Similarly, the writer of text 2 uses a humorous tone to hide his disappointment. After his awful journey, he describes himself as 'like someone who'd just survived a mining disaster'. This use of simile allows the reader to really visualise the writer's experience and the exaggeration and humour allows us to see that it possibly wasn't as bad as the writer is making out.

Examiner comment:

The candidate has responded very thoughtfully making a wide range of comparisons in this analysis. The references are finely balanced across the two texts and structure is looked at closely. The tone and language are also considered successfully and the judgements are discriminating.

14 marks

Section B: Question 8

Script F:

8 A friend of yours is going abroad for the first time.

Write a letter to your friend explaining what it might be like.

You should include:

- what might be seen or experienced
- what might be enjoyable
- what might be disappointing.

Think carefully about the purpose of your letter and the audience for whom it is intended.

Dear John,

~~I know~~ Ireland is a wonderful place. You did ~~not~~ a wonderful thing choosing Dublin as a holiday destination. You will not regret it one bit.

~~Don't worry about the~~ The scenery is there is like a picture frame of lush ~~and~~ hills and ~~the~~ beautiful landscape come to life. The ~~the~~ cliffsides and contrast of rolling waves and ~~the~~ serene green grass is an ~~relaxant~~ ~~relaxant~~ ~~entirely~~ of relaxation for the soul. ~~For~~ This getaway would be more than just a vacation for the sights and experiences that Ireland has to offer it would be a nice change of pace from the stress you under

-take daily. A fitting experience for you would be to attend St. Patrick's day while you're there. The clean and ^{drab} uniform streets of Dublin become ~~an~~ awash with colors, ~~from~~ the city switches gears from a mechanical ^{clockwork} city to a fairytale. Drunkling, singing and dancing dominates the cityscape. The ~~parades~~ ^{processions} with floats of Leprechauns and other celebratory figures run throughout the streets. The people, who are normally quite cheerful and friendly ~~to~~ go into a jovial frenzy, enjoying the day to the utmost socializing with strangers and trying every possible avenue to enjoy themselves.

Ireland does ~~not~~ get negative publicity for being a boring country, ~~drab~~ scenery, ~~boring~~ ^{boorish} city life and what-not. It is true that the heart of the ~~entire~~ city itself is quite lackluster but in all honesty the peaceful city center is a nice change of place.

My tip? Grab a cup of coffee and sit in the park ~~and~~ contemplating life. ~~Have~~ Have an amazing time John. Don't forget to send pictures.

Yours sincerely

Examiner comment:

AO1 – the candidate successfully draws on ideas from the two texts while avoiding being dependent on them for content or context. The choice of Ireland as a destination is successful, with a convincing sense of place. The interpretation of the bullets is apt and persuasive, with a wide range of relevant points.

AO4 – the writing is sharply focused and sophisticated – a lively response.

AO5 – Technically, the writer shows sophisticated control and ambitious vocabulary, which communicates very effectively, despite a few technical slips.

9+12+7 = 28 marks out of 30.

Script G:

Dear John,

How are you? Fine, I hope? I am doing well but a little bit under the weather. Nothing too serious.

Listen, I heard you plan to go abroad this year. I understand that it can be a bit difficult for you (even nerve-racking for that matter) but it's

nothing, really, to be afraid of. We were all 'first-timers' ^{once} in our life ~~once~~ and, honestly, most of us were too distracted enjoying ourselves to be actually afraid of it! Think of it like your first time going to school. The ~~minute~~ fear stops gnawing within you the ~~minute~~ ^{moment} you start making friends.

Anyway, if you're still scared, here's a few tips and tricks I picked up during a few of my 'foreign endeavours':

1. Try to steer clear from ~~be~~ a back seat. More often than not, you'll end up being the last to leave which can easily translate to a few more hours waiting at the immigration hall. Do yourself, and your legs, a huge favour.

2. Most airports have their own taxi terminals. Use these instead of shady cabbies that might offer cheaper rates. It's always better to be safe than sorry.

3. Try to avoid ~~sleeping~~ succumbing to the jet lag. Chances are, if you're able to adjust early on, you can enjoy the nightlife of your destination

while still ^{being able to get} ~~getting~~ a good night's sleep.

Anyway, other than this, try to visit the tourist destinations of your country when you can. Take a break the following day (so as to not exert yourself too much) before resuming your adventures once more. Oh, and don't fret too much about the language barrier. I have ~~that~~ often found that a puzzled look, followed by a warm smile, can often do wonders in this world!

Your Friend,

Examiner comment:

AO1 – Ideas are for the most part drawn from Text 1, but there is coverage of a reasonable number of relevant points.

AO4 – The candidate writes a successful and effective letter, with a secure sense of audience and purpose, established quickly through the direct and engaging opening.

AO5 – The writing is accurate and sometimes ambitious

6+10+8 = 24 out of 30

Script H:

Dear Imran,

It's very good to hear that you are going abroad for the first time and I know you are very excited. New York is a great city, at least I've enjoyed it a lot.

New York is not only about Time Square, there's Empire State buildings, the fast city life and more. What has been most mesmerizing to me was standing at the top of Empire State building and watching the

sunset as skyscrapers raced to beat you me but I was still standing firm at the top clenching the railings. The experience at New York was unique. You can also visit the country sides and be lost in the nature and imagining the humming of bees and butterflies sweeping by, but New York city is a place where you enjoy the city life.

Do you remember John? You can stay at his apartment if you want. The last time I went to New York I stayed with him.

The city is ~~for~~ bulging with enormous buildings stand like they have emerged from the ground, and people ~~at~~ walking down the footpath attending to their own busy life careless of what others think. It was disappointing to realise ~~as~~ how fast life was here.

Chill! There are a lot, hundreds of things that you can enjoy. I can guarantee and that every once in a while you will find yourself in a place which will be vaguely familiar. Don't panic. Most of New York, especially Manhattan, and are filmed in most movies. I found it really funny. One thing I really liked were the street coffee!

I mean, I had coffee a lot but those street coffees felt nice tasted good. Put ~~this~~ this in your 'to do' list! My recommendation, there are many malls and parks and other places to visit such as the ~~measiam~~ museums and the cinema. Don't take taxis much, walk throughout the city. You will see many interesting thing such as the "Walk / Don't walk" Signs that we always see in movies. If you have the time, talk to different people.

New York city is full of people from different countries who ^{go there} ~~come here~~ for differ purposes.

I'm sure you are going to love the city. The night life there is amazing! so ~~color~~ vibrant and colourful. You can go to the bars too!

It's going to be a great trip believe me.

People who like to travel always have New York at the top of their 'places to visit' list.

And I mean, Don't forget to bring chocolates for me!

Your friend,

Examiner comment:

AO1 – the response touches on the third bullet about potential disappointments, but there are a reasonable number of relevant points, drawing on the source materials in an appropriate way.

AO4 – The candidate has written a letter that communicates successfully, with a sound awareness of audience and purpose.

AO5 – The writing is mostly accurate, but with occasional slips of both spelling (e.g. skyscrappers) and punctuation (e.g. 'its' with the apostrophe omitted).

5+9+6 = 20 out of 30

Script I:

Dear, Rahim

It's been a nice pleasure to hear about that you are going to UK. I also knew that it was your first time in travelling to abroad. I had been there for the first time three years to study in South Wales. So I prefer some information of the place where are you going and it will help you a lot there.

So, you decided to travel to London. If this so, the people in their citizen is so strong and there each and every rule should be maintained. Not so Bangladesh like there. There, each and every place is neat and clean and if you fell any dust on the

ground, you should be fined upto 10 to 20 pounds. Their the nature, the trees, the flowers, the birds looks so beautiful that you are like in the heaven. Their food is pure and full fresh. In Bangladesh, every food is not good. But I can guarantee to you

about the food there that even green vegetables and fruits are fresh with no formalin like Bangladesh. There are many beautiful parks, amuzement parks, cinema hall and many entertainment places.

There the police forces and night guards are friendly with each good person but if you broke the law, you will be taken to jail. The laws in there is very strict. If you overdrive cars in the night, the police force will arrest you. There, the houses like bungalow, is amazing, beautiful! Though I had been living there for three years for studying, I knew how will be the houses there. At night the whole street becomes silent and there are many horror stories in the street. I heard some of them.

But the crime is greater than Bangladesh. There, in day, in a narrow street, every time I saw they are fighting and firing. Ohh! Its so ridiculous. I have never see this like in Bangladesh.

As well as, I am telling you, each country have a good and bad things. We have to live between these things. We have to survive for food, for education, for our future. Thank You.

Your best friend,



Examiner comment:

AO1 – the candidate makes some relevant points but expression impedes clarity, as the meaning is not always conveyed in a way which is easily understood.

AO4 – The communication is broadly appropriate, but again weaknesses of expression impede clear understanding. There is some grasp of purpose and an awareness of audience is shown.

AO5- Although there is much accurate spelling, there are problems with grammatical control and expression.

3+3+2 = 8 out of 30.

Script J:

**Q8 A friend of yours is going abroad for the first time.
Write a letter to your friend explaining what it might be like.**

You should include:

- **what might be seen or experienced**
- **what might be enjoyable**
- **what might be disappointing.**

Think carefully about the purpose of your letter and the audience for whom it is intended.

(30)

Dear Lisa

I was so excited to hear that you are FINALLY going to go to America and visit your brother. You will have such an amazing time – I am really jealous!

I know you haven't been abroad before so I thought I'd write to you and let you know about the things you will love and the things which you just need to accept as part of the journey and of travelling.

So where to start? As with all journeys, let's start at the beginning! Once you land in the USA, you have to go through quite a lot of security. The key to surviving this in good humour is to just wait patiently in line and don't get too worried about the crowds. Everyone is very helpful and, as long as you have your visa and your passport, you will sail through. Once you have done that, you need to make sure you pick up your luggage (my dad forgot to do this once...) and then either get in a taxi or get the bus. As it is your first time in New York, get a yellow taxi into Manhattan as it is an amazing experience and makes you feel like you have really arrived! I wouldn't be surprised if you find your taxi driver very friendly and talkative, which will all help you to feel more at home.

For your first day, just take it easy. I went on a ferry around Manhattan to get a feel for the place. It can be quite busy and noisy with lots of families with small children, but you will get used to this. In some places, you will think that New York just looks like London, only more so, with even taller buildings and many of the same shops, but there are some truly unique sights such as the Statue of Liberty which you will love – it looks exactly the same as it does in that film we saw last year, so take lots of pictures and remember its amazing history.

Take the time to have a good look around on foot as you can get a fantastic perspective on the high buildings and mingle with all the different people, and when I say different I really mean different. New

York has all races and all sorts! We always laugh when we go there about how loud everyone talks on their phones so you can hear everything that everyone is saying. Make sure you get a good map from the hotel you are staying at. Sometimes, maps can make places seem really near when they aren't. We used one last time to get to a museum and ending up having to queue for about an hour as we were late. We were also really messy and boiling hot so make sure you leave enough time and don't need to run for anything.

I do have to mention a few possible disappointments. The food is great in some ways, but, if you eat everything put in front of you, you will swell up like a balloon. Also, there are some parts of the city still where you could meet people living in real poverty. I should avoid areas like that. You'll find out easily enough which parts of the city are not great to visit.

Have a great time – once you have been once, you will want to go again and again as there is so much to see and experience. Send me a postcard!

See you when you get back.

Anna

xxxxx

Examiner comment

The letter is written in an appropriate register for a letter to a friend and all of the bullet points are covered fully. The comments are well-focused and developed and they draw on the two passages successfully. There are perceptive references and the ideas are persuasive and informative. The tone is strong and the structure assured, with good use of humour and varied vocabulary. Original points are also included.

Level 5 - A01 - 10; A04 – 12; A05 – 8 = 30 marks

Section C: Question 9, 10, 11

Script K:

9) "To travel is better than to arrive"

I ~~ag~~ strongly agree that travelling is way more better than arriving because it broadens our mind.

W

While travelling, we expose ourselves towards new culture; accepting their norms of life. We exhibit the taste buds of that are common in their society probably most wildly known like tripes, brain, fried insects etc.

Besides, their clothing ~~can~~ may or may not be enough for us to define their culture. One must always experience the soul under the cover rather than judging the people with their clothing ~~is~~ which is quoted with 'Do not judge a book by ^{its} cover'

~~He~~ People are more open with the people they are travelling with so they are more sociable with the people of the other country than their own.

Moreover, knowing about their cultural

people
events and ~~social~~ statuses can
clear the misconceptions
and judgements towards them.

It stops ourselves being so culture
shocked. History is always bent
when its travelling from one
place to another. It stops
us from assuming things.

We treasure the memories and
explore to gain vast knowledge.
We acknowledge the ^{real} events occurred
in the past which were ignored
while studying.

We get motivated to their society
and culture and acknowledge their
standard ways of living.

When it comes to travelling, it

Knowing people in person is far
more different ^{from} judging or
assuming them. Thus it stops being
racism, discrimination etc.

Travelling can allow us to improve
~~in reflexes~~. It makes us more
self-dependant. It should be a
part and parcel of our life.

Hence travelling allows us to learn,
acknowledge ~~and~~ a wide variety of
culture and people and I recommend
every people to travel ~~so th~~ since
it's something that's forever
embedded in someone's heart and
mind.

Examiner comment

A04 – The candidate's discussion of whether it is better to travel than to arrive contains some reasonable ideas, but these are not always very strongly argued and would benefit from stronger development.

A05 – The writing contains some accurate spelling and punctuation. However, these are accompanied by some errors of grammar and examples of unclear expression, which mean that the ambitious and thoughtful ideas do not always come across as effectively as they might.

10 +5 = 15 out of 30

Script L:

10. 'The Beginning'

My eyes were transfixed on the television screen before me. I had never seen so many people in one place before, their cheering sounded more like they were coming from around me than from the television speaker. With the people came teams of reporters, all trying ^{desperately} to report the news as it unfolded. The news headline ^{new black led} 'The Beginning', all in uppercase letters, remained prominently displayed on every news channel.

All the people were carrying ^{large} banners of white with the words 'We have ^{trumped} him' written on them. It was hard to imagine that ~~we were~~ I was actually looking at the White House, ~~where all the~~ The last I had seen it was several years before, before the Civil War started. Now, ~~it~~ it looked the same; ~~but~~ only the vast number of people ~~around~~ surrounding it made it look more the scene from a movie than actual reality.

Suddenly, he emerged, being dragged ^{by the collar} by his luxurious suit, by two of the captains of the revolutionaries. The crowd cheered happily when they discovered that the dictator-turned-president had been captured alive. They were not happy because he was alive, they were happy because he would be tried for all his deeds by a special court.

He tried desperately to escape from the grasp of the guards, but it was of no effect. The guards, who had lost their jobs, their homes, their citizenship because of the ~~man~~ man they had seized were not going to let go of him easily. The

The cameras shifted out to the front yard, where the man was duly brought. One person then said,

'Mister Rump, you have ~~been~~ are under arrest for your crimes against the United States of Amer..'

Before he could finish, the ^{cuffed} ^{yelled} ~~man~~ ^{spoke} out, 'Crimes?! You call the things I did to make America great crimes?! You do not ~~to~~ know even a tiny bit of how I made this country great! I made ^{us} ~~the~~ the kings! Not those murderers and rapists who were before!' Saying this, he fell, as ^{one of} the guards had lost his temper and knocked him out cold with his rifle butt.

I knew he had committed the crimes he was accused of. I ~~know~~ knew because I was a victim of those crimes. He had made every Mexican man and woman ~~who were~~ leave US soil, even if it meant that their children would become ~~numbered~~ in an orphanage; even though they had parents. He also made the Muslims leave, branding them 'terrorists' and 'extremists'. He also built his god-forsaken ~~the~~ wall using every dust of coal, every sacred

drop of oil and every breath of gas that the country had. In his eyes, he had made America great again, but all he did was start a Civil War. The war

The war had ~~o~~ was ending now. The crowd cheered wildly as he fell. ~~As~~ He fell, onto the dust he had levelled, and America had a new beginning. ~~It~~ ^{America} was made great again.

Examiner comment

AO4 – The candidate has produced a sharply focused and sophisticated piece of writing on the topic 'The Beginning', the quality of which merits a Level 5. The approach is an unusual one, with some fascinating parallels drawn.

AO5 – The writing is accurate and the vocabulary ambitious. Communication is vivid and effective

20 + 9 = 29 out of 30

Script M:

11.10.

The Beginning

The Roberts were in "miserable state. They had no money. Sometimes they ate once a day and sometimes nothing for two to three days. They lived in a flat of two rooms, the all thirteen members of the family. Mr. Robert worked odd jobs and Mrs. Robert did household chores at other people. But it was not like this before.

Before, the Roberts owned a four-storied manor in the northwest with five acres of land. They used to own twenty three cars and a compound so large that they could play golf there! They had a large company and they lived a "luxurious life".

It all began when Mr. Robert got addicted to gambling and that was it. He gambled day and night, without the knowledge of his family. It was not a problem until the market had a downfall. Mr. Robert suffered a loss, but still continued gambling until he was bankrupt.

The whole family had to suffer because of this. The company was in numerous debts, and so to pay them, the Roberts sold their manor and plot of land and moved to the small flat. By then, Mr. Robert had gave up gambling upon the realisation of his mistake.

One day during breakfast, when Mr. Robert was having tea and stale bread, the postman came with a notice.

^{in the morning}
One day ~~in the morning~~ ^{in the morning} during the breakfast, when Mr. Robert was having tea and stale bread ^{for} breakfast, a notice ~~came~~ letter arrived. ~~Up~~
When he opened the letter, the first few lines stated that it was a legal notice. So, thinking that the notice ~~was~~ was from one of the creditors, Mr. Robert threw it away in disgust. Mrs. Robert was cleaning the house nearby. She picked up the letter and, after reading it, leaped up in joy! It stated that her great ~~own~~ ^{uncle} had passed and ~~as~~ he had no children, so she had left something for her ~~as his~~ ^{inherited} inheritance. The whole family was so happy!

Upon attending the funeral, the Roberts were disappointed. Mrs. Robert's great uncle had left ^{a few} shelves of books, a set of furniture and a wooden box for them. They were very disheartened by the event. So they left the place.

When they reached home, they started to put the stuff in the house. While moving the wooden box, it fell from Mrs. Robert's hands and broke down, revealing its contents. Inside the box, there ~~was~~ was a necklace, a necklace made of diamonds! Mrs. Robert recognised it as the necklace of her great aunt, and it was worth millions!

And so it was the beginning of a new life for the Roberts, ~~so~~ the beginning of a life in which they realised their mistakes ~~and~~ and ~~not to rep~~ learnt from them. It was the beginning of a happy life for them.

Examiner comment

AO4 – There are some reasonably clear ideas, but their expression could sometimes be livelier and more arresting, to merit a higher Level.

AO5 – The writing is mostly secure, but with some errors.

11+5= 16 out of 30

11) Describe a place that has made an impression on you.

The shades

The gentle breeze sways the coconut trees and the leaves of the banyan murmur a tune announcing the arrival of spring in the ~~lag~~ soothing lagoon. The motherly shades ~~out~~ of the banyan, with its arms wide open, ~~wel~~ welcomes me, waiting to embrace me with its affections. The place ~~not~~ where I had spent a part of my life which I will never forget, the place which has ~~an~~ an unerasable impression on me, ~~the~~ flashes in front of my eyes.

I still remember walking about in the small forest beside the lake. My days of vacation were all spent to quench my wanderlust, making dad's eyebrows twitch. I remember, ~~when~~ on one vacation, I had made plans with my friends to 'forget' that we were lost, and then got really lost and we, ourselves found our way back. Maybe the place doesn't want me to get in danger as it is so dear to me. But among them all, it ^{is underneath the} motherly shades of the banyan tree, where I find my infancy back, I find myself to be secured and my ~~for~~ tumbling and stirring mind gets a soothing serenity.

I still remember that ~~one~~ night, while returning home, I ~~was~~ sensed some ~~by~~ boys were chasing me in hot pursuit. Maybe these were the ~~boy~~ boys ~~who~~ ~~who~~, one of them of whom got beaten up by me. They were coming to settle the scores. I was finding a place to hide, but I did not need to find any. I ~~was~~ ~~or~~ climbed the banyan tree, ~~at~~ which at night, turns on a ghostly impression, so the boys did not dare to go any further. From then onwards, I had felt as secured here as I am in my mother's lap. One day, after my last exam, I, forgetting all about returning home, played all day long, until falling fast asleep under the soothing shades of the banyan. The whole neighbourhood came in and searched for me everywhere until my dad found me snoring under the banyan shades of the banyan. Followed by some instant 'wake up-slaps' and rebukes, I was taken home all the way by the ear.

~~The place~~ It was underneath this shade that my ~~guitars~~ strings of my guitar got a tune, my flute got a note, my pen got 'his' strength to write on. It was this place that where I read, reviewed and criticised Tagore, Nazrul, Shakespeare and Keats. I considered it to be my 'undeclared private property.' One day, I saw a 'nerd-looking'

spectacled girl, rude-looking girl sitting underneath the tree banyan, which I considered to be mine. I was really jolly cross at this and after saying some sharp words, I left the place, deciding never to come back again. But, due to an ~~only~~ unexplainable attraction towards her and the banyan, I came everyday and gazed at her from a distance. After a year, I proposed her to marry me.

Now, at the time of the dusk of our lives, we both come, hand in hand, to ~~under~~ sit underneath the banyan, and let the breeze kiss us on our face, welcoming us back to the place which ~~that~~ had, has, and will be an unforgettable place for me.

Examiner comment

AO4 – Although the writing becomes more narrative than descriptive, there is a reasonably clear and effective sense of the importance of the place selected because of the impression it had made on the writer.

AO5 – The candidate has produced a response which is mostly accurate, but with some slips.

13+7= 20 out of 30