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# 2

91098



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## Level 2 English, 2016

### 91098 Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence

2.00 p.m. Thursday 17 November 2016  
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence.	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s) convincingly, supported by evidence.	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s) perceptively, supported by evidence.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

**You should answer ONE of the essay questions in this booklet.**

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

**YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.**

**Merit**

**TOTAL**

**M5**

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY

You should aim to write a concise essay of no more than 5 pages in length. The quality of your analysis is more important than the length of your essay.

Support the points you make with specific details from the text(s).

ASSESSOR'S  
USE ONLY

Begin your written text(s) essay here:

Question number: 1.

Analyse how the experiences of one or more characters were used for a particular purpose.

In the novel 'The Book Thief', written by Markus Zusak, the writer uses the experiences of Liesel alongside Max to show how words have power to hurt or heal. The writer also shows how anyone can display 'good' or 'bad' qualities, but that ~~is~~ it is the decisions you make and not ~~the actions from the~~ past actions that define you.

Liesel first ~~learns~~ learns that words have the power to heal when she helps Max paint over 'Mein Kampf', Hitler's autobiography. When "the pages of 'Mein Kampf' were groaning, suffocating under the paint as they turned," the writer shows how Liesel is able to overcome the pain she has ~~suffer~~ suffered by making Hitler's book suffocate. For Liesel, Hitler is the cause of all of her grief and pain - his actions ~~caused~~ caused her parents' disappearance, her brother's death (through neglect) and is the reason she is alone, in an unknown foster family. Therefore 'Mein Kampf' <sup>and the words within it</sup> represents Liesel's pain, suffering and distress, so when she paints over Hitler's words, she also overcomes ~~the~~ and accepts the pain she has endured - she can now 'turn a fresh page' and start anew. When the pages are painted over, they groan and suffocate. This is Liesel's revenge on Hitler -

his book, and therefore Hitler

she is now making ~~him~~<sup>him</sup> suffer and experience what he put her through - but she is able to triumph over Hitler in a safe and secret manner, where she will not be punished for expressing anti-Nazi views. Max then uses the white sheets to write a birthday story for Liesel, which is bright and hopeful, the complete opposite of 'Mein Kampf' and Hitler. ~~This is~~ Liesel's ~~ex~~ experience of painting over the pages of 'Mein Kampf' and replacing Hitler's words of hatred and discrimination with words of hope and joy allow her to overcome and accept her past sufferings and move on to enjoy her life. By neutralising Hitler's words of hatred with Max's words of happiness, the writer shows that words have the power to help and heal those who have ~~endured~~ suffering. endured pain and loss. /

Liesel is able to use her friendship with Max to help calm her neighbours during the first bomb raid. She reads 'The Whistler' (a book she read to Max while he was sick), and "the youngest kids were soothed by her voice, and everyone else saw visions of the whistler running from the crime scene." Liesel is able to calm those around her and prevent ~~the~~ her neighbours from thinking about the possible danger they are in. However, for Liesel this is not possible without Max, even though he is not physically present. Liesel recalls that "somewhere, too, in the gaps between a full stop and the next capital letter, was Max." This shows that Liesel is constantly reminded of ~~max~~ Max, but especially while reading, and his 'presence' in the pages reminds Liesel

of what she hopes to do - to help those in need, such as Jews like Max or her neighbours during a bomb raid. This experience ~~shows~~ shows how Liesel is able to draw strength from her friendship with ~~max~~ Max, in order to allow her to soothe her neighbours' fear by reading to them. Liesel's passion for books and language, founded by Max, brings out the best in her and ~~allows her to~~ gives her the strength to help others in times of need or distress.

However, Liesel soon realises that ~~neither~~ neither words or people ~~are~~ are simply 'good' or 'bad'. After arguing with Frau Hermann, Liesel notices that Frau Hermann "was battered and beaten up... Blood leaked from her nose and licked at her lips. Her eyes were blackened. Cuts had opened up and a series of wounds were rising to the surface of her skin. All from the words. From Liesel's words". This quote shows that Liesel has realised the gravity of what she said, and is stunned - she now knows that <sup>her</sup> hurtful words can cause just as much pain as if she had physically attacked Frau Hermann. The close detail with which Liesel describes the injuries shows us that she is both fascinated and disgusted - interested enough to pay close attention but not proud or happy with what she has done. The short, blunt sentences "All from the words. From Liesel's words" <sup>reflect</sup> ~~shows~~ that Liesel is ~~so~~ stunned and shocked with the effects of her words, ~~that~~ and the fragmented nature of

the two sentences show that Liesel regrets what she has done - she is not pleased but unhappy and shocked. Through her argument with Frau Hermann, Liesel realises that words have the power to significantly hurt people, as well as help them. She also realises that no person is inherently good or bad, as even Liesel, who wants to help <sup>and care for</sup> others can use words to hurt when she lets her emotions take over. However, through this experience, the writer shows us that it is not your actions but your decisions about them that define you - Liesel regrets what she has done and chooses not to hurt people again, but to help instead. /

Through the novel 'The Book Thief', Liesel experienced painting over Hitler's autobiography 'Mein Kampf', reading aloud to comfort her scared neighbours during a bomb raid, and arguing with the mayor's wife, Frau Hermann. Through these experiences we learnt that words have the power to hurt or heal, that friendship is important in order to help others in times of distress, and that it is your decisions that make you who you are - your ~~past~~ past does not define you. /

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**Merit exemplar 2016**

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Standard:</b>	<b>91098</b>	<b>Total score:</b>	<b>M5</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Grade score</b>	<b>Annotation</b>			
1	M5	<p>“The Book Thief”</p> <p>Leisel’s experiences are used to show how words can hurt or heal. Three good examples are discussed, with quotes integrated and analysis which develops the idea. A better Merit might go on to show more understanding of the author’s purpose.</p>			