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90850



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD  
KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI TŌ ĀMUA AO!

SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

## Level 1 English, 2017

**90850 Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), using supporting evidence**

9.30 a.m. Monday 13 November 2017  
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), using supporting evidence.	Show convincing understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), using supporting evidence.	Show perceptive understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), using supporting 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.**

**Excellence**

**TOTAL**

**07**

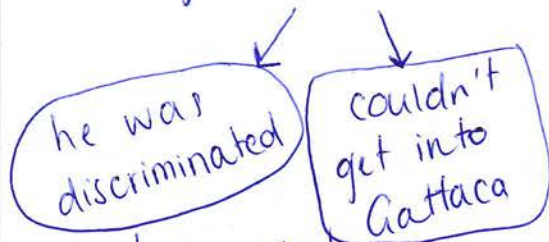
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**Visual or oral text type(s):**

Tick (✓) your selection

☒ Film☐ Drama production☐ Oral performance☐ Television programme☐ Graphic novel☐ Digital/online text☐ Radio programmeTitle(s): GattacaDirector(s)/creator(s): Andrew Niccol**PLANNING (OPTIONAL)**

challenge → Vincent is an invalid

helped to understand  
the pain he went  
throughperform simple  
tasksshed DNA  
close ups &  
slow motiondetermined to  
reach his goal"no gene for human  
spirit."

genetic engineering swimming scene

eng  
energingi"This is how I did it Anton,  
→ I never saved anything  
for the swim back"

→ Music, inspirational, upbeat

→ Flashbacks → dream from  
very young  
age

attempts



one challenge ↓  
helps to understand a character

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You should aim to write a concise essay of no more than 3 pages in length. The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your essay.

Make sure you answer both parts of the question, and support the points you make with specific details from the text(s).

Begin your visual or oral text(s) essay here:

Question number: 5

Gattaca is a 1997 film written and directed by Andrew Niccol, ~~was~~ set in the not so distant future where genetic engineering is the societal norm. Vincent is an invalid living in a ~~very~~ perfect valid world, which is the main challenge Vincent faces as a character. Through the use of film techniques Niccol helps us to understand Vincent as a character and the challenge he faces in a genetically engineered society.

At the beginning of the film we see the challenge of being an invalid ~~is~~ <sup>when</sup> Vincent strips his DNA in order to identify as Jerome, a valid. This helps us to understand that as an individual Vincent is being discriminated. Through the use of extreme close ups combined with slow motion this empathises the pain Vincent is going through in order to reach his dream of going to Titan. We see extreme close ups of skin cells, nails and hair follicles fall slowly hitting the ground with impact. ~~is~~ Vincent is discarding his ~~invalid~~ invalid DNA as he was born a god-child and is now being discriminated for his genes. ~~we can see~~ As an individual we empathise for Vincent because it is a lot like our society today. People are treated unfairly based on their



race, ~~and~~ colour of their skin or gender and not on how capable and determined they are. Women are still getting paid less than men in some jobs just based on their gender. Like Vincent they too are being treated unfairly and discriminated.

~~The~~ <sup>One</sup> challenge Vincent faced was that he was an invalid living in a valid world where everyone was genetically engineered to succeed. This helped the audience to understand that Vincent was a determined individual that never gave up. As an invalid, Vincent was only expected to perform simple tasks and with his genes would never make it into Gattaca. Through the use of flashbacks and dialogue Niccol provides us with a strong understanding that Vincent is a determined individual. At the beginning of the film we see a flashback of young Vincent drawing the solar system and reading books on planets. This shows us that making it into Gattaca was his passion and dream from a very young age, he will do anything to achieve this. We also understand his determination when he says to Anton, "this is how I did it Anton. I never saved anything for the swim back." This dialogue powerfully explains Vincent's passion and determination for his dream as he ~~put everything~~ sacrificed so much ~~as~~ he <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ closer to the end that he ~~will~~ risk losing everything. Vincent's determination to never give up can be related to well known Thomas Edison who took many attempts to create the light bulb. He ~~was~~ was determined to achieve his goal even after failing multiple times, he too like Vincent is born of God so also highlights the fact that you can't engineer success or being human (determination).



Vincent ~~death~~ faces the challenge of being an invalid living in a valid world. Through the use of ~~light~~ the film techniques lighting combined with single shot ~~we~~ we are able to understand that as an individual Vincent doesn't meet society's expectations. In scenes where Vincent is himself as an invalid blue light is shown to symbolise ~~and~~ ~~that~~ Vincent as an invalid living in a valid world not meeting society's expectations. ~~There is~~ A green light is shown ~~in~~ in scenes where Vincent is posing as Jerome, a valid where society <sup>accepts</sup> him. ~~When Vincent is shown in~~ When Vincent is shown in single shots, the director's purpose was to show that he is alone and is struggling being an invalid. As an audience we can relate to Vincent ~~as~~ because ~~we~~ today we live in a digital world surrounded by social media. There are false expectations which society has thrown at us, as young women. We are constantly shown photos that have been photo shopped or edited and we feel we are expected to meet these.

Gattaca is a powerful ~~and~~ and thought provoking film written and directed by Andrew Niccol. Niccol successfully shows the challenge Vincent faces as an invalid living in a valid world. Through <sup>the use of</sup> film techniques ~~we~~ ~~we~~ as a audience we are able to understand Vincent as an individual.

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**Excellence exemplar 2017**

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Standard:</b>	<b>90850</b>	<b>Total score:</b>	<b>07</b>
<b>Q</b>	<b>Grade score</b>	<b>Annotation</b>			
5	E7	The “challenge” faced is clearly and immediately identified and is “backgrounded” without the answer becoming plot-driven. Techniques chosen are numerous, and analysed with the focus on character revelation always in mind.			