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91473



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NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD
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SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

Level 3 English, 2016

91473 Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence

2.00 p.m. Tuesday 22 November 2016
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence.	Respond critically and convincingly to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence.	Respond critically and perceptively to specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), 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.

Write ONE essay 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.

Achievement

TOTAL

A3

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY

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

In your essay, discuss the extent to which you agree with your chosen statement. Respond critically to the statement by making a close analysis of the text(s).

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

Statement number:

8

In Hollywood, the films that make the cut are ~~these~~ ^{usually those} that have happy endings, where everyone lives forever after. ~~this is~~ ^{the fact is} this hardly ever ~~happens~~ ^{happens} in real life, ~~and~~ ^{and} the films that don't have the happy endings ~~these~~ leave more of a mark on the viewers. Why is this you might ask? It is because these films are more reliable and realistic, they cause us to feel real emotion at the end of the film, instead of a typical happy ending like always. This is shown to be true in the film 'The Constant Gardener' by Fernando Meirelles, where instead of there being justice and everything being put right, there is only the deaths of innocences.

Early on in the film it is obvious to the viewer that there more than likely won't be a happy ending. ~~Tessa Justin's~~ ~~wife~~, The death of Justin's wife Tessa is abrupt and sudden, what started as a film possibly about love and romance quickly turned into a film about corruption, ~~and~~ lack of humanity and death. This quote says it all "You put \$50,000 in the right hands, you can test battery acid as skin lotion", showing a clear description of the complete lack of ~~concern~~ ~~for~~ ~~other~~ ~~human~~ ~~beings~~, let alone human life. It is these moments in films that however horrific they may seem, just how realistic and possible they are in this day and age with the amount of corruption there is. That leave us shocked and stunned at the world we live in. It is these moments that play a bigger part than any happy ending could, as a successful film is not always one that makes us happy at the end ~~feel good~~ but instead make us as the viewer feel something. Whether that be ~~sadness~~ sadness, shock or ~~fear~~ ~~horror~~, ~~when~~ being ~~we're~~ so desensitized to things these days when we are caused to feel emotion it leaves a lasting ~~impact~~ impact.

~~Another example where this is shown is~~
~~where~~ Another example of why happy endings aren't key to a successful text in "The Constant Gardener" is when an aid camp is attacked by rebels and Justin ~~trys~~ tries to save a little girl. He pleads with the pilot to take her with them but the pilot refuses as "there are rules for good reason" and "it's one child, ~~there~~ there are thousands of them" to which Justin replies "But THIS is one child we can save". This moment in the film although it's not a happy ending plays a big part as it is ~~by far the~~ key moment in the film. It is here we realise just how far Justin has come and how much he has become like Tessa.

These moments in films where we clearly see the change or development of a character are by far better than any happy ending. The story a film tells and how it engages the viewer is more important than a happy ending, whether it ends happy or not, ~~the~~ how we as the viewer engage with characters, can relate to them, see them struggle and try beat the odds

is what's key to a film's success, ~~not~~
~~whether~~, not a happy ending.

Obviously enough 'The Constant Gardener' does not end with a happy ending, the main character, ~~John~~, chooses to meet his death at the same place as his wife, being shot by paid guns in order to keep the secrets of corrupt Government members and drug companies hidden. The film ends with Justin's funeral where the very man who silenced Justin speaks of how great a man he was and that his "suicide" was "misfortunate". Although this film may not of had a happy ending, it is because the film ended this way that it goes to show the world doesn't ~~have~~ always have happy endings, even for those who literally gave their lives to try get the truth out and help others. ~~The rich and the powerful~~ There are evil ~~bad~~ people in the world, and they do some very evil things, and that is the truth. People can try to stop it but there will always be evil in the world and there won't always be happy endings.

These life messagers from films can't be taught through happy endings, sometime you need the cold heart truth.

So to end off, the statement "The key to a successful text is a happy ending" I completely disagree with and as I have shown through 'The Constant Gardener' it is the films that give us life messagas, make us think, cause us to feel real emotion by being able to engage and relate to the story and characters that are truly successful, not just the ones with happy endings.

Achievement exemplar 2016

Subject:	English	Standard:	91473	Total score:	A3
Q	Grade score	Annotation			
8	A3	<p>Shows some familiarity and engagement with the text.</p> <p>Introduction states the argument that will be followed, i.e. that films without happy endings are “more relatable”.</p> <p>The conclusion follows the argument and provides reasons for the candidate’s viewpoint.</p> <p>Straightforward response – topic sentences are more plot-led, rather than making a point in support of the argument thesis, but this point is often made later in the paragraph, e.g. “When we are caused to feel emotion it leaves a lasting impact”.</p> <p>Relevant argument, but repetitive in places.</p> <p>Makes generalisations rather than providing support from beyond the text, e.g. “There are evil people in the world...”.</p> <p>Examples are used from the text to support the discussion, but often in a clumsy manner.</p>			