**Marker’s Report**

**Semester Two Year Twelve ATAR English Examination 2019**

**Comprehending Section**

**The average for this section of the paper was 14.2, which is way below what you should aim for.**

Across the paper as a whole, markers will assess:

**Content**

* Engagement with the task rather than the reproduction of material prepared during the course with merely token reference to the task. This is of paramount importance in each section.

**Structure and expression**

* Organisation of ideas; the ability to develop and sustain a response; textual coherence; awareness of purpose and textual conventions; clarity of language; breadth of vocabulary; and competence in such elements as awareness of audience, fluency, grammar, syntax, spelling and punctuation.

Question 1

**Explain how language features and voice build empathy in Text 1.**

**To begin to answer this question you needed to identify explicitly the type of voice constructed.**

The focus in this section should be on the candidate’s **comprehension** of the examination texts and **application of analytical skills**. Higher marks should be given to candidates who can:

* respond clearly to the question
* provide insightful comments about texts
* sustain a point of view
* use textual evidence to support a point.

The following is a list of possibilities to consider when answering this question. The list is not exhaustive.

**Language features:**

* punctuation for effect: exclamation, ellipsis, parenthesis, language patterns
* variation of syntax to engage
* repetition to emphasise e.g. ‘pain of remembering though I can’t clearly remember’
* rhetorical questions to communicate confusion, uncertainty of memory
* alliteration to reinforce ideas e.g. ‘distressed and dripping’
* tone of urgency, panic, confusion, despair, frustration, fear
* the use of facts, dates, names to reinforce the quest for truth
* word choice and emotive connotation e.g. ‘escaping’, ‘the scar’
* selection of details to create realism, credibility
* description and imagery to recreate the traumatic event of personal experience.

**Use of voice:**

* first person point of view to directly engage with readers
* to show the young boy’s helplessness and frustration: ‘I don’t care’
* juxtaposition; the adult recollection and the boy’s experience in the moment creates tension and positions readers as witnesses
* communicates the impact of the event even years later to readers
* positions the reader to access his stress, his guilt and despair
* relates to the genre of memoir which builds empathy as it’s a first-hand, personal account.
* to show his values and attitudes, his love for his brother, his vulnerability and determination to find the truth
* to reveal the intention of his memoir- to find out exactly what happened also builds empathy and trust.

**Expression:**

The extent to which the candidate expresses their responses clearly and concisely and integrates examples and/or brief quotes to support their response.

Question 2

**Analyse how Text 2 conveys an observation about charity in our society.**

**To begin to answer this question you needed to identify explicitly an observation about society.**

**Use of techniques / conventions:**

* the headline which draws attention to the topic
* the camera shot which foregrounds the cashless payment system
* the use of an image which reinforces the headline and demonstrates the idea in action; the combination of elements - words, numbers, visual codes, a surf rescue figure, product display, the caption, the outdoor setting
* familiar, iconic logo and branding (clothes, tablecloth, collecting tin); Apple Pay
* the use of colloquial humour and language to promote identification and trust
* authoritative quotes that create reassurance e.g. ‘a study into’ ‘a Reserve Bank survey’, ‘people wanted convenience’
* statistics and facts to show trends as a sign of the times for consumer behaviour
* generalised consumer endorsement brings reassurance
* juxtaposition – past and present to show progress to digital transactions
* conventions that relate to online format and promotes the idea to a digital savvy audience
* ideas that position audience support: convenience, speed, accessibility, ease of payment, contemporary consumers

**Use of language features:**

* inclusive language creates rapport
* emotive language appeals to feelings
* colloquial language creates cultural identification and rapport
* alliteration reinforces meaning e.g. ‘tackling today’
* repetition: creates emphasis e.g. of convenience
* punctuation for effect: hyphenation, exclamation, rhetorical question
* quotes, direct speech creates reassurance
* tone.

**Expression:**

The extent to which the candidate expresses their responses clearly and concisely and integrates examples and/or brief quotes to support their response.

Question 3

**Compare how Text 2 and Text 3 represent a similar idea**.

**This question required a specific idea to be identified and a comparison of this idea in both texts.**

**Comparison of visual elements**

* both use visual codes and conventions
* both create connotative associations with cash: Text 2 places ‘cash’ above ’worries’ and Text 3 places ‘worries’ above ‘ticketing’
* both use colloquial language that deflects consumer ‘worry’ and offer a tap and go solution. Text 2 uses more technical jargon e.g. ‘autoload’
* both use capitalisation, repetition and punctuation for effect
* the use of humour in both humanises the main idea in an appealing way: reassuring words, humans, animal personification
* composition: both foreground the idea of ‘tap and go’ through prominent display of a familiar Australian product and brand
* both communicate the idea of change visually in familiar settings
* both combine numbers and words to persuade action
* both invite audience participation in digital technology through credible Australian providers
* both reference an online url for further information if needed.

**Expression:**

* The extent to which the candidate expresses their responses clearly and concisely and integrates examples and/or brief quotes to support their response.