

Exam 5 (Time Limit: 2½ hours)

Question 1

Break up the following text into ranking and downranked clauses, and analyse the ranking clauses for mood-residue (first two rows), transitivity (third row), and theme-rheme (fourth row). You do not need to analyse the internal structure of downranked clauses.

The most destructive fires of the 20th century were those

which occurred in the last years of that century. In 1983,

a large part of southern Australia was devastated by fire.

In 1988, in the Yellowstone National Park, a series of fires,

caused by dry air and lightning, reduced to cinders 320,000

hectares of forest. In 1998, the skies over the whole of

Indonesia were blotted out by an enormous cloud of smoke

which remained suspended in the air for months. This was

the result of numerous blazes in the forests of Sumatra and

Kalimantan. The affected area was more vast than the whole

of Europe. In the fog caused by the fire, the visibility

was so poor that some ships ran aground and others collided.

Question 2

Select one strand of analysis (mood-residue, transitivity, or theme-rheme) and comment on how language is used in this text. Your discussion should be about one page in length (single-spaced).

Important note: The discussion should not simply be a recount of what you found in your technical analysis (i.e., how may material processes, or modal adjuncts, or textual themes, etc.), but what the analysis *means*.