National Qualifications 2023

2023 English

Literary Study

Advanced Higher

Finalised Marking Instructions

General marking principles for Advanced Higher English — Literary Study

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

(a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.

(b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.

Marking instructions for each question

The marking instructions indicate the essential idea that a candidate should provide for each answer. Candidates gain marks for their knowledge, understanding, analysis and evaluation of the texts selected for the question.

- First read the essay to establish whether it achieves minimum requirements for technical accuracy, and whether it is relevant to the question. There may be a few errors, but they should not impede understanding. If the essay does not achieve minimum standards, award a maximum of 9 marks. Award up to full marks where the essay communicates clearly at first reading.
- Assessment should be holistic. There are strengths and weaknesses in every piece of writing. Focus as far as possible on the strengths, taking account of weaknesses only when they significantly detract from the overall performance.
- Candidates may display ability across more than one band descriptor. It is important to recognise the closeness of the band descriptors and consider carefully the most appropriate overall band for the candidate's performance.

Once that best fit is decided:
- where the candidate's work fully meets the standard described, award the highest available mark from the range
- where the candidate's work just meets the standard described, award the lowest mark from the range
- otherwise, award the mark from the middle of the range.

page 02

Marking instructions for all questions

	Marks 20-19	Marks 18-16	Marks 15-13	Marks 12-10	Marks 9-6	Marks 5-0
Knowledge and understanding The literary study demonstrates:	• Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the texts • A full and relevant exploration with sustained consideration of the implications of the question • Extensive use of textual evidence to support an argument which is clearly focused on the demands of the question	• Secure knowledge and understanding of the texts • A relevant exploration which demonstrates secure consideration of the implications of the question • Extensive use of textual evidence which clearly supports the demands of the question	• Broad knowledge and understanding of the texts • A relevant and thoughtful approach to the question • Use of textual evidence which is relevant to the demands of the question	• Knowledge and understanding of the texts • A relevant approach to the question • Use of textual evidence to address the demands of the question	• Limited knowledge and understanding of the texts • A limited approach to the question • Limited textual evidence to support the demands of the question	• Very little knowledge of the texts • Very little attempt to answer the question • Very little textual evidence
Analysis The literary study demonstrates:	• Relevant analysis of a task - appropriate range of literary techniques and/or features of language which skilfully strengthens the line of argument	• Relevant analysis of a task - appropriate range of literary techniques and/or features of language which strengthens the line of argument	• Relevant analysis of a range of literary techniques and/or features of language which supports the line of argument	• Analysis of a range of literary techniques and/or features of language	• Limited analysis of literary techniques and/or features of language	• Very little analysis of literary techniques and/or features of language

	Marks 20-19	Marks 18-16	Marks 15-13	Marks 12-10	Marks 9-6	Marks 5-0
Evaluation The literary study demonstrates:	• A committed, clear evaluative stance with respect to the texts and the question, and skilfully based on precise evidence discussed within the response	• A clearly identifiable evaluative stance with respect to the texts and the question and securely based on evidence discussed within the response	• A discernible and relevant evaluative stance with respect to the texts and the question and based on evidence discussed within the response	• An evaluative stance with respect to the texts and the question but may demonstrate some weakness in relevance	• Limited evaluation with respect to the texts and/or lacks relevance to the question and/or evidence	• Very little evidence of evaluation and/or supporting evidence
Technical accuracy The literary study demonstrates:	• At least minimum competence for technical accuracy which includes few errors in the use of structure, style, language and/or literary terminology				• Significant errors in structure, style, language and/or literary terminology	

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]

page 04

National Qualifications 2023

2023 English

Textual Analysis

Advanced Higher

Finalised Marking Instructions

General marking principles for Advanced Higher English — Textual Analysis

Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.

(a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.

(b) If a candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.

Marking instructions for each question

The marking instructions indicate the essential idea that a candidate should provide for each answer. Candidates gain marks for their knowledge, understanding, analysis and evaluation of the chosen extract.

- Assessment should be holistic. There are strengths and weaknesses in every piece of writing. Focus as far as possible on the strengths, taking account of weaknesses only when they significantly detract from the overall performance.
- Candidates may display ability across more than one band descriptor. It is important to recognise the closeness of the band descriptors and consider carefully the most appropriate overall band for the candidate's performance.

Once that best fit is decided:
- where the candidate's work fully meets the standard described, award the highest available mark from the range
- where the candidate's work just meets the standard described, award the lowest mark from the range
- otherwise, award the mark from the middle of the range.

page 02

Marking instructions for all questions

	Marks 20-19	Marks 18-16	Marks 15-13	Marks 12-10	Marks 9-6	Marks 5-0
Understanding The textual analysis demonstrates:	• Comprehensive understanding of the central concerns of the text provided • A full and relevant exploration with sustained consideration of the implications of the question • Extensive use of textual evidence to support an argument which is clearly focused on the demands of the question	• Secure understanding of the central concerns of the text provided • A relevant exploration which demonstrates secure consideration of the implications of the question • Extensive use of textual evidence which clearly supports the demands of the question	• Broad understanding of the central concerns of the text provided • A relevant and thoughtful approach to the question • Use of textual evidence which is relevant to the demands of the question	• Understanding of the central concerns of the text provided • A relevant approach to the question • Use of textual evidence to address the demands of the question	• Limited understanding of the central concerns of the text provided • A limited approach to the question • Limited textual evidence to support the demands of the question	• Very little understanding of the central concerns of the text provided • Very little attempt to answer the question • Very little textual evidence

	Marks 20-19	Marks 18-16	Marks 15-13	Marks 12-10	Marks 9-6	Marks 5-0
Analysis The textual analysis demonstrates:	• Relevant analysis of a task-appropriate range of literary techniques and/or features of language which skilfully strengthens the approach adopted by the candidate	• Relevant analysis of a task-appropriate range of literary techniques and/or features which strengthens the approach adopted by the candidate	• Relevant analysis of a range of literary techniques and/or features of language which supports the approach adopted by the candidate	• Analysis of a range of literary techniques and/or features of language	• Limited analysis of literary techniques and/or features of language	• Very little analysis of literary techniques and/or features of language
Evaluation The textual analysis demonstrates:	• A committed, clear, evaluative stance with respect to the text provided and the question, and skilfully based on precise evidence discussed within the response	• A clearly identifiable evaluative stance with respect to the text provided and the question, and securely based on evidence discussed within the response	• A discernible and relevant evaluative stance with respect to the text provided and the question, and based on evidence discussed within the response	• An evaluative stance with respect to the text provided and the question but may be based on previously undiscussed evidence or demonstrate some weakness in relevance	• Limited evaluation with respect to the text provided and/or lacks relevance to the question and/or evidence	• Very little evidence of evaluation and/or supporting evidence

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]

page 04