



2020

Mock HSC Examination

HSC English Standard — Paper 1 Marking Guidelines

Section I

Question 1

Criteria	Marks
Effectively explains how the image conveys significant ideas about the human experience of isolation	3
Explains how the image conveys ideas about the experience of isolation	2
Makes a relevant comment about the text	1

Sample response:

The image conveys the significant way in which human beings express endurance in the face of isolation. The salience of the isolated female figure in a desolate rural landscape leads the eye to the determination expressed by her body language. The space between her figure and the remote figures in the distance creates a feeling of separation. The colour symbolism of drab browns suggests a land devoid of stimulation, emphasizing the woman's stoical endurance.

Question 2

Criteria	Marks
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Effectively explains how the poem represents human emotions associated with an experience that is both collective and individual	3
Explains how the poem represents emotions associated with a human experience	2
Makes a relevant comment about the text	1

Sample response:

The poem conveys emotions of sadness and bitterness at the collective dispossession of Native Australian people, felt by the individual who expresses sad memories of lost happiness with the image of 'our dark children played.' This contrasts with the sibilant and onomatopoeic verbs associated with modern society: 'grinding, hissing... belching.' The anaphora of 'no more' reinforces the sense of loss felt both personally and collectively: 'Children of nature we were then.'

Question 3

Criteria	Marks
Effectively explains how the article shows that anomalies and paradoxes can challenge our view of the world	4
Discusses aspects of how the article shows that anomalies and paradoxes can challenge our view of the world	2-3
Makes a relevant point about the text	1

Sample response:

The article explores the way that paradoxes and anomalies in an experience can challenge our notions of normality and expand our understanding. Griffith is puzzled by the 'upside down river' but this becomes a metaphor for the value of travelling to places where 'neither up nor down was easily discernible.' The metaphor of the river as an 'artery' for a 'giant stone heart' makes us see a 'dry' landscape as filled with life and vitality, challenging our existing view of the world.

Question 4

Criteria	Marks
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Effectively explains the ways in which the extract suggests that emotions can ignite new perspectives	4
Discusses aspects of ways in which the extract suggests that emotions can ignite new perspectives	2-3
Makes a relevant comment about the text	1

Sample response:

The fiction extract conveys the way a new experience and the emotions it causes can give us a new perspective on ourselves and our place in the world. Jerry is anxious to impress the older boys but his efforts to get attention bring only embarrassment. Lessing conveys his emotional need: 'He was happy. He was with them.' The simile 'like a foolish dog' reinforces Jerry's immaturity. His 'hot shame' at being rejected and ignored and his 'pleading grin' embody the way emotions reveal our deepest human needs, such as Jerry's desire for belonging and acceptance from his peers.

Question 5

Criteria	Marking
Effectively analyses the ways in which two texts challenge our understanding of familiar places and experiences, using well chosen supporting evidence.	5
Analyses ways in which two texts challenge our understanding of familiar places and experiences, using appropriate supporting evidence.	4
Comments on aspects of how two texts challenge our understanding of familiar places and experiences, using some evidence.	2-3
Gives some information about both texts	1

Sample response:

A place can be familiar but an unexpected experience can make us see that place with new eyes. This notion is explored in the visual text and in the feature article,

both of which represent a familiar subject – the Australian outback – in an unexpected way.

The Australian landscape is often represented as sunny and scenic, but the painting represents it instead as a place of isolation and dread. The heavy dark brown colours create an ominous atmosphere, while the dead trees are a stark symbol of mortality. The human figures seem distant from each other, each experiencing a private struggle to survive. This challenges our conventional ideas about the Australian landscape.

Griffith’s article explores the paradoxes and surprises found in Australia’s seemingly barren and featureless desert, symbolized by the ‘upside down river’ that dates back ‘over 300 million years’ reminding us of Australia’s long history and inviting us to perceive new hidden meanings within a familiar landscape in which silver trees blurred into the sky, and neither up nor down was easily discernible.

Question 6

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluates skilfully the extent to which the text explores both the significance of an individual human experience and its relevance to collective experience Presents an insightful response with detailed analysis supported by well- chosen textual references from the prescribed text Writes a coherent and sustained response using language appropriate to audience, purpose and context 	17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluates effectively the extent to which the text explores both the significance of an individual human experience and its relevance to collective experience Presents a thoughtful response with analysis supported by well- chosen textual references from the prescribed text Writes an organised response using language appropriate to audience, purpose and context 	13-16

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explains the extent to which the text explores an individual experience and draws a connection to collective experience • Presents a response with some analysis using textual references from the prescribed text • Writes an adequate response using language appropriate to audience, purpose and context 	9-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expresses limited understanding of ideas about individual and/or collective human experiences represented in the prescribed text • Describes aspects of the text • Writes a limited response 	5-8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refers to prescribed text in an elementary way • Attempts to compose a response 	1-4