

# Commentary on candidate 2 evidence

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of question paper 1: literary appreciation.

## Question 1a

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they showed a detailed understanding of Cicero's advice; 'set aside...longing for the city and city life' and pursue what you set out to achieve.

## Question 1b

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they explained one similarity (both are far from home) and two differences (unlike Medea, Trebatius is not begging for forgiveness; and unlike Medea, Trebatius is not in exile for committing crimes).

## Question 1c

The candidate was awarded **3 marks** because they commented on two encouraging features (possible to succeed far from home; staying at home risks disapproval) and a less encouraging one 'no use in him being smart', in a way that demonstrated sound understanding of the text.

## Question 2

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** because they discussed, with reference to the text, three features that point to a friendly tone:

- ◆ reference to a mutual friend **(1 mark)**
- ◆ gratitude for Cicero's services **(1 mark)**
- ◆ appreciation of Cicero's qualities **(1 mark)**
- ◆ 'you will learn everything else from Furnius' that could be construed as a less friendly dismissive tone **(1 mark)**

## Question 3a

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for comparing Marius' local senate to Oscan farces
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for a discriminatory joke about people from Greece.

### Question 3b

The candidate was awarded **6 marks** for their analysis of three ways in which Seneca conveys contempt:

- ◆ **2 marks** were awarded for discussion of balanced contrast,
- ◆ **2 marks** were awarded for discussion of 'praesumptio'
- ◆ **2 marks** were awarded for discussion of repeated rhetorical questions.

### Question 4

The candidate was awarded **0 marks** because they gave no response to the question.

### Question 5

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** for their detailed discussion, with appropriate reference to the text.

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for 'grabs the attention of the reader' including a dramatic opening.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for 'uses a short sentence' to convey suddenness
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for 'the power of three' to emphasise the extent of the violence
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for the uncertainty of Macedo's fate

### Question 6a

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they commented on the affectionate address to 'my Tiro' and on the affectionate tone of Cicero's 'sign off'. However, familiarity with Tiro's routine is not necessarily a sign of friendship, so no further marks were awarded.

### Question 6b

The candidate was awarded **2 marks** because they made two points contrasting Pliny's apparent concern for Zosimus' health, 'his heart is softened' with the way he lists his marketable qualities. No marks could be awarded for comparing losing Zosimus to losing an object. When Pliny mentions 'fear of losing its object' he is simply using a figure of speech in the context of a generalisation.

### Question 7

The candidate was awarded **4 marks** for discussing with detailed reference to the texts:

- ◆ letter writing keeping families in contact (**1 mark**)

- ◆ bolstering close friendships **(1 mark)**
- ◆ maintaining the writer's wider social network **(1 mark)**
- ◆ facilitating the exchange of gifts **(1 mark)**

## Question 8

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for noting that it was men who made the arrangements
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for the further comment that this could include friends who were not actually family members.

## Question 9

The candidate was awarded **17 marks** for engaging fully with the question and developing a clear line of argument as follows:

### Argument

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for discussing that personal letters are interesting because they offer the private insights often lacking in other historical sources.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for discussing that philosophical letters may have less immediate appeal, but vivid use of language can be attractive to readers.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for discussing that political letters offer insights into political views and personal relationships making them especially interesting.

The thematic approach opened up scope for analysis and evaluation. Candidates drew on a range of relevant examples and made effective and detailed reference to the text.

### Content

Personal letters about marriage **(5 marks)**

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for evidence of Pomponia's rudeness to Cicero's brother in Letter 25 by Cicero.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for the point that personal conflicts like that between Cicero and his sister-in-law are not documented elsewhere.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for discussion of Pliny's love for his wife in Letter 29.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for a developed point about his language use.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for commenting on insights into both successful and failing marriages.

**Personal letters about leisure time (3 marks)**

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for discussion of the insights Letter 11 by Cicero gives into upper class reading habits.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for discussion of the birthday party invitation from the Vindolanda tablets.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for commenting on insights into the activities of different classes.

**Philosophical letters (3 marks)**

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for explaining why Letter 12 by Seneca might be less interesting to read.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for detailed discussion of Seneca's language use in Letter 16.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for the observation that such descriptive language could make philosophical letters attractive to readers.

**Political letters (3 marks)**

- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for information about trials of Christians.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for insight into the personal dynamic between Pliny and Trajan in Letters 8 and 9.
- ◆ **1 mark** was awarded for discussion of the relationship between Cicero and Caesar in Letter 5.