

Candidate A

The candidate was awarded **21 marks** because.....

Literature - Como Agua para Chocolate/Yerma

General Comments

The title is a little bit clumsy. "In what way(s)." could have been substituted instead of "How..?"

Two sources are used and the word count is within the limit but the essay is fairly short. The bibliography is acceptable

Content

The first page is largely informative, particularly paragraphs 2 and 3, but then the candidate adopts a more analytical and critical approach, comparing and contrasting Yerma's and Tita's situations, taking each character in turn. Here the candidate points out the differences between Yerma and Tita, hopelessness for one and optimism for the other. Overall, the candidate demonstrates an understanding of the focus of study of both texts.

Style

The compare and contrast style is to be commended. Most of the quotations are relevant and substantiate the arguments but some are not always well placed. For example Pedro "había muerto" adds little to the ideas being presented by the candidate and they could have just provided the English here. The candidate does not fully expand on the use of critical terminology like imagery and symbolism. There is a reference to the literary technique of magical realism towards the end of the essay. Most of the work is relevant to the title.

Organisation

The work has an adequate sense of structure and is mostly coherent, although the mention of magical realism has no real relevance to the title. The conclusion is short and fairly weak. It could have been more developed by re-addressing the title and pulling together ideas on the impact of frustration, repression and despair on both characters.

Candidate B

The candidate was awarded **30 marks** because.....

Literature - How do Pablo Neruda's values cause him to see ordinary things as extraordinary?

General Comments

Three sources are used, all of them poems by Pablo Neruda. The word count is within the limit and the bibliography is acceptable.

There is excellent use of English and constant analysis throughout the essay, taking each ode in turn and then drawing a conclusion referring to the themes relating to all three at the end.

Content

The candidate has chosen an excellent title which generates an analytical and evaluative approach.

He consistently demonstrates an understanding of the focus of study. There are reasoned and relevant arguments substantiated with appropriate quotations.

Style

There is detailed evidence from sources to support the conclusions made. Critical terminology is used throughout eg "representation of magnificence", "literal and metaphorical", "symbolic", "this has connotations of.", "imagery", "personifying" etc

Organisation

The essay is very well structured with an extremely good introduction which focuses a little on Neruda's life and a link to his poetry and finishes with a rounded conclusion, pulling together the themes which straddle the three odes.

Candidate C

The candidate was awarded **15 marks** because.....

Literature - Réquiem por un campesino español/La Lengua de las Mariposas

General Comments

The title is a bit wordy and too ambitious, attempting to look at 4 characters across two texts. Therefore the texts do not get fully compared and contrasted. Two sources are used. The word count is within the limit and the bibliography is acceptable. The use of English is awkward in parts eg "undergo a negative development", "in the later of the story", "remains static in his Republican ways".

Content

The first sentence is clumsy and over-elaborates. The essay takes mostly a narrative and superficial approach, telling the story of both texts in the opening two paragraphs. Later, there are some features of an analytical approach for example the connection between the stain on the wall and Mosén Millán's guilt, and Paco's determination in sticking to his beliefs. When addressing La Lengua de las Mariposas, the candidate once more focuses on the events of the text rather than analysing it. There is some understanding of the focus of the study but the candidate overlooks the irony of the words "sapo" and "tilonorrinco" and could have expanded on this "abuse" aimed at Don Gregorio.

Style

Quotations do not always lend weight to the arguments presented.eg **siete años después, Mosén Millán recordaba la boda/es mejor que te entregues**. The quotation about others laughing at Moncho is misplaced. There is some evidence to support conclusions made and the last paragraph of the essay attempts to refer back to the title. The candidate highlights betrayal as the common theme to both texts but draws tenuous links between Mosén Millán and Paco's relationship and how this compares with the bond struck up by Don Gregorio and Moncho. Differences in the relationships are not mentioned.

Organisation

There is some sense of structure in the essay in that the candidate takes each text in turn and attempts a study of the 4 characters. However, the work lacks coherence in places due to awkward English and a mostly superficial treatment of the themes. This has an impact on the overall argument presented. Most of the work has some relevance to the title.

Candidate D

The candidate was awarded **6 marks** because.....

Literature - Aura-Carlos Fuentes

General comments

The title is weak. Two sources are used, the text and the video clip. The word count is within the limit but the essay is fairly short. The bibliography is acceptable. Use of English is stilted and quite strange throughout eg "it must be read slowly", "the old and the youth", "symbols show much more than the writer is trying to say", "if we deepen up " etc

Content

The use of English is seriously flawed and incomprehensible at times. The reader is uncertain as to whether the candidate has any real understanding of the focus of study. There is a superficial treatment of the video clip, highlighting Felipe's age and the sound quality. There is an emphasis at this stage on detail rather than theme and the candidate strays from the title.

Style

There is some attempt at analysis and evaluation but this is largely unsuccessful. Whatever attempt made at using critical terminology is very confusing. The long quotation at the bottom of p1 and into p2 is very unclear and lends nothing to the argument.

Organisation

The work lacks coherence and this has a major impact on the overall argument presented. The candidate finishes with a poor conclusion which makes very little sense and does not sum up what the symbols represent.