

Commentary on candidate evidence

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of this question paper.

Candidate 1

Question 40

By referring to this poem and to at least one other poem by Duffy, discuss how the poet explores the impact of loss.

The candidate was awarded **6 out of 10 marks** for this question.

Commonality

The first point 'when moving away from her mother and becoming an adult with responsibilities' in *The Way my Mother Speaks* is an acceptable comment on the impact of loss. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The second point 'she loses her comfort, safe space when leaving primary school and also her innocence' in *In Mrs Tilscher's Class* is a further acceptable comment on the impact of loss. It was awarded **1 mark**.

Extract/text

The first point 'meaning confusion and being uncertain ...anxious of the future' is an acceptable comment on "too blue swapped for a cool grey". It was awarded **1 mark**.

The second point 'emphasises the contrast in emotions ...just like happy and sad being opposites' is an acceptable comment on "I am happy and sad". It was awarded **1 mark**.

Elsewhere

The first point 'connotations of scary, unpredictable ...losing their safe space, escape from home etc' is an acceptable comment on "as the sky split open into a thunderstorm" in *In Mrs Tilscher's Class*. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The second point 'demonstrates the loss of innocence in the poem as growth is happening making them more and more aware' is an acceptable comment on "looked at my parents, appalled" in *In Mrs Tilscher's Class*. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The third point is an attempt to comment on "turned from inky tadpoles to exclamation marks" in *In Mrs Tilscher's Class*. The comment does not deal with the impact of loss and was awarded 0 marks.