

Commentary on candidate evidence

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

Candidate 2

The candidate was awarded a total of **16 out of 20 marks** for this section of the question paper.

Question 1: Look at lines 1-16. Analyse how the writer's use of language conveys a clear impression of Curry.

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The first point on "It's a disgrace" suggesting Curry appreciates work being carried out to a high standard is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The next point is an acceptable comment on "damned sight different in my day" suggesting Curry 'believes his generation are superior'. It was awarded **1 mark**.

Question 2: Look at lines 17-38. By referring to at least two examples, analyse how stage directions and/or dialogue are used to convey the conflict between characters.

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The first point on "what trade was that, Mr Curry?" suggesting sarcasm is used to highlight Phil's 'disrespect for Curry' is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The next point on "Any more lip from you" suggesting that Curry and Phil have frequent disagreements is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The third comment on “It was half-full this morning” is an acceptable comment suggesting that Spanky is often ill-mannered towards Curry. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The final point on the repetition of “or there’ll be trouble ... big trouble” suggesting Curry resorts to threats to ‘get them to listen’ is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.

Question 3: Look at lines 39-59. By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer’s use of language conveys the attitudes of both Phil and Spanky.

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

0 marks were awarded for the comment on “I had to ...er ...” as it is assertion rather than analysis.

0 marks were awarded for the comment on “what’ve I done?” suggesting Spanky is ‘ignorant to his own disrespect’. This is a misunderstanding as he is aware of what he has done.

The third point on “Christ ... talking furniture” highlighting Phil’s lack of respect for authority ‘even when being told off’ is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The final point on “What about Hector?” suggesting Spanky’s desire to blame others is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.

Question 4: By referring to this extract and to elsewhere in the play, discuss how Byrne uses setting in time and/or place to explore central concerns.

The candidate was awarded **8 marks**.

Commonality

The first point on the setting of the 1950s to explore themes of 'age versus youth and social class' is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.

The second point adds further development of the themes by giving the examples of the 'contrasts between Curry and Phil and the Slab Boys and Alan'. It was awarded **1 mark**.

Extract

The first point on "damned sight different in my day" suggesting Curry 'believes the newer generation are less capable' is an acceptable comment on the theme of youth versus age (which the candidate has identified under commonality). It was awarded **1 mark**.

The second point on "twelve and six for a fortnight" is also an acceptable comment on youth versus age suggesting Curry's generation valued being in employment and learning new 'skills.' It was awarded **1 mark**.

Elsewhere

0 marks were awarded for the point on Curry's war experience as it needs more explanation in relation to the question.

0 marks were awarded for the point about the new generation having 'different aspirations' as it is not tied to a central concern.

The next point (the candidate's bullet points 3 and 4) is a more detailed comment on social class highlighting Phil's resentment of Alan and his attempts to 'humble him'. It was awarded **2 marks**.

The next point is an acceptable comment on the Slab Boys mocking Alan's 'fancy' watch and was awarded **1 mark**.

The final point on Alan being paid more (because of his social class) is an acceptable comment. It was awarded **1 mark**.