

Candidate 4

“S ann tro sgilean sgrìobhaidh gleust a thig plota, suidheachadh, caractaran agus feartan eile na sgeulachd beò.”

Seall mar a tha seo fìor a thaobh sgeulachd ghoirid no nobhail a leugh thu o chionn ghoirid.

The candidate was awarded **15 marks**. This candidate opens their essay on Iain Mac a' Ghobhainn's short story *Bùrn* by connecting to the words of the question and by giving a brief summary of the plot of the short story. They then move on to the focus of the relationship between the two characters with quotation and analysis which they then follow up with a further related point about trust with another quotation. This format of following points with additional quotation is always worthwhile. This is then linked to techniques and the repetition of the image of the hand. This is successfully linked to the question focus at this point with evaluation of effect.

The effects of war on one of the characters, is then examined and reference made to simile and repetition with evaluation. This is done quite well and it is evident that the candidate is making judgements as to what examples to select which best connect the experience of the characters and which best tie to the question focus of 'suidheachadh'. This is from a story which is rich in possibilities for writing. Mention of how questions are used to show the effect on the character's ability to work out what day it is follow. A single quotation is used and connection made to the aspect of plot in the question. The candidate then looks at the ending of the story and the twist therein – expressed quite literally! Again more could have been made of this but the candidate does focus on the feelings left with the reader and how this is done with reference to the alliterative quality of the language.

For the conclusion, they then return to the focus of the question and provide some evaluation.

Overall this candidate has constructed quite a well expressed essay which covers a range of points and techniques with a focus on the question throughout. It is notable how they personally engage with the story and the essay answer rather than producing a mechanical response and though they could have covered a number of other points and followed up some of those they offered they do demonstrate a clear knowledge of the text with selective quotation and analysis used to answer the question.