

Commentary on candidate evidence

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

Candidate 1

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **10 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the horror convention of flashing lights and alarms creating fear and suggesting danger in Stranger Things.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the character running from the unknown creating mystery associated with horror.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of how the opening scene sets up expectations for the rest of the series.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the horror convention of a dark night being dangerous and spooky.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the fear of the unknown creating fear and tension.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the limited sound foreshadowing something bad being about to happen.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the jump scare of the monster jumping out and spooking the audience.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of how the audience's fear builds through the series 'similar to how the characters' feel.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of how the science experiments on Eleven link to the sci-fi genre.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of telekinesis linking to the sci-fi genre.

- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for a valid description of the alien monster Demogorgon as a sci-fi genre convention.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for a valid description of the slimy green and black alien linking to both horror and sci-fi.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for a valid description of the horror convention of dangerous characters and creatures with supernatural abilities.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **10 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the stereotype of 'men are stronger than women' being challenged throughout the series of Stranger Things.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the stereotype being challenged by the number of female characters who are portrayed as 'very strong and powerful'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the subversion of this stereotype when Nancy goes 'monster hunting'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the subversion of this stereotype with Nancy being a good shot.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the subversion of this stereotype as a male character struggling to shoot successfully.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the subversion of this stereotype due to the strength of Eleven's supernatural abilities.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the subversion of this stereotype due to the unconventional nature of Eleven's strength.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the stereotype of the 'typical teenage jock'. This is credited following the description of this stereotype, as the initial identification of it would be insufficient.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the stereotype of the '80's kid' through props.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the stereotypically 80's household might provide nostalgia for the audience.

- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for a valid explanation of a stereotypical pastime for a friend group in the 80's.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for a valid explanation of the stereotype of the 'donut eating police officer'.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for a valid explanation of how a line of dialogue sums up this stereotype.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **9 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Todorov's equilibrium stage in Stranger Things through textual exemplification of characters playing a game.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Todorov's disruption stage through textual exemplification of Will going missing.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Todorov's recognition or 'realisation' stage through textual exemplification of Eleven providing information.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Todorov's new equilibrium stage through textual exemplification when Will is found.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of a definition of a non-linear narrative.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the use of flashbacks in Stranger Things.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the binary opposition of good vs evil through the main characters vs the Demogorgon.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the binary opposition of normal vs supernatural through the main characters vs Eleven.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of how binary oppositions create conflict.

Question 4(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 out of 2 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the institutional factor of a 'very big budget'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the institutional factor of the use of technology.

Question 4(b)

The candidate was awarded **3 out of 8 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how CGI improves the quality of the show. This mark was found in the candidate's response to 4(a).
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the textual exemplification of impressive ways CGI was used with the flying bus.
- No mark was awarded for the vague point that using professional actors ensures high quality acting.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the fact that the production renting a school for filming allowed space for stunts.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **3 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the discussion of a single sea creature informs the audience in Blue Planet II.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how playing a video of an animal whilst talking about it entertains the audience.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how David Attenborough providing surprising facts about the animal entertains the audience.

Question 6(a)

The candidate was awarded **10 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- No marks were awarded for the first point about the characters in the middle of the poster as it is basic, and not sufficiently specific to this poster.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the positioning of the woman in front of the man may highlight her significance. This is a valid reading by the candidate.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the positioning of the man behind the woman suggests he 'has her back' and will protect her.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the field of poppies commemorate war and suggest to the audience that the film will be about war.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the man and woman being alone in the field highlights that they only care about each other.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the positioning of the characters as physically close to each other suggests the film genre is about love.
- No marks were awarded for the point about the army uniform as it is basic, and not linked to genre, target audience, narrative stage, character archetype etc.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the colours of the costumes of the two main characters might symbolise a Scottish thistle which can be seen as a romantic and peaceful symbol.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the sunset suggests a narrative moment, ie the long hard day is over.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the text is split around the main characters which suggests that war and love are separate things which 'do not mix'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how an enigma is created as this contradicts the apparent theme.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the tears in the paper symbolise war letters.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for explaining the representation of how love can overcome war suggests people want to live normal lives even during war.
- No mark was awarded for the repetition of this point.

- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for explaining how the calm and pretty colours suggest that love can make anything pretty.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for explaining how the sense of the 'calm after the storm' they describe might suggest that drama or action has been involved.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for explaining how the direct address of the characters on the bottom of the poster might make an audience feel more involved.

Overall, the candidate was awarded **47 out of 60 marks** for this question paper.

Candidate 2

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **10 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the genre convention of a final girl in Get Out.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Chris as the final girl.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the genre convention of a scary place.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of how the Armitage family house is the scary place.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the genre convention of a monster.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the father as a monster as he is evil and racist.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the flames in the father's glasses showing his devil like nature.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the genre convention of the savant.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the blind man as the savant.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the genre convention of dark lighting to create an eerie atmosphere.
- **1 additional mark** could have been awarded for a valid description of how Chris being put in never ending darkness makes the audience fearful and uncomfortable.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **4 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Andy fits the villain stereotype as he sits in the dark with a gun and alcohol suggesting he is thinking of hurting himself or others in The Shawshank Redemption.

- No marks were awarded for Andy as a weakened character as this is not a clear stereotype.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Andy fits the intelligent character stereotype through his costume.
- No marks were awarded for Andy and Red as good friends as this is not a clear stereotype.
- No marks were awarded for the warden as dishonest as this is not a clear stereotype.
- No marks were awarded for the warden as someone with power as this is not a clear stereotype.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the warden fits the villain stereotype through the use of dark lighting.
- No marks were awarded for Brook as someone the audience should feel sympathy for as this is not a clear stereotype.
- No marks were awarded for Cady as insecure as this is not a clear stereotype.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Regina George fits the stereotype of a 'mean girl' through her costume in Mean Girls.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **9 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of equilibrium in stereotypical Barbie's seemingly perfect life.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Todorov's disruption stage.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the disruption stage in Barbie when she discovers she is malfunctioning.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Todorov's resolution stage.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the resolution stage in Barbie when the Barbies and Kens agree to live as equal.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Propp's character type of the hero.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of how Sergeant Angel is the hero in Hot Fuzz.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Propp's false hero.

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of how Rose Armitage is the false hero in Get Out.

Question 4(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 out of 2 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the use of a \$150 million budget.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the use of the BBFC age rating.

Question 4(b)

The candidate was awarded **5 out of 8 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the use of budget to fund cameo roles from celebrities in Barbie.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the use of budget to create detailed and intricate pink sets.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the use of budget to include songs from current pop stars.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how blood and gore was limited because of the BBFC in Get Out.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of only using two locations due to a \$5 million budget.
- No mark was awarded for the constraint of having 23 days to film as there is no explanation of how this impacted the text.
- No mark was awarded for the marketing of Barbie as this happened after the text was made and does not impact the content.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **6 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is entertained through the use of a catchy tune and repetitive lyrics in Dumb Ways to Die.

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is entertained through simple animation.
- No mark was awarded for the explanation of how the audience was educated through universal imagery such as bears and piranhas as this is unclear.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is educated through the use of 'over the top' deaths.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is educated through the placement of putting the characters front and centre.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is informed through the soft motherly voice.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is informed through the use of the tag line.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **6 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- No mark was awarded for the first four paragraphs as they are basic and not linked to genre, purpose or audience etc.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the position of the gate in between the couple suggest they will be separated.
- No mark was awarded for the sixth paragraph as it is basic and is not linked to purpose, audience etc.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the female character may be more family orientated as the family are contained at her side of the poster.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the male character may be more focused on fighting as his side of the poster depicts a soldier in the woods.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the imagery of the poppy field is used to suggest the film is set during WWI.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the tagline establishes the genres of both war and romance.
- **1 mark** was awarded for the three basic institutional identifications of being based on a book, the list of the main actors and the age rating.

Overall, the candidate was awarded **42 out of 60 marks** for this question paper.

Candidate 3

Question 1

The candidate was awarded **10 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the door slamming and the scientist running as a horror convention in Stranger Things.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the Demogorgon as a monster.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the foggy forest as a horror convention.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the backlit Demogorgon as a jump scare.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Eleven having telekinetic powers as a convention of the sci-fi genre.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the high school as a genre convention of a 'teen flick'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the film following the lives of three teenagers as a genre convention of a 'teen flick'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Eleven being tested on by scientists as a convention of the sci-fi genre.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the Demogorgon attacking through the wall as a convention of the horror genre.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the close-up of the scientist repeatedly using the button and running for his life as a convention of the horror genre.

Question 2

The candidate was awarded **7 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Hopper fits the stereotype of an 'alcoholic' through mise-en-scène.

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Hopper fits the stereotype of a 'lazy cop'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Hopper fits the stereotype of an 'alcoholic' by taking pills and drinking beer instead of water.
- No marks were awarded for Hopper having 'two sides' as this is not a clear stereotype.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Hopper fits the stereotype of 'someone with depression' by denying the fact that his daughter has died.
- No mark was awarded for the basic comment about Nancy's costume.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Nancy fits the stereotype of a 'good girl' who gets involved with a 'bad boy'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Steve fits the stereotype of a 'bully'.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how Steve fits the stereotype of a 'bad boy' by climbing through Nancy's window.

Question 3

The candidate was awarded **7 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- No marks are awarded for the two unclear comments about the narrative stage of equilibrium.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of Todorov's disruption in *Stranger Things* when Will is taken by the Demogorgon.
- No mark was awarded for the comment on meeting Eleven as the disruption is unclear.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the recognition stage when Joyce goes to Hopper to say that Will is missing.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the recognition stage when Lucas, Dustin and Mike go searching for Will.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the attempt to repair the disruption stage when Hopper and Joyce go into the upside down in search for Will.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the attempt to repair the disruption stage when Jonathan and Nancy go to kill the Demogorgon.

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the restoration of the equilibrium stage when Eleven destroys the Demogorgon.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the restoration stage when Will is rescued from the upside down.

Question 4(a)

The candidate was awarded **2 out of 2 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the Duffer brothers being given a budget of \$6 million per episode. This mark was found in the candidate's response to 4(b).
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid description of the Duffer brothers being given full creative control. This mark was found in the candidate's response to 4(b).

Question 4(b)

The candidate was awarded **4 out of 8 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the use of black curtains and water instead of CGI to save the budget.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the use of an animatronic suit to make it seem more real and save the budget.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the use of actors to contribute to ideas.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of the structure of the episode to include advertising and how this impacts the text.
- No marks were awarded for the final two institutional comments as they are irrelevant.

Question 5

The candidate was awarded **10 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how children are educated through the use of bright colours.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how children are educated through the use of rhyme.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how children can relate to the young girl.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the zoom suggests to the audience how serious it is that trees are being destroyed.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is educated that palm oil is bad.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the use of colour suggests the importance of the orangutan.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the use of camera suggests how weak the orangutan is.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how lighting is used to suggest that they are the hope for the future.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how the audience is informed through the Iceland logo.
- **1 mark** was awarded for a valid explanation of how children are targeted through the use of an animal to inform them.

Question 6

The candidate was awarded **6 out of 10 marks** as follows:

- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the two people holding each other indicates a romance genre and attracts romance fans.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how poppies in the background suggests it takes place in WW2 and targets an audience of war film fans.

- No mark was awarded for the comment on the title of the film as this has been decided before the poster was made.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the tag line could suggest the two characters are torn apart, reunited and how it targets romance fans.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the tag line could appeal to drama genre fans.
- No mark was awarded for the basic comment on the institutional information on the source of the film.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the pictures of the large cast might attract an audience.
- **1 mark** was awarded for explaining how the war uniform might interest fans of war movies.
- No mark was awarded for the basic comment on the placement of an actor's name.

Overall, the candidate was awarded **46 out of 60 marks** for this question paper.