MARKING NOTES REMARQUES POUR LA NOTATION NOTAS PARA LA CORRECCIÓN

May / mai / mayo 2004

ENGLISH / ANGLAIS / INGLÉS A2

Higher Level Niveau Supérieur Nivel Superior

Paper / Épreuve / Prueba 1

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Higher level, Paper 1

These notes to examiners are intended only as guidelines to assist marking. They are not offered as an exhaustive and fixed set of responses or approaches to which all answers must rigidly adhere. Good ideas or angles not offered here should be acknowledged and rewarded as appropriate. Similarly, answers which do not include all the ideas or approaches suggested here should not be so heavily penalized as to distort appreciation of individuality.

SECTION A

This section invites candidates to comment on and compare a feature/advertisement about shoes from a fashion magazine and an autobiographical essay about shoes and fashion.

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- identify the genre and purpose of each text
- comment on the similarities of theme and differences of purpose
- identify differences of tone and structure in each text
- take note of the affluence implied in 1(a) and the poverty of 1(b).

A better comparative commentary will:

- demonstrate an understanding of the link between genre and purpose
- comment on the rhetorical techniques used in text 1(a)
- discuss the use of some stylistic devices such as alliteration, repetition, hyperbole, use of adjectives, and aspects of sentence structure
- comment on character and setting in text 1(b)
- develop in more detail the contrast between poverty and affluence.

The best comparative commentaries should also include most of the following:

- an analysis of the choice of details in texts 1(a) and 1(b) and of how these details contribute to the overall purpose of each text
- comments on attitudes toward fashion displayed in the two texts and on how language is used to convey these attitudes
- analysis of the narrator's attitude toward her younger self and toward the event described in text 1(b)
- a conclusion about the thematic relationship between the texts.

SECTION B

This section invites candidates to comment on and compare excerpts about roads from two novels.

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- comment on the similarities and differences of theme
- compare the settings of the two texts
- identify characters in text 2(a)
- note the different modes of transport in the texts: in 2(a) by fast car; in 2(b) a leisurely walk
- identify some stylistic devices present in each text.

A better comparative commentary will:

- point to some examples of the very different styles of the two excerpts
- contrast the attitude toward travel and the road in each text
- make some reference to the narrative voice in each text
- analyse the choice of details in the two texts and note the contribution of some of these details to the overall theme of each text
- make observations on the structure of each text.

The best comparative commentaries should also include most of the following:

- thoughtful remarks on the narrative voice in each text
- detailed comments about literary devices and poetic diction in each text
- mention of the different pace of each text
- comments on how language is used to suggest speed in 2(a) and contemplation in 2(b)
- analysis of the link between rhythm, language, and theme in each text.