



**MARKING NOTES  
REMARQUES POUR LA NOTATION  
NOTAS PARA LA CORRECCIÓN**

**November / novembre / noviembre 2008**

**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 question invites the candidate to consider two texts about sharks: a fictitious excerpt from Peter Benchley’s novel *Jaws* and an information brochure from a “shark smart” public awareness campaign in Australia.

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- identify the common theme
- mention the different genres
- note that text 1 (a) is more descriptive than text 1 (b)
- note one or two differences in structure
- call attention to at least one stylistic feature of each text.

A better answer may:

- note that 1 (a) describes an imminent shark attack while text 1 (b) gives advice on how to avoid such an attack
- note the different purpose and audience: text 1 (a) is to entertain as popular fiction and text 1 (b) is to inform and improve public awareness
- compare the use of simple, direct language in both texts
- comment on particular literary features in text 1 (a) such as imagery or mood; compare these to the stylistic elements in text 1 (b), for example, short sentences, bullet points and command verbs
- note that the woman in text 1 (a) is not “shark smart”, as defined in text 1 (b).

The best answers may:

- consider how the author of 1 (a) uses key sensory details to create meaning and mood
- comment on the second person singular in text 1 (b)
- consider the attitude towards nature in text 1 (b)
- compare the emphasis on individual responsibility in text 1 (b) with the emphasis on individual vulnerability in text 1 (a)
- comment on the techniques used to create suspense and tension in text 1 (a)
- note the woman in text 1 (a) is unnamed and consider the effects of this anonymity.

## SECTION B

This question invites the candidate to consider two texts about climate change: an advertisement from an oil producer and a speech from a climate change expert.

A barely satisfactory commentary will:

- identify the common theme of climate change
- mention the different genres
- call attention to at least one stylistic feature of each text
- note the structure of each text.

A better comparative answer may:

- note that text 2 (a) outlines some action taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while text 2 (b) considers why action is necessary
- note that the first person plural “we” is common to both texts
- comment on the use of persuasive language in texts 2 (a) and 2 (b)
- comment on the different target audiences at which each text is aimed
- comment on some of the stylistic and rhetorical devices such as the use of the present progressive tense in text 2 (a) and the use of repetition in text 2 (b).

The best answers may:

- comment in greater detail on stylistic and rhetorical devices and their effects
  - note that the use of the “we” is inclusive in text 2 (b); in text 2 (a) “we” is first used to refer to the company but shifts to include the reader at the end of the text
  - comment on the dual purpose of text 2 (a): the advertisement promotes the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, while also promoting the company itself
  - mention some aspects of text 2 (b) that identify it as a spoken text.
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