



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

**November / novembre / noviembre 2009**

**ENGLISH / ANGLAIS / INGLÉS A2**

**Higher Level  
Niveau Supérieur  
Nivel Superior**

**Paper / Épreuve / Prueba 1**

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## SECTION A

*This question invites candidates to compare excerpts from a novel and a poem, both about working.*

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- note that both texts are about work and the effects of work on people
- note the difference in genre
- call attention to one or two stylistic devices in each text.

The better comparative commentary may also:

- discuss key stylistic devices: for instance, place names, description, repetition, metaphors and similes in Text 1; dialogue, alliteration, rhyme, meter, weather imagery and technical terms in Text 2
- compare and contrast attitudes to work expressed in the two texts, noting that pride is important in both
- compare and contrast the effect of work on people's bodies in each text: noting the distinction drawn between the bodies of rich and poor people in Text 1 and recognizing that both texts develop the idea that "the story of a poor man's life is written on his body."
- suggest inferences that might be drawn about the characters in the two texts, using support from the texts.

The best comparative commentaries may also:

- discuss the use and effect of key stylistic devices in some detail
- compare and contrast the sources of pride and satisfaction in each text
- discuss the contrast between frailty and strength in each text
- comment on the structure of each text, with attention to the interplay of perspective in each text
- acknowledge that the worker's voice is not heard in Text 1 while most of Text 2 is presented in the worker's voice.

## SECTION B

*This question invites candidates to compare an extract from a newspaper article and a promotional website, both about the exploration of Mars.*

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- note that both texts are about the exploration of Mars
- note the difference in genre
- call attention to one or two stylistic features in each text.

A better comparative commentary may also:

- discuss the stylistic features of each text in some detail: for instance, references to dates, numbers and quotations in Text 3; metaphor, alliteration, bullets, questions and numbers in Text 4
- note that both texts include appeals to expert evidence
- compare and contrast the purpose of each text, noting the differences in audience
- consider how the idea of the unknown is presented in each text.

The best comparative commentaries may also:

- compare the registers of the texts
  - discuss the use and effect of key stylistic devices in some detail
  - compare the characteristics of the journalistic style in Text 3 with the promotional aspects of Text 4
  - discuss differences in tone and consider how tone is important to the meanings conveyed in each text
  - note that, while Text 3 warns about the difficulties and dangers of a crewed mission to Mars, Text 4 asks readers/potential visitors to imagine themselves taking part in a mission
  - recognize that Text 3 stresses the need to find solutions to a series of problems while Text 4 foregrounds “problems with no set solutions” and stresses imagination instead.
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