



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

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ENGLISH / ANGLAIS / INGLÉS A2

**Standard Level
Niveau Moyen
Nivel Medio**

Paper / Épreuve / Prueba 1

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SECTION A

This question invites candidates to compare a promotional website and an extract from a non-fiction book, both of which are concerned with hamburgers.

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- call attention to the different genres; one a promotional website and the other a non-fiction book
- comment on the purpose of each text, noting that text 1 is designed to promote an American fast food company that specializes in hamburgers, while text 2 comments on the popularity of fast food in the US
- mention one or two stylistic features of each text: *e.g.* lists, numbers, repetition, alliteration, capital letters and neologisms in text 1; lists, numbers, repetition, and simile in text 2.

The better comparative commentary may also:

- be more specific about the shared subject, commenting on the very different attitudes displayed towards fast food: text 1 promotes consumption and presents the prevalence and availability of its product as a good thing; text 2 expresses regret at the prevalence of fast food
- discuss key stylistic devices in more detail
- compare the ways that numbers are used in the texts
- note differences in tone: text 1 is enthusiastic, celebratory, and self-promotional; while text 2 is more objective (less biased, at any rate) and somewhat critical
- consider what the title of text 2 reveals about its aims
- discuss the use and effect of the second person in both texts
- comment on the use of sensory details in text 2 and the informal register in text 1.

The best comparative commentaries may also:

- consider the relationship between tone and meaning in the two passages, noting that words like “applause” suggest that White Castle products are exciting, while text 2 uses a sometimes ironic tone and represents the consumption of such products as “unexceptional and mundane”.
- note that both texts present a history of what text 1 calls the “hamburger century” and compare their depiction of that history
- note that fast food is imagined as ubiquitous (even unavoidable) in both texts: for example, text 1 notes that White Castle is “open 24 hours” and uses variations on the word “crave”; text 2 presents a long list of places where fast food is sold and uses the word “inescapable”
- discuss the use and effect of sensory details in text 2
- note the use of “first” in text 1 supports its argument that the fast food industry has affected “not only the American diet, but also our landscape, economy, [and] workforce”.
- consider how directives (text 2) and short sentences (text 1) are used to include and engage the audience
- consider how the image in text 1 aligns being open with being open-minded.

SECTION B

This question invites candidates to compare a poem and an extract from a journal article, both of which are concerned with dancing and, more specifically, with the waltz.

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- call attention to the different genres: one a poem and the other a journal article
- note that the dance described in text 3 is much less formal and less governed by rules than the kind of dance (ballroom) that is focused upon in text 4
- mention one or two stylistic features of each text: *e.g.* rhyme, rhythm, alliteration in text 3; use of quotations and alliteration in text 4.

A better comparative commentary may also:

- be more specific about the shared subject, noting the many differences between the exuberant (even violent) energy of the dance in text 3 and the emphasis on social graces and conventions in text 4
- discuss key stylistic devices in more detail, noting the use of active verbs, rhyme and (perhaps) rhythm in text 3
- discuss differences in tone, noting that the tone of text 3 is very personal while the tone in text 4 is more academic and objective
- consider what the titles reveal about the meanings of the texts, noting how the title of text 3 emphasizes a very personal experience that is utterly unconcerned with the ideals of “civilized dancing” discussed in text 4
- discuss the use of first person in text 3.

The best comparative commentaries may also:

- note that the dance described in text 3 is like the early Waltz that originated from peasant dancing, according to text 4
 - recognize that the dancer described in text 3 is likely a labourer and is, at any rate, not a member of the “upper class Europeans” described in text 4; the dancer in text 3 has “palms caked hard by dirt” while text 4 focuses on those who wear “swords” and “luxurious full gowns”
 - note that the mother in text 3 seems to object to the chaos of the dance, perhaps aligning her with those people in text 4 who considered “peasant forms of dancing ... to be crude and unpolished”.
 - note that the energy described in text 3 is barely controlled, while text 4 is all about demonstrating control and grace, *e.g.* “bear the refusal with becoming grace...”
 - consider that text 4 presents a history of the Waltz, while text 3 presents the memory of a Waltz in order to suggest the feelings it evoked
 - consider the relationship between tone and meaning in both texts.
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