

Answer Scheme

A	Language Use [25 m]	
	<i>The text below tells of a man's dining experience in an institution.</i>	
	Jacques is carrying a tray with a single dish covered by one of those old fashioned silver domes. He balances the tray with one hand and grasps the lid of the dome with the other. He gives a faint smile then quickly takes away the lid theatrically . (AES Prelim 2018)	
1)	<p>In Paragraph 2, the writer suggests that Jacques is an experienced waiter. Pick out and write down two expressions from the paragraph and explain how they show his experience. [2]</p> <p>'Balances the tray with one hand' shows that he is able to make sure the tray does not slip off his hand, suggesting that he is skilled/skilful/professional in serving customers [1].</p> <p>'Takes away the lid theatrically' shows that he intentionally tried to be dramatic with his action, suggesting that he knows how to entertain guests with the way he presents/serves them with their food [1].</p>	[2]
	I pick up the silver spoon and turn it over. Just as I once did, as a young boy, I lean forward with my ear towards the dish and tap the back of the spoon against the hard surface three times. My heart soars as the sound resonates with the sound of my childhood. Tears well in my eyes with memories of my dear mama in Provence. I shatter the surface and dip into the undulating waves of sun coloured cream then slip the spoon into my mouth. Velvet smoothness glides past slivers of crisp caramel . The whispers of vanilla echoes in my mouth. The chef is a god: a crème brûlée of perfect proportions. I wish it could last forever but nothing can. In the end, I place the spoon down. That, I say, is the finest dessert I have ever had. Excellent, Jacques says and takes away the empty plate and spoon. (AES Prelim 2018)	
2)	<p>The writer describes his experience of eating the crème brûlée dessert. Explain how the language in Paragraph 4 makes the dessert appealing.</p> <p>Support your ideas with three details from Paragraph 4. [3]</p> <p>'Undulating waves of sun coloured cream' emphasises the wavy appearance and bright colour of the cream, suggesting that the dessert looks pretty [1].</p> <p>'Velvet smoothness (glides past)' emphasises that the dessert is very creamy/ has a very consistent/even texture, suggesting that the dessert tastes good [1].</p> <p>'Slivers of crisp caramel' emphasises the crunchiness of the caramel/ emphasises that the caramel is very crunchy, suggesting that the caramel is tasty [1].</p> <p>'Whispers of vanilla' shows that the vanilla flavour is mild/light, suggesting that the taste is pleasant [1].</p> <p>(Any three of the above answers are acceptable.)</p>	[3]

	In the text below, the writer describes his experience in Antarctica.	
	When this imperfect shelter was nearly finished, they made a day trip to collect their emperor penguin eggs. Reaching the sea ice from this direction, which no one had ever done before, turned out to require descending a 200-foot cliff. The climb was the most harrowing technical mountaineering any of them had ever attempted , and they undertook it in the dark . They managed it, though getting back up the cliff almost defeated them . Cherry-Garrard, climbing blindly, smashed both of the penguin eggs entrusted to him. With a final effort, they made it back to Igloo Spur with three eggs still intact. The next day they completed the rock hut and erected the Scott tent right outside its doorway, in the lee of the shelter. Three weeks after setting out, everything was arranged more or less according to their plan. Then a big wind hit. (ACSBYR MYE 2018)	
3)	<p>At the beginning of this text, the writer describes the climb to be extremely challenging. Explain how the language used in paragraph 1 emphasises its difficulty.</p> <p>Support your ideas with three details from paragraph 1.[3]</p> <p>'Most harrowing technical mountaineering (any of them had ever attempted) suggests that climbing the mountain requires a lot of skill/techniques, showing that the climb is very demanding. (1)</p> <p>X extremely scary (must be talking about the technical aspect of the climb)</p> <p>'Undertook it in the dark' suggests that visibility was very poor, and hence it was extremely hard to see properly.</p> <p>'The cliff almost defeated them' suggests that the climb was so dangerous that they were close to death/almost could not manage to climb the cliff.</p> <p>(Answers need to have both evidence and explanation.)</p>	[3]
	<i>The text below describes how a girl travelled to another country to take up college place.</i>	
	As she walked through the revolving doors of the airport, she took a deep breath, and set her foot in the country that would be her home, a foreign home, for the next few years. But just as she did so, the gears in her mind instinctively clicked as it drew an imaginary line of escape. Beyond those doors, taxi drivers lined the road, a voracious glint in their eyes as they stood in wait to pounce on each target that walked out . They were soon hot on her trails , pestering her, each trying vociferously to persuade her . Skillfully, she engineered her way around them and headed straight for the bus stop which she had spotted from afar.(DSS MYE 2019)	
4)	<p>In paragraph 5, the taxi drivers are described as predators. Explain how the language used in paragraph 1 emphasises this quality.</p> <p>Support your answer with three details from the paragraph.[3]</p>	[3]

	<p>'Voracious glint in their eyes' suggests that the taxi drivers were very eager/ extremely enthusiastic in looking for passengers, similar to how a predator would be hunt for prey. [1]</p> <p>Voracious: engaging in an activity with great eagerness or enthusiasm. Not accepted: - Looking intently/attentively (It is not about the focus given) - Looked at them fiercely/maliciously/in an evil manner (Inaccurate)</p> <p>'Stood in wait to pounce on each target that walked out' suggests that they were ready to very quickly approach each potential passenger the moment they appeared, similar to how a predator would get ready to attack its prey. [1]</p> <p>Not accepted: - Ready to catch the attention (Inaccurate degree)</p> <p>'Hot on her trails' suggests that they chased/pursued her very closely, similar to how a predator would chase after its prey. [1]</p> <p>Not accepted: - They were stalking her (Inaccurate) - Rushed towards her once she was spotted (Addresses only the initial moment but not the whole process)</p> <p>'Trying vociferously to persuade her' suggests that they were very persistent/aggressive/forceful in trying to get her to take their taxi, similar to how a predator would be aggressive with its prey.</p> <p>Not accepted: - Loudly asking her to board their taxi (not just loud, but forceful too)</p> <p>(Any 3)</p> <p>Not accepted: "drew an imaginary line of escape" (Phrase refers to Anna and not the taxi drivers)</p>	
	<i>The text below describes the aftermath of an atomic bomb that was dropped on Japan.</i>	
	<p>The Omuros in question were an old family, said to date back to the Edo period, and the present head was a man of many talents, dabbling in calligraphy, painting and art-collecting. I had visited the house myself several times during the past year. It had been an imposing mansion, with a splendid old-style garden. Now, however, it was completely razed to the ground. The majestic golden pine beams that held up the structure of the house was now a heap of blackened ash. Where the main building and clay-walled storehouse had once stood, was an arid waste scattered with broken tiles. The rock on which Shigeko and Yasuko were sitting was almost certainly a rock from the garden inside the grounds. Rock though it was, a thin layer had been burnt away all over it. (PLMGSS MYE 2019)</p>	
5)	<p>The Omuro's mansion was totally destroyed. Explain how the language used in paragraph 4 highlights the extent of this destruction. In your explanation, make a comparison to what the Omuro's mansion was like before. Support your ideas with three details from paragraph 4. [3]</p> <p>□</p> <p>'Completely razed to the ground' shows that the once imposing mansion was now entirely burnt down.</p>	[3]

	<p>'A heap of blackened ash' shows that the golden pine beam that held up the structure of the house had disintegrated into ash.</p> <p>'An arid waste scattered with broken tiles' shows that the main building and clay-walled storehouse was now a barren place, littered with ruins/debris.</p> <p>Note: Answers must compare the Omuro's mansion before and after the destruction.</p>	
	<i>The text below is about Arun, an exchange student from India, who joins members of his American host family for an afternoon at the beach.</i>	
	<p>'There you are!' Mrs Patton cries, too loudly. 'Come along! We're going to spend the day down at the swimming hole. It's too hot to lie in the yard and Daddy won't get us a pool, so Melanie and I've decided –' she looks archly through the door towards the den '– we'll go swimming instead, all by ourselves. Coming?' It is Saturday. Arun cannot plead work. He stands despondent, and when Melanie comes to the door, dressed in her bathing suit with a big shirt drawn over her shoulders, and stares at him challengingly, he starts wildly to find excuses. Mrs. Patton will not hear them. No, she will not. Absolutely not. So she says, with her hands spread out and pressing against the air. 'No, no, no. We're all three of us going.' (NYGH MYE 2019)</p>	
6)	<p>At the beginning of this text, Arun was asked to go to the beach.</p> <p>Explain how the language used in Paragraph 1 reveals Arun's reluctance. Support your ideas with three details from the paragraph. [3]</p> <p>'Arun cannot plead work' suggests that Arun wanted to use work as an excuse but could not since it was a Saturday, showing that he was does not want to go to the beach. [1]</p> <p>'He stands despondent' suggests that Arun was extremely disappointed that he could not use work as an excuse, showing that he was very unwilling to go to the beach [1].</p> <p>'Starts wildly to find excuses' suggests that Arun tried desperately to find excuses, showing that he was determined to avoid going to the beach. [1]</p>	[3]
	<i>The excerpt below describes the narrator's prejudice of Max Kelada and how it dissolves towards the end of the story.</i>	
	<p>I was prepared to dislike Max Kelada even before I knew him. On the ocean liner I not only shared a cabin with Mr Kelada and ate three meals a day at the same table, but I could not walk round the deck without him joining me. It never occurred to him that he was not wanted; he was certain that you were as glad to see him as he was to see you. He conducted the auctions, organised the concert and arranged the fancy-dress ball. He was everywhere and always. He was certainly the best hated man in the ship. We called him Mr Know-All, even to his face, which he took as a compliment. But it was at mealtimes that he was most intolerable. He was hearty, exceedingly talkative and argumentative. He knew everything better than anybody else, and the possibility that he could be mistaken never occurred to him. (Sec 3 PA2 2017)</p>	
7)	<p>Explain how the language used in paragraph 1 emphasises that Mr Kelada was oblivious to what others thought of him. Support your answer with three details from the text. [3]</p> <p><i>Details quoted have to SUGGEST; not TELL.</i></p>	[3]

	<p>Answers should NOT show what others thought of him, how he was everywhere at once, or how he was extremely sure of himself, but should show how he was not aware that people disliked him and found him intolerable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Never occurred to him that he was not wanted’ suggests that he did not realise at all that other people did not like him/want him around, showing that he was totally unaware of the situation. • ‘Certain that you were as glad to see him as he was to see you’ suggests that he confidently believed/assumed that people liked him/liked to talk to him, showing that he was ignorant of other people’s feelings. • ‘Took as a compliment’ suggests that he thought that people were praising him, when actually they were mocking/insulting him, showing that he misinterpreted other people’s words/unaware of the sarcasm. 	
	<p>The excerpt below describes Jane’s experiences while travelling with her husband, Stephen Hawking, and her son, Robert.</p>	
	<p>The ventilation system at Terminal Three had broken down that day, the hottest day of the summer, with the result that hot air was being sucked into the building but none was being let out, making a veritable inferno of the departure lounge. We had just reached the lounge when the loudspeaker announced that the flight was delayed.</p> <p>While we waited in the stifling heat, Robert eagerly gulped down the entire contents of the bottle of diluted rose-hip syrup which was supposed to last him all the way to Seattle. (Sec 4 Prelim 1 2016)</p>	
8)	<p>Explain how the language used between lines 17-22 suggests that Jane’s experience at the airport was not a pleasant one. Support your answer with two details from the text. [2]</p> <p><i>Any 2.</i> <i>Details quoted have to SUGGEST; not TELL</i> <i>Explanations have to address why her experience was unpleasant.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘A veritable inferno’ suggests that the departure lounge was extremely hot and therefore Jane felt very uncomfortable. • ‘Just reached the lounge’ suggests that the announcement of the flight’s delay was announced (right at) the moment when she reached the lounge, hence Jane was startled/shocked by the bad news. • ‘(The) stifling heat’ suggests that the weather was so hot that she felt suffocated/breathless. 	[2 1]

B	Unusual and Effective [20 m]	
	<i>The text below tells of a man's dining experience in an institution.</i>	
	I nearly gasp, it's almost too good to be true. Resting at the centre of a large plate is a plain white ramekin dish. As Jacques lowers the tray I hold my breath and peer over the ramekin's thin circular edge, which perfectly frames a flat, even surface of familiar golden brown hues. It's a glass of champagne shimmering in the distance to a man lying in a desert dying of thirst. But this is real. (AES Prelim 2018)	
1)	<p>In Paragraph 3, the writer says that the dessert is 'a glass of champagne shimmering in the distance to a man lying in a desert dying of thirst' (lines 17 – 18). What is unusual and effective about this comparison? [2]</p> <p>It is unusual because a man dying of thirst needs water instead of something luxurious like champagne to quench his thirst.</p> <p>It is effective in emphasising that <u>he felt privileged/grateful/appreciative</u> to be served such an expensive dessert.</p> <p>Accepted: It is effective in emphasising that <u>he found it unbelievable</u> to be served such an expensive dessert.</p>	[2]]
	STOP HERE	
	In the text below, the writer describes his experience in Antarctica.	
	Snow drifted onto them and gave them some insulation. As the storm raged, Wilson and Bowers sang songs, and Cherry-Garrard tried to join them. "I can well believe that neither of my companions gave up hope for an instant. They must have been frightened but they were never disturbed. As for me I never had any hope at all.... Without the tent we were dead men." (ACSB MYE 2018)	
2)	<p>What is (i) unusual and (ii) effective about the sentence, 'Snow drifted onto them and gave them some insulation.' (line 28) [2]</p> <p>(i) It is unusual because snow is cold but in this case, it is keeping them insulated/warm.</p> <p>(ii) It is effective because it emphasises that the weather was so cold that even snow could keep them warm.</p>	[2]]
	The text below describes how a girl travelled to another country to take up college place.	
	'Just remember, Anna, your father and I are very proud of you.' Her mother's words although meant to spur her on, embedded like a ton of bricks in her mind and reverberated in Anna's ears as a heavy reminder of the responsibility she carried and the family she had left behind. Stinging tears threatened to spill itself onto the tarmac but with a deep breath, Anna steeled herself, not wanting to make a spectacle in such a public place. Her heart sank further when she saw the throngs of people eventually forming snaking lines, waiting for their passports to be checked. She was not ready to waste precious time. Jostling and squeezing her way through unrelenting bodies, she found herself a spot at what seemed to be the shortest queue and fished in her overloaded handbag for her passport. (DSS2019 MYE)	

3)	<p>In paragraph 1, the writer says that the words from Anna's mother 'embedded like a ton of bricks in her mind'. In what two ways is this expression particularly effective? [2]</p> <p>i) 'Embedded' emphasises that the words were ingrained in her head/ she kept thinking about her mother's words. [1]</p> <p>Not accepted: remembered clearly (the word 'embedded' refers to the quality to the reminder)</p> <p>ii) 'A ton of bricks' emphasises that she felt pressured/stressed/burdened by the huge responsibility. [1]</p> <p>Note: Answer is inferred from the phrase 'as a heavy reminder of the responsibility she carried'. Therefore, reference to the responsibility is required.</p> <p>Not accepted: - The words carried a lot of weight/important (no reference to the responsibility she carried)</p> <p>Candidates who did not get the marks did not manage to infer from both the figurative meaning of the words ('embedded' and 'ton of bricks') and from the phrase which followed ('a heavy reminder of the responsibility she carried')</p>	[2]]
	<p><i>The excerpt below describes Jane's experiences while travelling with her husband, Stephen Hawking, and her son, Robert.</i></p>	
	<p>As she walked through the revolving doors of the airport, she took a deep breath, and set her foot in the country that would be her home, a foreign home, for the next few years. But just as she did so, the gears in her mind instinctively clicked as it drew an imaginary line of escape. Beyond those doors, taxi drivers lined the road, a voracious glint in their eyes as they stood in wait to pounce on each target that walked out. They were soon hot on her trails, pestering her, each trying vociferously to persuade her. Skillfully, she engineered her way around them and headed straight for the bus stop which she had spotted from afar. (Sec 4 Prelim 1 2016)</p>	
4)	<p>The writer tells us that the country would be a "foreign home" (line 30) for Anna. Why is this unusual and effective? [2]</p>	[2]]
	<p>It is unusual because 'foreign' suggests that something is new and unfamiliar yet it is used to describe a 'home' that should be place of familiarity. [1]</p> <p>Note: The definition of both words 'home' and 'foreign' must be in the answer.</p> <p>This emphasises that Anna felt lost/unfamiliar/uncomfortable in the new country. [1]</p> <p>Note: The focus of the answer is on the adjective 'foreign'.</p> <p>Not accepted: -Shows how she is new to the country (Inaccurate degree) - Shows how the place is completely unknown to her (Inaccurate. unknown and unfamiliar are not the same in meaning. A place that you know of may still be unfamiliar) -Shows that she needs to learn to adapt (Wrong focus) - If answers are phrased in such a way that the focus of the response is not on the word 'foreign'; but merely explains why the place is a foreign home to her.</p>	

	<i>The text below describes Jane's encounter with a customer.</i>	
	For a while, the two women looked at each other's image in the mirror. Jane, a mannequin in the factory with a perky smile and her own hair halfway down her back, charred by too many chemical treatments, and; the customer, with her sad eyes and lips that turn down a little on the left corner, and a kind of defeated air that emanated from her in waves .(PRCSS 2019 MYE)	
5)	<p>In paragraph 5, the writer describes the customer as having 'a kind of defeated air that emanated from her in waves.' What is effective about the phrase 'in waves'? [1]</p> <p>It emphasises that the customer was under constant/perpetual/never-ending despair/misery/emotional pain. / It emphasises that the customer was constantly feeling hopeless.</p> <p>Reject: sad / worry / upset 'Defeated air' = she had lost all hope.</p>	[1]
	<i>The text below describes the writer's survival of a volcanic eruption.</i>	
	Like any grand destructive spectacle , volcanoes have alternately attracted and terrified humanity through the ages. The difference between ordinary people and volcanologists is that, with us, the appeal far outweighs the terror. Ours is a counter-intuitive endeavour. Most people flee from erupting volcanoes. We head straight for them.(PHS Prelim1 2019)	
6)	<p>In paragraph 5, what is unusual about the phrase 'grand destructive' in describing the sight of an erupting volcano? [2]</p> <p>It is unusual because the word 'grand' suggests the positive trait of looking magnificent/majestic/impressive [1] yet it is used with the word 'destructive' which implies something negative that is linked to a disaster/catastrophe [1].</p>	[2]
	<i>In the text below Michael Booth shares about his journey in search of the origins of tea in Japan.</i>	
	The first place Eisai landed on his return from China was Hirado, on the north-eastern tip of Kyushu. Asger and I had visited Hirado and spent some time stuffing our faces with Casdous – the super-light, eggy spongecake introduced by the Portuguese in the seventeenth century – but, afterwards, we also paid a visit to Senkoji, the temple Eisai founded when he returned to Japan in 1191. When I had first read about Eisai bringing tea to Hirado, I had idly wondered if there were any remnants of this historic moment. A plaque or statue perhaps, or a tea shop. What I didn't expect to find was a living monument to the birth of green tea in Japan. (ANDSS Prelim 2019)	
7)	<p>In Paragraph 3, the writer states that 'Asger and I had visited Hirado and spent some time stuffing our faces with Casdous – the super-light, eggy spongecake introduced by the Portuguese in the seventh century..'</p> <p>(ii) Why is this phrase effective in this context? [1]</p>	[1]

	The phrase is effective in emphasising that the Casdous was so delicious/tasty that the writer and his son ate a lot of it.	
	Tanaka invited us into his home which was adjacent to the temple, and as we sat around an open fire in the middle of the room, Hiromi, Tanaka's wife, offered us a cup of matcha, which was electric-green and frothy. I tasted it, expecting the usual bracing bitterness, but the drink was smooth and mildly grassy. I wondered aloud where it came from.	
8)	<p>With reference to Paragraph 5, the writer states that he had expected the green tea to taste 'the usual bracing bitterness'. What is so unusual about the phrase 'bracing bitterness'? [2]</p> <p>It is unusual because 'bracing' suggests a taste that is refreshing/pleasant but it is used to describe the 'bitterness' of the tea which suggests a harsh/unpleasant taste.</p> <p><i>Note: Both parts must be clearly articulated in order to get 2 marks.</i></p>	[2]
	<i>The text below describes the writer, in his travels in Egypt, meeting an Imam.</i>	
	This made me all the more determined to meet him, and one evening, a few months after I first came to the village, I found my way to his house. He lived in the centre of the village, on the edge of the dusty open square which had the mosque in its middle. This was the oldest part of the village: a maze of low mud huts huddled together like confectionery on a tray, each hut crowned with billowing and tousled layers of straw. (Commonwealth2019)	
9)	<p>In paragraph 6, the writer says, the village was "a maze of low mud huts huddled together like confectionery on a tray, each hut crowned with billowing and tousled layers of straw."</p> <p>i) Explain in what two ways the expression "a maze of low mud huts huddled together like confectionery on a tray" is effective? [2]</p> <p>'A maze of low mud huts' emphasises that it was easy to lose your way/difficult to find your way in the village.</p> <p>'Huddled together like confectionery on a tray' emphasises that the huts were very close to each other.</p> <p>X confusing X messy X randomly arranged X disorganised</p>	[2]
	<i>The text below is about Arun, an exchange student from India, who joins members of his American host family for an afternoon at the beach.</i>	
	The woods are thrumming with cicadas: they shrill and shrill as if the sun is playing on their sinews, as if they were small harps suspended in the trees. A bird shrieks hoarsely, flies on, shrieks elsewhere, further off—that ugly, jarring note that does not vary. But there are no birds to be seen, nor animals. It is as if they are in hiding, or have fled. Perhaps they have because the houses of Edge Hill do intrude and one can glimpse a bit of wall here or roof there, a washing line hung with sheets or a plastic gnome enigmatically winking. Arun finds the hair on the back of his neck begin to prickle, as if in warning. He is sweating, and the palms of his hands are becoming puffy and damp. The town may be small and have little to	

	offer, but how passionately he prefers its post office, its shops, its dry-cleaning stores and picture framers to this creeping curtain of insidious green, these grasses stirring with insidious life, and bushes with poisonous berries. Nearly tripping upon a root, he stumbles and has to steady himself so as not to spill the contents of the basket. (NYGH MYE 2019)	
10)	<p>In Paragraph 3, the writer says the cicadas “shrill and shrill as if the sun is playing on their sinews, as if they were small harps suspended in the trees.”</p> <p>What is unusual and effective about the comparison? [2]</p> <p>(i) It is unusual because ‘shrill and shrill’ suggests that the cicadas produced piercing sounds, yet they were compared to ‘small harps’ which are instruments that produce pleasant music.</p> <p>(ii) It is effective in emphasising that the cicadas are able to produce a wide range of/different types of sounds.</p>	[2]
	<i>The excerpt below describes Jane’s experiences while travelling with her husband, Stephen Hawking, and her son, Robert.</i>	
	Screaming sounds a pretty irrational reaction, but surprisingly it was the most sensible in the circumstances. My screams summoned much-needed help with amazing alacrity. A portly, green-clad nurse appeared from nowhere and took charge. One severely critical glance at me was enough to convince her, quite rightly, that I was hopelessly unequal to the situation. She commandeered the wheelchair and pushed it and its occupants, father and son, back through passport and customs, disregarding the officials in our path, to a nursery where she cleaned up the baby, leaving me the task of rubbing Stephen down. While we were in the nursery, the last call for our flight was announced over the loudspeakers. Unmoved, the nurse rang through to central control and told them that the flight would have to wait for us. Thus at the age of seven weeks, Robert acquired the distinction of having delayed the departure of an international flight. (Sec 4 Prelim 1 2016)	
11)	<p>In paragraph 4, what is unusual and effective about the description of Robert having ‘acquired the distinction’ (line 44) of having delayed the departure of an international flight? [2]</p> <p>It is unusual because a distinction is usually given to someone with great achievements, but Robert is just a small baby (who has not achieved anything significant). [1]</p> <p>It is effective because it emphasises that despite being a small baby, Robert actually caused a major disruption to the flight. [1]</p>	[2]

D	Writer's Technique/Purpose [12 m]	
	<i>The text below tells of a man's dining experience in an institution.</i>	
	We walk down the corridor and no one says anything. The only sound is my shoes dragging along the ground as I shuffle forward towards the open door at the end of the corridor. (AES Prelim 2018)	
1)	<p>In Paragraph 8, how does the writer create a tense effect? [1]</p> <p>The writer creates a tense effect by emphasising on the silence as he walks down the hallway, with the only sound coming from him dragging his shoes along the ground.</p> <p>(Accept any answers that highlight that the tension is created by the silence.)</p>	[1]
	In the text below, the writer describes his experience in Antarctica.	
	They huddled in their drafty shelter. Wilson and Bowers decided the wind was about Force 11, which means "violent storm" on the Beaufort scale, with wind speeds of 56 to 63 miles an hour. There was no chance of going outside. They could only lie there listening to the blast and watching their roof balloon off the sledge and then slam back down on it. It was blowing as though it was having a fit of hysterics. (ACSB MYE 2018)	
2)	<p>What is the writer's purpose in describing the wind "as though it was having a fit of hysterics" (line 14)? [1]</p> <p>The writer wants to compare the wind to a person having an emotional outburst/ behaving in a wild/irrational manner, to show that the wind was extremely strong/blowing very strongly.</p>	[1]
	<i>The text below describes Jane's encounter with a customer</i>	
	<p>The woman paid. "Thank you!" chirped Jane. "Next time, come earlier okay? Then you can try on many different types of wigs." A nod of grateful assent from the customer. "You know," the older woman said. "You really remind me of someone I used to know."</p> <p>Jane waited for her to elaborate. But that was all. (PRCSS MYE 2019)</p>	
3)	<p>Explain how the writer creates suspense at the end of the story. [1]</p> <p>The story ends with a short sentence, making the reader guess what would happen next.</p> <p>The story ends with 'But that was all', making the reader guess why the woman did not elaborate/ guess what the woman could have said.</p> <p>Reject: The woman did not tell her where she met Jane / why Jane looked familiar.</p>	[1]

	The text below describes the writer's survival of a volcanic eruption.	
	"Hurry up! Get out!" I shouted in English and Spanish. The volcano began to shake, and I turned to run down the scree-covered flank. I had made it only a few metres when the air was rent by a sound like a thunderclap or a sonic boom. Immediately afterward, I heard the dreadful <i>craaaack</i> , the sound of the earth's crust fracturing. Instinctively, I hunched my shoulders and hiked my backpack over my neck and head. I did not get far. (PHS Prelim 1 2019)	
4)	<p>'Instinctively, I hunched my shoulders and hiked my backpack over my neck and head. I did not get far.' (lines 18 – 19).</p> <p>How did the writer create a contrast between these two sentences? [1]</p> <hr/> <p>The writer contrasted the length of the sentences by writing a long sentence, followed by a short sentence.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>The writer contrasted the amount of detail in the sentences by providing a large amount of detail in the first sentence and only a single detail in the second.</p>	[1]
	My fascination with volcanoes, now a quarter century old, taps into something universal and timeless. As they watched fountains of lava spew from Mount Etna in Italy or Popocatepetl in Mexico, the ancients believed that they were witnessing a phenomenon linked to the origins of the universe. The flames and magma gushing from a volcano came from a place as mysterious as the heavens above. No wonder that the Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas tossed virgins into the mouth of this beast; it was capable of consuming villages, towns, entire civilisations in a merciless instant; it was titanic in the magnitude of its inhuman rage. Human sacrifice, they believed, would placate the monster.	
5)	<p>In paragraph 4, the writer likens the volcano to a monster.</p> <p>In what way is this comparison effective? [1]</p> <p>It is effective in emphasising that the volcano was capable of killing a large number of people without mercy.</p>	[1]
	Gazing into the crater, I was struck by how tiny, in a geological sense, the eruption had actually been. As the steam from fumaroles drifted past me and wafted down Galeras's western flank, I reminded myself that the deadly eruption was a mere hiccup, a blast so small that geologists decades hence will find no sign of it. Yet the power of the eruption, to those of us who lived through it, was staggering. It wiped five of my colleagues from the face of the earth. It killed nine men, injured six others, and continues to ripple through the lives of dozens of people. It nearly killed me. (PHS Prelim 1 2019)	
6)	<p>In paragraph 7, the writer ends with 'It nearly killed me.' What tone is used in this sentence? [1]</p> <p>The writer's tone is pensive/contemplative/reflective [1]</p>	[1]

	<i>(the writer was deep in thoughts)</i>	
	<i>The text below describes the writer, in his travels in Egypt, meeting an Imam.</i>	
	<p>'Welcome,' he said again, formally. 'Welcome to you,' I said, and then we began on the little ritual of Arabic phrases of greeting. 'How are you?' 'How are you?' 'You have brought blessings?' 'May God bless you.' 'Welcome.' 'Welcome to you.' (Commonwealth MYE 2019)</p>	
7)	<p>In paragraph 9, the Imam and the writer began "a little ritual...of greeting." Why do you think the writer describes the greeting as a "little ritual"? [1]</p> <p>The writer wants to emphasise that the way they greeted each other was very elaborate/lengthy/formal/followed a particular order.</p> <p>X form of respect X habit</p>	[1]
	<i>The text below describes the writer, in his travels in Egypt, meeting an Imam</i>	
	<p>And then I knew that he would never talk to me about his craft, not just because he had taken a dislike to me for some reason of his own, but because his medicines were as discredited in his own eyes as they were in his clients'; because he knew as well as anybody else that the people who came to him now did so only because of old habits; because he could not dissociate himself from the relics of the past...(Commonwealth MYE2019)</p>	
8)	<p>Explain how the sentence structure in the last paragraph conveys how the Imam felt about his work. [1]</p> <p>Repetition (of 'because') was used to give various reasons to explain why he would never talk about his craft, to emphasise that he was deeply ashamed/embarrassed of his craft.</p> <p>X long sentence to build climax X hopeless X work is discredited X not confident X degraded his work</p>	[1]
	<i>The text below is about Arun, an exchange student from India, who joins members of his American host family for an afternoon at the beach.</i>	
	<p>The woods are thrumming with cicadas: they shrill and shrill as if the sun is playing on their sinews, as if they were small harps suspended in the trees. A bird shrieks hoarsely, flies on,</p>	

	shrieks elsewhere, further off—that ugly, jarring note that does not vary. But there are no birds to be seen, nor animals. It is as if they are in hiding, or have fled. Perhaps they have because the houses of Edge Hill do intrude and one can glimpse a bit of wall here or roof there, a washing line hung with sheets or a plastic gnome enigmatically winking. (NYGH MYE 2019)	
9)	<p>Why does the writer use the word “jarring” (line 24) to describe the sound made by the bird? [1]</p> <p>The writer wants to show that the bird’s cry has a harsh/ disturbing/ irritating/ unpleasant/ unsettling effect.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The writer wants to show that the bird’s cry made Arun feel anxious/ disturbed/ uneasy/ uncomfortable.</p> <p>X noisy/ loud/ sudden sound</p>	[1]
	<i>The text below describes the aftermath of an atomic bomb that was dropped on Japan.</i>	
	The only alternative was to go along the middle of the road. Since the overhead wires were cut at various points, there was no likelihood of them being live, but the very fact that they were crossing and touching each other made one fear some display of the mysterious properties of electricity. Beneath one of the dangling wires lay the blackened bodies of a man and two women. We, too, numbered two women and one man. (PLMGS MYE 2019)	
10)	<p>Beneath one of the dangling wires lay the blackened bodies of a man and two women. We, too, numbered two women and one man.’ (lines 16-18)</p> <p>What effect does the writer create by numbering the people in her group? [1]</p> <p>The writer shows the similarity in the number of people in her group and the number of people who were dead to emphasise that they could have died too/could have been victims too.</p>	[1]
	<i>The excerpt below describes Jane’s experiences while travelling with her husband, Stephen Hawking, and her son, Robert.</i>	
	<p>Stephen’s face wore an agonized expression. Down his new trousers there flowed a vast yellow river. He sat helplessly trapped as the yellow tide streamed into his shoes. For the only time in my life, I screamed—I dropped the sandwiches and screamed.</p> <p>Screaming sounds a pretty irrational reaction, but surprisingly it was the most sensible in the circumstances. My screams summoned much-needed help with amazing alacrity.</p>	
11)	<p>‘For the only time in my life, I screamed – I dropped the sandwiches and screamed.’ (lines 31-32) Explain how the writer emphasises her shock. [2]</p>	[2]

	The writer repeated the word ‘screamed’ (twice) to emphasise her severe/intense reaction. [1]	
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D	Effects on reader [2m]	
	<i>The text below tells of a man's dining experience in an institution.</i>	
	I think about the things I have done and inevitably to that which I should not have but did. I am sorry but do not expect forgiveness. I was angry and reckless and gave into temptation but a mountain of reasons cannot stand between me and the door at the end of the corridor. The die was cast long ago and here I am, shuffling towards my inevitable fate. But all things considered I have lived my life to the full and can say that I have enjoyed every mouthful. Of that I am sure. (AES Prelim 2018)	
1)	<p>'The die was cast long ago and here I am, shuffling towards my inevitable fate.' (lines 56 – 57)</p> <p>What effect does the writer create with this sentence? [1]</p> <p>Question is asking for effect on reader.</p> <p>The writer wants to show that he has resigned to fate and make the readers empathise with him/ feel sympathy for him.</p> <p>(Accept any other reasonable answers)</p>	[1]
	<i>The text below describes the aftermath of an atomic bomb that was dropped on Japan.</i>	
	The only alternative was to go along the middle of the road. Since the overhead wires were cut at various points, there was no likelihood of them being live, but the very fact that they were crossing and touching each other made one fear some display of the mysterious properties of electricity. Beneath one of the dangling wires lay the blackened bodies of a man and two women. We, too, numbered two women and one man. (PLMGSS MYE 2019)	
2)	<p>Beneath one of the dangling wires lay the blackened bodies of a man and two women. We, too, numbered two women and one man.' (lines 16-18)</p> <p>What effect does the writer create by numbering the people in her group? [1]</p>	[1]

