

## **Higher English**

# Question paper: Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

### **Question paper: Critical Reading (Scottish texts)**

This document contains a selection of 1-mark and 2-mark answers for the Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation question paper and the Scottish texts section of the Critical Reading question paper. Most answers to the questions in these question papers can be awarded:

- 1 mark for a more basic comment
- 2 marks for a detailed/insightful comment

The table has a selection of answers that are more 'basic' in nature as well as some that are more 'detailed/insightful'. Most examples are from Understanding Standards material, which you can find on the <u>Higher English Understanding Standards</u> page of our website.

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#### Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

Reference and question	2-mark answer
2023 question 3, candidate 1 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's language suggests that popular film characters are damaged by prequels and sequels.	'Buffoon' has connotations of being stupid and unable to be taken seriously. This shows how even the most threatening of characters from classic media have been watered down at best or flat-out replaced by an inferior and far more inaccurate depiction at worst, losing the characteristics that once made them so terrifying yet enthralling.
2023 question 6, candidate 1 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to criticise some modern films.	'Plodding parade of films'. The writer criticises these movies by comparing them to a parade, which is typically associated with long, monotonous displays. This shows the writer's belief that corporations constantly releasing and pushing these films is as mind-numbing as standing for hours and doing nothing but watch flashy floats pass by.
2021 question 2 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey the decline of high street shops.	The word 'endangered' is used to convey the decline of high street shops, as it has connotations of extinction and lack of safety. Thus high street shops need protection to be kept safe so they don't disappear altogether. They must be watched out for as there are few left any more.
2021 question 2 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey the decline of high street shops.	The word 'imperishable' is used to convey the decline of high street shops, as it has connotations of survival and longevity. Thus showing that the shops we once thought would be around forever and were untouchable are actually struggling severely and in need of great help. Despite what we thought before, high street shops are in danger.
2021 question 4	'less a case of death than reincarnation'
Analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to convey the appeal of future instore shopping.	Just as some fictional creations become reincarnated into something new and brimming with life, so will retail stores rebirth themselves into some new, unfamiliar experience. This conveys the appeal of future instore shopping because it suggests there is yet something unseen in physical shops, something more they can offer us.
2021 question 4	'bright new world'
Analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to convey the appeal of future instore shopping.	This image helps create an idea that this new method of shopping is the new frontier, a new hope for shopping. The blend of online shopping and instore is the new world in which everything is right, and perfect. A new world with ways to explore and evolve.

Reference and question	2-mark answer
2021 question 5 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey the impact of online retailers on shopping.	The use of the imagery of 'puppet master' is used to convey the impact of online retailers on shopping as just as puppet masters force puppets to do certain things and actions so is the online retailers by taking control and using their power to contribute to the demise of physical shops. The writer suggests that online shops are powerful and sinister as they are using their control to ensure that smaller physical shops fail and they survive.
2021 question 8 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to create an optimistic tone.	'monster of retail's grip is weakening' – this metaphor depicts big brands as an evil monster, however adds that it is less powerful than before. This creates an optimistic tone by suggesting the monster of corporate greed can be defeated.
2019 question 5, candidate B By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to criticise the way the internet is used to communicate information.	The word choice of 'manipulation' suggests that some writers publish news with the intention of twisting the viewpoints of the public to meet theirs for their own personal gain.
2019 question 6, candidate D Explain fully why the writer believes that social media has a negative impact on us. Use your own words in your answer.	We see the same opinions that we already have being shown on the apps which solidifys our opinions that we already had as that is the only opinion that we see being shown to us as the apps have made it for us with our exact opinions in mind.
2019 question 7, candidate B Analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to criticise aspects of modern news.	'junk- food news' – just as junk food is discouraged because it is bad for the body but people still love it, so the writer is suggesting that people soak up the fake news as a sort of guilty pleasure but it has bad effects on us in the long term.
2019 question 7, candidate D Analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to criticise aspects of modern news.	Metaphor of 'junk food news' criticises aspects of modern news as just as junk food is often of a low quality and bad for our health but is often fast so too these tabloids keep churning out story after story about drivel that is of quite a bad standard, but people find it addictive, just like junk food, so keep on reading it.

#### Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation

Reference and question	1-mark answer
2023 question 2, candidate 2 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey his criticism of some recent productions.	'just blokes' suggests that the prequel didn't even focus on the two main characters, and showed us two rather irrelevant characters.
2023 question 2, candidate 3 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey his criticism of some recent productions.	The word choice 'Just blokes' suggests that the new version is nothing to do with the original and there just putting any character in to make it look good.
2023 question 3, candidate 3 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's language suggests that popular film characters are damaged by prequels and sequels.	The word choice 'becomes more machine than man' suggests he doesn't even seem like he's human anymore, he's starting to become more like a thing that doesn't move and is pathetic looking.
2023 question 6, candidate 2 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to criticise some modern films.	The writer uses imagery 'hamburgers' to represent movies. Just as hamburgers are endlessly produced, so too movies are being made without popular demand.
2021 question 2 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey the decline of high street shops.	The word choice of 'endangered' conveys the decline of high street shops. Just as a species is endangered and is now lacking in numbers, and so high streets are endangered due to the decrease in amount.
2021 question 5 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey the impact of online retailers on shopping.	The use of the metaphor 'puppet master' to describe the chief marketing officer suggests to the readers that we are being controlled by the internet and online shopping.

Reference and question	1-mark answer
2021 question 8	The word choice of 'monster' creates an optimistic tone as it paints the picture that retail is
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to create an optimistic tone.	simply a scary storybook character, and we, the shoppers are able to defeat it.
2019 question 5, candidate A	'manipulation' – indicates the light brain washing being done by those who create these
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to criticise the way the internet is used to communicate information.	fake stories. People are being led to believe these stories at the benefit of the news agencies.
2019 question 5, candidate D	Word choice of 'deliberate' in 'deliberate manipulation' conveys that people are spreading
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to criticise the way the internet is used to communicate information.	gossip online that isn't factual purposely in order to get inside your head and think a cert way – it is no mistake: they are intending to do it so they can change your opinions to ho they want.
2019 question 6, candidate B	It feeds us information that has been tailored to support what we think is true, whether it is
Explain fully why the writer believes that social media has a negative impact on us. Use your own words in your answer.	or not.
2019 question 7, candidate A	'junk food news' just as junkfood is addictive yet extremely bad for us, so the news we
Analyse how the writer uses both imagery and sentence structure to criticise aspects of modern news.	hear is most likely false and not good for us to hear.

#### Scottish text

Reference and question	2-mark answer
2024 question 40, candidate 1 By referring to this poem and to at least one other poem by Duffy, discuss how the poet uses specific experiences to explore central concerns. (extract or poem in exam)	In 'In Mrs Tilschers Class' it says 'sky splits open into a thunderstorm' which suggests that the experience of growing up and changing along the way has been unsettling and unexpected for the poet. It also says 'a tangible alarm' which contrasts to earlier which says 'the laugh of a bell' which suggests that school used to be a haven of play and fun growing up, but has instead become somewhere they cant wait to get out of, which loses the innocence tied to the love of school and the shift in dynamic.
2024 question 40, candidate 1 By referring to this poem and to at least one other poem by Duffy, discuss how the poet uses specific experiences to explore central concerns. (elsewhere or other texts)	In 'Originally' it says 'my tongue shedding its skin like a snake' which suggests that as the poet has spent so long in a new country, their accent has started to change, which was once a tie to their scottish heratige, proving that their identity is slipping. 'Shedding like a snake' suggests that the process was natural and inescapable for the poet.
2023 question 39 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the poet uses language to convey the speaker's different feelings during this journey.	'I am happy and sad' – oxymoron and word choice. These feelings are on polar sides of the spectrum of emotion and they are being simplified in a childlike way. Duffy is feeling complex and confusing emotions but reduces them to a simple way of understanding.
2023 question 47 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the poet's use of language highlights dangers in society.	'who would be his victims' – The distressing word choice of 'victims'" has connotations of hurt, injury, death and crime which suggests that the cop is capable of extreme violence. The role of the police is to protect and preserve law and order yet this cop is part of the problem of violence which is ironic. A real sense of danger is created; who would dare to provoke such an animalistic cop.
2019 question 9, candidate 8 By referring to at least two examples, analyse how both stage directions and dialogue are used to convey Maggie's state of mind.	'(She seizes him, shakes him and hits him)' Maggie is being very violent to Ernest which shows that her state of mind is eratic and furious because she is never usually violent to her children so she must be pretty angry to do so. It also shows that she's fed up with people not respecting her and the possessions she's spent her hard-earned money on, which is why she violently lashes out.

Reference and question	2-mark answer
2019 question 2, candidate 1	'Hector: I don't mind doing a bit of swanking now that my clothes are up to date.'
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey different aspects of Hector's personality.	This shows that Hector is not used to fitting in, especially with Phil and Spanky because of his style. The use of 'swanking' makes it clear that he is proud to think he is more like them, but easily fooled into trusting them.
2019 question 30, candidate 3	'His aloof submissiveness' emphasises how Duror displayed himself as sycophantic
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's use of language conveys Duror's acceptance of the class system.	towards (superior) LRC [Lady Runcie-Campbell], completely on his own command and willingness; therefore representing his acceptance of his inferiority towards LRC, to whom he also accepts the moral duty to act subservient towards.
2019 question 30, candidate 3	'He had been there standing respectfully waiting'perhaps indicative of the fact that Duror
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's use of language conveys Duror's acceptance of the class system.	was essentially at the mercy of the upper class, just as the two brothers were, and hence he accepts to act courteously and tactfully with LRC, knowing that his job, livelihood, etc is in her hands and he accepts therefore this harsh reality.
2019 question 31, candidate 3	'I don't think I don't mind' His short sentences help to emphasise his
Analyse how the writer's use of language creates a positive impression of Roderick.	stubbornness/resilience towards making the morally virtuous decision.
2019 question 41, candidate 7	'Sweet flesh' is a metaphor that Lochhead uses. It denotes something that's a tasty piece
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the poet's use of language establishes the speaker's bitterness towards her ex-partner.	of meat. This implies that Lochhead now views him as an animal, an object to eat rather than a human being so to it Lochhead about to scrutinise and feed off of her husband and the death of their relationship.
2019 question 42, candidate 7	'Yes, there they'd be cackling around the cauldron' This highlights the theme of toxic
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the poet's use of language suggests the speaker's excitement at the prospect of revenge.	femininity. Here Lochhead uses alliteration to emphasise the hilarity and excitement the women get from this failed relationship. It is also a direct reference to the Shakespeare play 'Macbeth' where the witches are making a potion in a cauldron. This suggests that Lochhead is comparing the females to evil, vengant, malicious witches who gain excitement from others' downfalls.

Reference and question	2-mark answer
2019 question 40 candidate 5	Duffy lists off items in a classroom 'sugar paper. Coloured shapes. Brady and Hindly' The first items imply happiness, play, innocence whereas the final two names listed contrast with the previous innocent items as they are child killers. This is a foreshadowing that in a child's mind of innocence they will soon need to grow up and face horrors in their adult life.
By referring to this poem and to at least one other poem, discuss how Duffy uses contract to explore central concerns.	
(extract or poem in exam)	
2019 question 40, candidate 5	'I am homesick free' The word choice of homesick and free show two colliding feelings of
By referring to this poem and to at least one other poem, discuss how Duffy uses contract to explore central concerns.	missing home and also the relishment of being away from home. This shows Duffy is disorientated and confuzzled with their decision to move away from home which is a decision we all need to make when growing up.
(elsewhere or other texts)	
2019 question 16, candidate 2	Murdo describes Mary as being different from everyone else – she wears red clothes,
By referring to this extract and to at least one other short story, discuss the importance of female characters in Crichton Smith's stories.	reads lots of poetry and doesn't care what everyone thinks about her. This shows that s is essential in making Murdo realise his wishes because she is like his idol – he wants be like her. In addition, it's implied that she painted the door which made him think about the tilt of the tilt.
(elsewhere or other texts)	his identity in the first place.
2019 question 32, candidate 3	Preceeding the event of the deer-hunt, LRC was said to having 'no qualms with the
By referring to this extract and to elsewhere in the novel, discuss how Jenkins develops the role of Lady Runcie-Campbell throughout the novel. (elsewhere or other texts)	deerhunt' despite acknowledging that they were creatures made by God. Again, representing the conflict between the conflict between her Christian complex and aristocratic self, she foregos the teachings inscribed by the Bible, purely for the interests what is associated with the elite lifestyle back then. Again, LRC represents the view that religiousness and elitism cannot co-exist and it's perhaps the societal entrapments which taint the integrity of religious values.
2019 question 24, candidate 6	The two contrasting doors to Jekyll's house. The front door is elegant and is a symbol of Jekyll's good side as it shows respectability, while the back door is dingy and unkept whi symbolises Hyde, Jekyll's evil side as it has connotations of evil, so the doors to Jekyll's house symbolise both Jekyll's duality as well as the theme of good vs evil.
By referring to this extract and to elsewhere in the novel, discuss how Stevenson uses symbolism to develop the central concerns of the text.	
(elsewhere or other texts)	

#### Scottish text

Reference and question	1-mark answer
2024 question 12, candidate 2	Granny shares a bed with Jenny with shows how the family are living on minimal money there are issues of overcrowding in the home and not enough space, as they can't afford
By referring to this extract and to elsewhere in the play, discuss how Lamont Stewart uses the character of Granny to explore central concerns.	
(elsewhere in the play)	
2024 question 12, candidate 2	As Lizzie will not take Granny home until she gets some of her pension off Maggie it shows
By referring to this extract and to elsewhere in the play, discuss how Lamont Stewart uses the character of Granny to explore central concerns.	how there are also negative aspects to family as well as Lizzie only cares for Granny because of her pension.
(elsewhere in the play)	
2023 question 14	'It was in your family but not ours' – John's mother seems to disown him by saying all his
Analyse how the writer's use of language conveys the mother's resentment towards her son.	personality traits were from his father not her.
2023 question 23, candidate 2	'Every closet needed but a glance, for all were empty' This shows that all of Jekyll's
Analyse how the writer's use of language creates a sense of mystery.	belonging have been moved. This makes us wonder were they went and why Hyde moved all of them.
2023 question 30	'head dampening the pillow' Roderick was so unwell that his fever caused him to sweat so
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's use of language conveys both how Roderick was the previous day and how he is this morning.	much his pillow got wet.
2023 question 37	'under the shallows of my breath' – Shallow breath is short, panicky and can feel like
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the poet's use of language creates a mood of uncertainty.	drowning. This creates a mood of Duffy feeling uncertain and anxious/unsteady about moving away from her mother.

Reference and question	1-mark answer
2023 question 38, candidate 1	'happy and sad' contrast each other as it demonstrates that Duffy is in fact going through
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the poet uses language to convey the speaker's different feelings during this journey.	all kinds of emotions when transitioning to adulthood.
2023 question 41	The writer's word choice of 'elbowgrease' conveys the importance of traditions at
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's use of language conveys the importance of traditions at Hogmanay.	Hogmanay. To give something 'elbowgrease' means to put a lot of effort and strength into it. This tells us that the narrator's mother is really giving cleaning her all, because it's Hogmanay tradition.
2023 question 46, candidate 3	'Should the tissue tear' – The word choice of tissue suggests how fragile the barrier
Analyse how the poet's use of language creates a sense of uncertainty.	between safety and danger, peace and violence is to this cop.
2019 question 1, candidate 1	'(Phil holds up Parker pen out of Hector's line of vision but so that Alan can see it.)' This
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's use of both stage directions and dialogue conveys the slab boys' (Phil and Spanky's) manipulation of other characters.	clearly shows that Phil is using Alan's pen to effectively blackmail him.
2019 question 2, candidate 1	'Hector: Will I go now and ask her? Will I? (heads for door)' This shows, through the
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer uses language to convey different aspects of Hector's personality.	continuous questioning and eagerness to go see Lucille, that Hector is a very excitable, enthusiastic character, almost child-like.

Reference and question	1-mark answer
2019 question 13, candidate 2	'But your son is educated' she added irrelevantly' – Tone
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the writer's use of language reveals that both women are judgemental.	The fat woman's tone is slightly snarky and sarcastic. Effective because it shows that the fat woman is judging the thin woman for sending her son to university – the thin woman doesn't conform to the village norms and gets judged by the fat woman for it.
2019 question 37, candidate 5	'The classroom glowed like a sweetshop' the comparison of a class-room to a sweet shop
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how the poet's use of language conveys a sense of excitement and/or wonder.	implies that the children are excited by school and see it as a joyous comfortable place like a sweet shop would be to a child.
2019 question 10, candidate 8	'(to himself) Try. Try. As if I didnae try' shows that John is quite depressed that his efforts
By referring to at least two examples, analyse how John's response to the situation reveals differing	aren't being noticed and his whole family thinking that he doesn't make any attempts because he does actually try his best, but just has rotten luck in his opinion.
aspects of his character.	
2019 question 11, candidate 8 Explain why Maggie feels troubled at this point.	'[I'm sorry' shows that] Maggie is troubled about her previous outburst and causing a scene that put John in a difficult situation having to calm the children.
2019 question 4, candidate 1	At the very beginning of the play, Phil is late to work and gets Spanky to cover for him by
By referring to this extract and to elsewhere in the play, discuss how the theme of deception and/or self-deception.	saying he had diarrhoea. This shows the complete lack of respect they have for Mr Curry, as they feel comfortable deceiving and lying to him.
(elsewhere or other texts)	
2019 question 40, candidate 5	(Duffy) is shown to be confused and disorientated when coming to terms of adult life
By referring to this poem and to at least one other poem, discuss how Duffy uses contract to explore central concerns.	shown by a use of contrast in lines like 'I am happy and sad' this shows extreme differing emotions that contradict each other this depicts Duffy's confusion on how to handle growing up.
(elsewhere or other texts)	

Reference and question	1-mark answer
2019 question 44, candidate 7 By referring to this poem and to at least one other poem, discuss how Lochhead uses contrast to explore central concerns. (elsewhere or other texts)	In Revelation Lochhead uses the phrase: 'The antidote, the Antichrist'. This creates contrast as this innocent female speaker compares the Bull – 'Toxic masculinity' to Antichrist suggesting it is evil.
2019 question 12, candidate 8 By referring to this extract and to elsewhere in the play, discuss how Lamont Stewart explores the role of women. (elsewhere or other texts)	John: 'I'm no a bloody skivvy!' shows that John, and many others, thought that it was the women's job to do all the chores simply because of their gender and that should be their role in the house.