

POLISH A1

Overall grade boundaries

Grade:	E	D	C	B	A
Mark range:	0 - 7	8 - 15	16 - 22	23 - 28	29 - 36

The range and suitability of the work submitted

In most of cases the choice of topic was ideal, and should have what should lead to interesting and valuable essays. Several candidates decided to prepare their research from a very emotional perspective as they were going to write about something they liked very much. These students must be reminded that it is vital to use literary tools to analyze the text in question. In a small number of cases the topic seemed to be too broad.

Candidate performance against each criterion

A: research question

In most cases the research questions were very interesting and valuable not only for readers but from the perspective of theory of literature as well. A small number of essays were based on topics too broad to fully encompass.

B: introduction

There were no problems with this criterion, aside from a few formal aspects (see below).

C: investigation

In numerous cases, the planning in the investigation was not clear enough. There were usually sufficient appropriate sources, but in few cases their range should be changed by replacing at least one of them by a very important, helpful and well-known text (not strictly academic).

D: knowledge and understanding of the topic studied

In some cases, references should have been more widely used.

E: reasoned argument

There were too many repetitions in some cases.

F: application of analytical and evaluative skills appropriate to the subject

Some students seemed to require more support in understanding this criterion.

G: use of language appropriate to the subject

There were many lexical and grammatical errors throughout the essays, generally. However, the use of terminology was proper in almost all of the cases.

H: conclusion

This criterion posed no problems.

I: formal presentation

Accuracy was the weak-point of numerous essays. Although it did not seem as though some candidates had been short of time, the structure of their footnotes and references showed that little care had been taken with these. Candidates risk missing out on the highest marks when footnotes are erratic or missing. Illustrations were used in a proper way.

J: abstract

This criterion posed few problems.

K: holistic judgment

Intellectual initiative was not very clear when the topic referred to a work that had been studied in depth at school.

Recommendations for the supervision of future candidates

Teachers are recommended to pay special attention to all the questions referring to the formal presentation of the essays. In some cases they seemed to underestimate the holistic conception of footnotes and references.

Further comments

Time spent to produce the essays seemed to be sufficient in most cases as only a few essays encountered seemed to have been written at the last moment, and so only a few essays suffered the consequences of such a style of work.

The candidates do know how to use the internet and other reference materials as helpful sources. Some candidates did not give sufficient weight to well-known, important and popular synthesis which could help them to discuss valid aspects of the analyzed work(s) from the perspective of theory of literature. Apart from this, the use of references should be highly valued.

In general candidates were aware of the full set of assessment criteria. The choice of topic could have been better (more accurate, not completely different) in very few cases only.