

**MARKING NOTES**  
**NOTES À PROPOS DE LA NOTATION**  
**ESQUEMA DE CALIFICACIÓN**

**May / mai / mayo 2003**

**ENGLISH / ANGLAIS / INGLÉS A2**

**Higher Level**  
**Niveau Supérieur**  
**Nivel Superior**

**Paper / Épreuve / Prueba 1**

## Higher level, Paper 1

These notes to examiners are intended only as guidelines to assist marking. They are not offered as an exhaustive and fixed set of responses or approaches to which all answers must rigidly adhere. Good ideas or angles not offered here should be acknowledged and rewarded as appropriate. Similarly, answers which do not include all the ideas or approaches suggested here should not be so heavily penalized as to distort appreciation of individuality.

### SECTION A

This section invites candidates to comment on and compare two prose texts: one a trail guide written for hikers, the other a corporate website written for young people.

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- identify the common theme of determining the geographic location, either of oneself or of someone/something else;
- mention the different scope of the two texts: that 1(a) focuses on finding one's way in the woods, whereas 1(b) introduces a larger context;
- comment on the differences in the purpose of the two texts;
- identify some differences in diction, style and tone.

A better comparative commentary will:

- comment in detail on the relationship of audience and purpose in the two texts;
- comment in detail on the different scope of the two texts;
- contrast the sense of the future in text 1(b) and of knowledge inherited from the past in text 1(a);
- comment on tone, diction, and style, with reference to specific examples from the texts;
- comment on differences in structure in the two texts.

The best comparative commentaries will also do some or all of the following:

- explicitly recognize the connections between structure and style, on the other hand, purpose and meaning on the other;
- contrast the references to history, nature and wilderness in text 1(b); with those of text 1(a);
- contrast different attitudes towards human ingenuity;
- Discuss the implications of the contrasts between the future vs. tradition; technology vs. individual intelligence.

## SECTION B

This section invites candidates to comment on and compare two literary texts - an excerpt from a short story and a poem, both dealing with the theme of childhood memory.

A barely satisfactory comparative commentary will:

- Observe that both texts are about childhood memories;
- Note that 2(a) is written in the first person, as a recollection of the narrator's father; 2(b), in the third person, is about a child's day on a hill near his home;
- Make some observations about the differences of genre;
- Identify some stylistic devices used in each text.

A better comparative commentary will:

- Note that the setting of both texts is the seaside;
- Discuss each child's perceptions in some detail;
- Comment on the appropriateness of some of the stylistic devices used in each text;
- Note one or more thematic differences between the two texts;
- Make observations on the structure of each text.

The best comparative commentaries should also do some or all of the following:

- Contrast the role of the parents and the home in each text;
  - Analyse in detail the language of the two texts, with particular attention to description and the use of poetic devices;
  - Explore some connections between structure, language and meaning in each text;
  - Note that one text includes many close details while the other describes a more distant view.
-