



B O A R D O F S T U D I E S
NEW SOUTH WALES

2010 HSC German Extension Sample Answers — Written Examination

This document contains ‘sample answers’, or, in the case of some questions, ‘answers could include’. These are developed by the examination committee for two purposes. The committee does this:

- (a) as part of the development of the examination paper to ensure the questions will effectively assess students’ knowledge and skills, and
- (b) in order to provide some advice to the Supervisor of Marking about the nature and scope of the responses expected of students.

The ‘sample answers’ or similar advice are not intended to be exemplary or even complete answers or responses. As they are part of the examination committee’s ‘working document’, they may contain typographical errors, omissions, or only some of the possible correct answers.

Section I — Response to Prescribed Text

Part A

Question 1 (a)

Sample answer:

Allan, the bartender, had been trying to work out why she was in a bad mood and had asked her if she was having troubles at work. This was exactly her problem, and so she said that Allan had hit the nail right on the head and guessed correctly when he had made this suggestion.

Question 1 (b)

Sample answer

It introduces the notion of something a little sinister – like the feeling a criminal has before a crime. It also flags to the reader that she is about to embark on something she has done before – so exciting that the delicious itching engulfs her. After a morning of aggravation, this is her first indication of pleasure – and it is intense.

Question 1 (c)

Sample answer:

In the first quote her thoughts are motivated by anger and frustration – she wants to hit Allan in the middle of his face. This is a violent image reflecting her pent-up emotions. Yet, in complete contrast, instead of storming out, she simply picks up her sandwich and leaves revealing that this angry reaction may be out of character for her. She feels she has to act and think like a man to be successful. In the end, having caught the thief, she says she is itching to overpower him with a judo throw. She would like to prove herself his physical as well as mental equal. But success is already hers and her mood is now triumphant. She implies in a good-humoured way that she could do it, but instead simply calls the police.

Question 1 (d)

Sample answer:

It is ironic that the issue of ‘Tolerance of Difference’ turns out to be to the narrator’s advantage. Throughout the story, she has complained about unfair treatment, simply because she is a woman, yet it is this very attitude, shown by the *Gentleman*, which causes him to set his own trap and then fall completely into it. He sees himself as superior because he is a man, and denigrates her by calling her a ‘pretty little thing’. He derides her clothing and her amateurish approach to shoplifting. It is his sense of superiority that leads him to show off and demonstrate his ability to steal, pleased he seems to be impressing her. However, once her true identity is revealed, he is quick to turn on her, showing his intolerance for the job she does. She, too, is intolerant of this view, seeing him as yet another ‘Neanderthal’ of a man, with his outdated ideas. In the end the narrator proves herself – because of the man’s own ineptitude and sense of superiority, thereby making her success all the sweeter.