Section I
Question 1

2015 HSC English: (Standard/Advanced) Paper 1

Band 5/6

Sample 2

a) The short story extract employs the use of dialogue to convey the excitement of the couple as they discover the junk/treasure. The use of italics in "Oh, man, look at this!" highlights and emphasises the excitement of the couple and the continued use of exclamations "Whoa!", "This!", and so on, conveys the couple's sense of wonder towards their discovery.

b) The image depicts a man displaying his discovered objects. The salient image is his eyes and his pointed hand draws attention to the seashells and illustrations he has collected conveying his value for discovered objects. This is supported by the numerous specimen jars in the background as well as his red cloak, as red connotes passion, representing his value of discovered objects.

c) The poem conveys the father's response to discovery as a sense of wonder. High modality and strong imagery of "brimming"
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The text explores the difficulties of discovering "what is true" and what is false. The speaker conveys her inner turmoil as she struggles with discovering who her grandma truly was and leaving "her and her stories be." The listing style the author employs "family papers, recipes, photographs" emphasises that the difficulty of discovery is not always the process but rather the initiation as we may not like what we discover. The speaker questions her grandmother's past, as conveyed in the line "Or so the story goes..." The use of "..." conveys her inner turmoil, she's not sure if she wants to discover the truth. Ultimately, the speaker decides
“to leave her and her stories be” as they allowed her to imagine and discover as a young girl. The woman realises that the value of discovery is not always finding the truth.

Curiosity is essential to the process of discovery. The poem “Butterfly” by Margaret Atwood explores this concept. Through its use of high modality and strong imagery, “the brimming eel-filled rush-fringed peat-brown river”, the poem builds a sense of wonder and curiosity. This curiosity catalyses in the discovery of “a butterfly, blue as eyes”, and the father’s ultimate realisation that his purpose was to delve “into the abstruse world of microscopes and numbers lapel pins, cars and wanderings”. Atwood’s listing style emphasises the importance of curiosity in making discoveries, both of the wider world and personally. Similarly, the painting of Alecto Seba by Jacob Houbraken demonstrates the significance of curiosity in discovery. The painting
depict a man surrounded by specimens of his discovery. The salient image is the man’s eyes, looking outwards, towards the wider world, conveying his curiosity of the world outside his own that has led to so many discoveries. This is emphasized by the passion connoted by his red gown. Ultimately, these texts demonstrate that curiosity plays a vital role in the process of discovery.

(a) The woman introduces her grandmother as a “story-teller”. She recalls “First came her stories like webs across the world”. The simile and the connotations of “web” create a sense of interconnectedness and the audience establishes that a vast amount of the woman’s childhood understanding of the world spawned from her grandmother’s stories. The nostalgic tone that follows throughout the text suggests that part of the difficulty in finding the truth is not wanting to damage our favourite memories.