



2010 HSC Arabic 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:

He is a diplomat in Argentina, who has left behind elderly parents and young siblings in his country of origin. She is a divorced Argentinian woman with two children and an old sick mother. They have been in a relationship for over 5 years.

Question 1 (b)

Sample answer:

The love between the two characters was always strong and full of sacrifice. When they were faced with the decision of him leaving, they supported each other and their love remained strong. He was not selfish – he was prepared to relinquish his position and leave his family and country to live with her.

However, she objected to the idea. Kindly and firmly, she did not allow him to sacrifice all that he had for her. She preferred to sacrifice her love rather than him lose his job and family.

Question 1 (c)

Sample answer:

This statement shows how the merciful hand of destiny played a role in the relationship of the two main characters who met and fell in love. They felt that they were in control of their destiny. The merciful hand was generous to them and allowed them five happy years together.

Suddenly, destiny showed its harsh side when he was asked to move back to his home country for his work, but as a diplomat was not allowed to marry a foreigner. In addition, she could not leave her children and a sick mother behind. The unkind and harsh hand of destiny did not allow them to be together.

Question 1 (d)***Sample answer:***

One of the issues explored in the story could be ‘Pressures on the Individual’. This issue is explored in this story through the pressure of the need to sacrifice one’s happiness for the happiness of others.

Firstly the pressure of decision-making is portrayed through the main characters’ commitments towards their families and countries. The two main characters in the story were forced to be apart because they were tied to their homelands and family members who needed them.

The male character felt the pressure of his love so strongly that he would have given up his diplomatic career, his parents and his future. The female character felt pressured to sacrifice her love and happiness to convince her beloved to go back to his country.

Finally, the pressure that fear places on individuals is clearly evident in the story. The fear of change, loss and regret make the female character more determined in her decision.