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| Criteria | **A: Knowledge and Understanding of the text and subject matter** | **B: Understanding of the use and effects of literary features** | **C: Organisation** | **D: Language** |
| What is the marker looking for? | * To what extent does the commentary show knowledge and understanding of the text? * Are the comments supported by well-chosen references to the text? | * To what extent does the commentary show an awareness of how the literary features in the text (for example, structure, technique and style) are used to construct meaning? * To what extent does the commentary show understanding of the effects of literary features? | * How well organized is the commentary? * How coherent is the structure? | * How clear, varied and accurate is the language? * How appropriate is the choice of register and style (“Register refers, in this context, to the student’s use of elements such as vocabulary, tone, sentence structure and terminology appropriate to the commentary.) |
| Success Criteria | * Explain the context of the passage within the novel, and in terms of the writer’s and reader’s context * Identify the significance of the passage in terms of character, setting, conflict and how each of these develops and understanding of the main themes * Offer detailed explanation * Unpack and interpret *important* quotes that link to setting (geographical, social and temporal), character, conflict and purpose. * Choose at least 3-4 quotes or references for every main idea * Be selective. Don’t use everything in the text, choose the most important references * Be explicit and clear to the marker – state everything even if it seems obvious, so no assumptions need to be drawn | * Identify language features using correct and sophisticated terminology (i.e. tone) * Describe the use of language features using at least 3 adjectives, also use emotive language (this will also show personal engagement) to develop ideas * Explain the intended effect of the language feature, start off with what it does for the extract then move towards the broader context of the novel: Always consider the ‘WHY’. * Explain the way language features develop understanding of TAMP (relate to broader context of the novel after explaining the context in relation to the extract) * Use line numbers (i.e., In the quote ‘…’ line 23) | * Sequence your ideas so that each idea is discussed in order of importance * Introduce your main ideas in the first minute. * Show how your ideas build on each other. For example, when talking about setting discuss the immediate setting and then move on to broader setting (ie: dystopian Gilead) * Sign post your ideas so that the marker knows when you are moving from discussion of character to discussion of setting. * Move thematically between ideas. The end of the last section should link to the start of the next section * Always seek relationships between language features and ideas, looking for patterns and contrast * Use connective words and phrases, (similarly, contrastingly, furthermore) * Conclude by drawing all the threads together to show how it all works, (should relate to the introduction)- talk about how the extract prepares the reader for events later on in the book | * Sound confident in delivery and avoid use of fillers * Use terminology correctly * Use sophisticated diction with good variety of vocabulary (verbs) relevant to the text * Maintain formal register and speak in complete sentences * Vary sentence starters, types and lengths for effect * Use a pace that is easy to follow and consistent |
| What does the criteria require? | The commentary shows excellent knowledge and understanding of the text; comments are effectively supported by well-chosen references to the text. | There is excellent awareness and illustration of the use of literary features, with detailed understanding of their effects on the reader. | The commentary is very  effectively organized; the structure is coherent and effective. | The language is very clear and entirely appropriate, with a high degree of accuracy in grammar and sentence construction; the register and style are consistently effective and appropriate to the commentary. |