

## **Grade Descriptors for GCSEs Graded 9-1: English Literature**

### 9 To achieve a Grade 9 candidates will be able to:

In relation to a range of texts, to achieve grade 8, candidates will be able to:

- sustain a precise, consistent and evaluative response to explicit and implicit meanings of texts
- sustain a perceptive critical analysis of the ways in which writers use language, form and structure, including original comments on more subtle techniques.
- use judicious and well-integrated textual references from across the text, with precise subject terminology, to develop original responses
- show perceptive and original understanding of how contexts shape texts and responses to texts
- make sustained, illuminating comparisons between texts

#### 8 To achieve a Grade 8 candidates will be able to:

In relation to a range of texts, to achieve grade 8, candidates will be able to:

- sustain a convincing, informed personal response to explicit and implicit meanings of texts
- sustain a perceptive critical analysis of the ways in which writers use language, form and structure
- use judicious and well-integrated textual references to develop personal responses with precise subject terminology
- show perceptive understanding of how contexts shape texts and responses to texts
- make sustained comparisons between texts

#### 7 To achieve a Grade 7 candidates will be able to:

- sustain a focused personal response to explicit and implicit meanings of texts.
- Discuss and analyse the ways in which writers use language, form and structure
- Make well-chosen direct reference to the text, including quotations with apt subject terminology
- Show a secure understanding of key aspects in the text.
- Make thoughtful reference to context and how it shapes texts
- make thoughtful comparisons between texts

#### 6 To achieve a Grade 6 candidates will be able to:

- sustain a focused response to explicit and implicit meanings of texts.
- Discuss and increasingly analyse the ways in which writers use language, form and structure
- Make appropriate reference to the text, including quotations with some subject terminology.
- Make thoughtful reference to context.
- make clear comparisons between texts
- 5 To achieve a Grade 5 candidates will be able to:

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In relation to a range of texts, to achieve grade 5, candidates will be able to:

- develop a coherent and engaged response to explicit and implicit meanings of texts
- develop a clear understanding of the ways in which writers use language, form and structure
- use apt textual references to support responses. Use some subject terminology.
- use understanding of contexts to inform responses to texts
- make credible comparisons between texts
- 4 To achieve a Grade 4 candidates will be able to:
  - develop a generally coherent and engaged response to explicit and implicit meanings of texts
  - Comment on and begin to analyse the ways in which writers use language, form and structure
  - Use some reference to the text, including quotations.
  - Make some reference to context.
- 3 To achieve a Grade 3 candidates will be able to:
  - Make a straightforward response to explicit and implicit meanings of texts.
  - Make simple comments on writers' use language, form and structure.
  - Limited reference to text.
  - Make limited reference to context.
  - Make basic links between texts.
- 2 To achieve a Grade 2 candidates will be able to:
  - make straightforward comments about explicit meanings of texts
  - describe straightforward aspects of language, form or structure
  - make general references to obvious details of texts
  - show awareness that texts are related to contexts
  - Attempts to make links between texts.
- 1 To achieve a Grade 1 candidates will be able to:
  - Make generalised comments on writers' use of language, form and structure.
  - make general references to obvious details of texts
  - Basic reference to context.