# SECTION I

## Marking guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>MARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Question 1 (a)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selects one aspect of the visual text and explains how it offers a perspective on belonging</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempts to explain how the visual text offers a perspective on belonging</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Question 1 (b)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Explains how personal insights into belonging to places are conveyed in the transcript</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attempts to explain or explains in a limited way how personal insights into belonging to places are conveyed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Question 1 (c)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrates, with aptly chosen textual references, what Jack comes to understand about belonging</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates, with some textual references, what Jack comes to understand about belonging</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Describes aspects of the text</td>
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<td><strong>Question 1 (d)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Discusses effectively, with aptly chosen textual references, the importance of memories to Ellis’s sense of belonging</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discusses, with some textual references, the importance of memories to Ellis’s sense of belonging</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describes aspects of the text</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Question 1 (e)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Analyses effectively the relationship between places and identity in TWO of the texts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analyses adequately the relationship between places and identity in TWO of the texts</td>
<td>3–4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrates limited/some understanding of the relationship between places and identity</td>
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Marker feedback

QUESTION 1

Candidates demonstrated a clear understanding of the length required for each question and this translated into more effective responses across the paper as a whole.

a. In better responses, candidates selected an aspect of the visual text and explained clearly how it offered a perspective on belonging. Some candidates struggled to adequately explain how the perspective was presented through the visual text.

b. In strong responses, candidates showed a clear grasp of the way or ways personal insights into belonging to places were conveyed in the transcript. Weaker responses tended to focus on personal insights into belonging without discussing how that insight was conveyed. Conversely, other candidates discussed how meaning was conveyed without identifying an insight.

c. Better responses explored Jack’s understanding in greater depth with aptly chosen textual references. Weaker responses relied heavily on paraphrasing and retelling.

d. Stronger responses discussed – with aptly chosen textual references – the importance of memories to the character Ellis’s sense of belonging. Weaker responses discussed Ellis’s experiences in Brooklyn without addressing the importance of memories, or retold aspects of the text.

e. Stronger responses dealt with the dual concepts of place and identity and supported this with effective references to both texts. Weaker responses dealt superficially with the texts and relied upon description rather than analysis. These candidates struggled to develop the relationship between place and identity.
QUESTION 1 (a)  Sample 1

Text One - Visual Text

a) The multitude of colours and hues, green, red, purple, blue, yellow, orange, utilised in this visual serves to emphasise the various aspect and perspectives, an individual can make connections to, for instance: 'identity', 'people' and 'places', that enable them to gain a sense of belonging.

Comment

The candidate refers to colours and hues and links these to perspective.
QUESTION 1 (a) Sample 2

(a) The visual text entitled "Many Ways to belong" encapsulates the perspective of belonging as composed of and influenced by a range of factors. The harmonised composition represents belonging as a composite conveyed through the images of social gatherings juxtaposed with an image of a man standing alone by a river. This perspective of belonging is achieved through a variety of factors is reinforced through the use of images of the city with images of the also country, suggesting the subjective nature of belonging.

Comment

The candidate does everything the question requires (several times).
b) A variety of insights are portrayed in the transcript through the use of four separate voices though they all explore the difficulty of belonging to a place. The use of first-person narration highlights how belonging is ultimately influenced by the individual's own perception on whether he or she belongs, as demonstrated by the second speaker:

"I can still acknowledge that while I'm here, I belong on this earth." The reflective tone "I never truly feel like I belong in any one place." reinforces the importance of one's own insight into belonging.

Comment
This is a clear and thorough response, providing insights with well-supported textual references.
QUESTION 1 (b) Sample 2

b) The first person point-of-view in all of the speakers' reflections emphasises that they are uniquely personal insights. Speaker 1 for example, reflects on how "I love to move..." and "I never truly feel like I belong in any one place". This conversational and personal tone suggests that the speaker recognises that he or she does not possess a personal sense of belonging to any fixed place where it is truly a home to him or her. The speaker acknowledges with a tinge of regret that he or she does not have this strong sense of connection to a place, a uniquely personal insight into one's life.

Comment

This is a thorough response noting tone and the use of the first person as a means of conveyance.
QUESTION 1 (c) Sample 1

g) Jack concludes that in order to form a strong connection to a place, one must spend a sufficient amount of time there to truly experience the place. He emphasizes, through the repetition of “stupid,” that “it’s a pretty stupid idea to cross the world in six months ... just stupid.” Jack regrets being unable to metaphorically “soak up the place” and get past the “superficial layers of a society” because he “never had enough time.” Because he never got to form deep, emotional bonds with all the places he’s been, he feels disconnected—evident in the reflective tone in, “it’s made me realize how lost I am in this huge hungry planet.”

Comment

In this response, textual references are integrated and support the candidate's understanding of belonging.
QUESTION 1 (c) Sample 2

From his experiences of new places, Jack had come to understand that belonging very often involves a strong sense of place and connection to a community. This is clear in “it’s made me realise just how lost I am in this huge hungry planet”, as Jack does not have a sense of place within the world due to his travelling. The alliteration ‘huge hungry’ emphasises Jack’s vulnerability in not having a place to belong to on this planet. He also came to understand that belonging is not only a product of place but also a product of time. He asserts, “that takes years and we only had months”. This demonstrates the role of time in order to forge a strong connection to a place or person in order to gain a sense of belonging. This is furthered by Jack’s referral to his father as “a stable normality in the exoticism”. By not belonging to a place Jack was able to strengthen his bonds with his father and thus gain a sense of belonging to him, as he “shared all this with (his) old man”. Thus, from his experience of new places Jack had come to understand the importance of a sense of place and the role of time in shaping one’s notion of belonging.

Comment

This wonderfully clear response is well sustained throughout.
QUESTION 1 (d) Sample 1

d) In Brooklyn, memories provide a bridge for Ellis as she connects to her homeland amidst the struggle of adapting to life in Brooklyn. The memories provide a sense of comfort for Ellis as "she forgot for a moment where she was and she could picture her mother." The familiar image of the 'mother' conveys how memories reconnected Ellis's sense of belonging to people. The memories also provide a contrast to her sense of dislocation in Brooklyn. The contrasting tone and images, in her description of Brooklyn "she was nobody... she was a ghost", with her recollections of Enniscorthy in "the food she had eaten there, the clothes she wore... how quiet everything was". Thus, the contrasting images of her enduring connection to Ireland with her isolation in 'Brooklyn' reflect how the memories emphasize Ellis's sense of belonging to her homeland. Therefore, the memories remind her of Ireland, something she had "left out of her mind... the life she had lost".

Comment

The candidate offers an excellent discussion with well-chosen references. The importance of memories is made clear without the use of the word 'importance'.
QUESTION 1 (d)  Sample 2

Memories are presented as contributing significantly to Ellis' sense of belonging in forming a foundation for her sense of past, self and identity. The vivid pictorial imagery of "elegant white envelope" in Ellis' imagined recollection of her family in Ireland relates the enriching and profound impact experiences with family members have upon an individual's future experiences of belonging and the importance of personal memories in facilitating this process. The emotive listing her memories: "home, her own room, the house ... the food ... the clothes ..." establishes a tone of nostalgia that reinforces Ellis' sense of belonging to her past, but inhibits her sense of belonging to her present in Brooklyn.

Her metaphorical representation of herself as a "ghost" and having been "locked away" confirms the importance of memories in forming one's connection to the past, but the way they may engender a sense of disengagement from the present and induce a sense of insubstantiality.

Comment
This is a clear and thorough response with an excellent discussion of the importance of memories.
QUESTION 1 (e) Sample 1

The relationship between place and identity is primarily composed of an individual's ability to belong to a place and our enmeshed relationship with culture as texts two and four convey most prominently. In text two, the transcripts of the four speakers discuss their personal insights into belonging to places as people who move around a lot due to various reasons. They convey that Speaker 1 conveys the relationship as "a strong link between our modern humanity's disconnection from belonging to our land and our majority's need to feel a sense of belonging." The first person pronoun 'I' is used throughout the transcript to allow the speaker to express their own feelings and allow the reader to sympathise as well as explore their own sense of belonging to new places they move into. The repetition of the word 'from' through our implied the importance of humanity's need to belong, we analysed and have a place you call home. Similarly in text four, Speaker 2's text lacks the sense of unity and acceptance with the new unsettling place of Brooklyn.
QUESTION 1 (e) Sample 1 continued

(e) continued

In fact, her residual sense of belonging is felt through the letters from her family which elicit “flashing pictures” of her home. Her lacking sensibilities are described negatively as the simile “like a terriﬁc weight”. This disconnect with society is further emphasized through the use of emotive words such as “nobody” and “nothing”, an expression of her lack of identity in a new place and discomfort in the beginning of a new life. Hence from the exploration of texts two and four, the ability to feel a connection to a place within this vast world of ours allows us to feel acceptance and unity and as a result, create a unique identity for ourselves.

Comment

This response is sustained and succinct, with a logical sequence of ideas and effective analysis throughout.
QUESTION 1 (e)  Sample 2

The transcript from ‘Belonging to Places’ and Taibin’s ‘Brooklyn’ both highlight how a strong connection to a place can help facilitate the development of one’s identity.

‘Belonging to Places’ explores the impact of not having any strong connection to place. Contrastingly, ‘Brooklyn’ explores the positive impact on a person’s identity from developing a strong connection to place.

‘Belonging to Places’ explores the importance of a connection to place in fostering a sense of identity. This can be seen through the structure of the piece, as many separate “speakers” agree on the same idea. The idea is shown through an “enry” of people “who born their neighborhoods inside and out” and who would never consider leaving their hometown because it’s their family. This comparison between hometown and family highlights how a connection to place helps facilitate a sense of belonging. This importance is reiterated through the metaphor of a place being represented through just 63
its "soil". The dialogue "I belong to it and it to me" also explores the notion that the identity of a place is defined by the people who relate to it. 'Belonging to Places' definitely highlights the importance of a connection to place in fostering a sense of identity.

'Brooklyn' conveys a similar idea. However this is achieved through an explanation of the positives of connection. Whereas 'Belonging to Places' explores the negatives of disconnection, the importance of a connection to her hometown is seen through Eilis' comparison of her "ghost" life in Brooklyn and her solid interactions with her hometown. The acknowledgement of a connection as a "weight... might..." in trying to force tears down her cheeks highlights the importance of this connection.

Both texts convey the importance of a sense of connection to place, and the on the formation of our identities. However this is in "Belonging to Places".

This is achieved through dis connection. Contrastingly, in 'Brooklyn'...
QUESTION 1 (e)  Sample 2  continued

This is achieved through an exploration of the benefits of connection.

Comment

This is a succinct and sophisticated response. The candidate carries the idea of a relationship between place and identity throughout.