

## Paragraph response assessment

Students were asked to respond to the following questions. Their planning was not explicitly assessed, only the paragraph, but students who completed the planning in detail were therefore able to better execute the written component of the task.

1. Which topic are you responding to? Write it below.
2. What are the key words in your chosen prompt? Rewrite the prompt in your own words.
3. Do you agree or disagree with the topic? Or are you going to 'sit on the fence' and partially agree, but partially disagree? Write your perspective below.
4. Write out your contention.
5. Outline three arguments to support your contention.
6. What evidence do you have to support the arguments above? Write out a quotation to support each of the arguments in the box above.

## Paragraph response marking rubric

	Not yet 0.5 marks	Low 1 mark	Medium 1.5 marks	High 2 marks	Very high 2.5 marks
Interpretation and understanding ( <i>evident through both plan and paragraph</i> )	Limited understanding of the ideas of the text including little understanding of the message the author intends to convey.	Some understanding of the ideas of the text including the message the author intends to convey.	Clear understanding of the ideas of the text including the message the author intends to convey.	Thorough understanding of the ideas of the text including the message the author intends to convey.	Sustained and perceptive understanding of the messages the author intends to convey.
Evidence and analysis	Makes little attempt to defend the interpretation with textual evidence and analysis.	Makes some attempt to defend the interpretation with some textual evidence, but little evidence of analysing the impact of selected evidence.	Makes clear attempt to defend the interpretation with clear textual evidence, and to analyse the impact of selected evidence.	Interpretation of the text is defended with accurate textual evidence, including a close and thoughtful analysis of selected evidence.	Interpretation of the text is defended with detailed and perceptive textual evidence, and highly perceptive analysis of the features of the text.
Organisation	Little to no attempt to organise the writing.	Shows some attempt to follow appropriate paragraph structure.	Shows a clear attempt to follow appropriate paragraph structure.	A clearly organised paragraph with evidence of clear structure.	A polished, coherent and clear paragraph that reflects confidence in appropriate paragraph structure.
Written expression	Written language shows limited control of spelling, punctuation and syntax.	Some fluent and coherent written language that employs some conventions of spelling, punctuation and syntax.	Fluent and coherent written language that employs most conventions of spelling, punctuation and syntax.	Expressive, fluent and coherent written language that employs accurate use of spelling, punctuation and vocabulary.	Highly expressive, fluent and coherent written language that employs the skilful and accurate use of spelling, punctuation and vocabulary.