Level 1 English, 2016

90849 Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence

9.30 a.m. Thursday 10 November 2016
Credits: Four

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<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Achievement with Merit</th>
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<td>Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.</td>
<td>Show convincing understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.</td>
<td>Show perceptive understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.</td>
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Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should answer ONE of the essay questions in this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.
In the novel, "To Kill a Mockingbird," written by Harper Lee, an important character was Atticus Finch, father of two children, Scout and Jem. Throughout the novel, Harper Lee reveals Atticus as unprejudiced and courageous when he defends a black man, Tom Robinson. Atticus is also revealed as accepting of people for who they are, no matter what social class they come from.

Atticus Finch is a lawyer descended from an old local family. He is a widow but a very good father towards Jem and Scout. He is a respected man in Maycomb County in which he lives and is seen as the moral backbone of the novel. Atticus instills good values and morals into his children. This is seen when he doesn't try and hide the hypocrisy and racial prejudice to his children and taught them wise morals about being true to yourself and treating others as how you, yourself, would want to be treated. Many people also look up to Atticus in Maycomb County and come to him with problems or concerns. Atticus is the main character in the novel as he influences many people and stays true to his values. He is kind and caring and is a real asset to Maycomb County.
Atticus Finch is revealed as very unprejudiced and courageous when he accepts to defend a black man, Tom Robinson. During this time, in the 1930's of the United States, there was a problem of racial inequality. Whites were said to much superior than black, African Americans. Blacks were seen as lower class and 'trash'. This is reflected in the justice system. Atticus says that "When it's a white man's word against a black man's, the white man always wins." Despite knowing that he will not win, he accepts to take on the case. He said "if I didn't I couldn't hold my head up in town." This shows that Atticus is very courageous as he knew that Maycomb County would dislike him for this and called him a 'nigger lover.' However he still held his head up high and did the best he could to defend the wrongfully accused, Tom Robinson for being said to rape a white woman. He said "It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what." Harper Lee reveals that Atticus Finch has the courage and values to stand up for what he believes in even though the people in Maycomb County thought otherwise. He didn't listen to what people were saying about and followed his morals in what he thought was right, even though he didn't have a chance in winning the trial. Harper Lee reveals to the reader that Atticus is very brave and goes against racial prejudice.
Atticus is revealed to treat everyone equally, even if they are in a very low social class. Atticus Finch is said to be in one of highest social classes in the 1930's because he is a lawyer and is white. Due to the Great Depression, farmers were left with nothing and were seen as 'lower class' and 'dirty white trash'. Many people in the town of Maycomb treated these people unequally. Atticus Finch was the opposite, he treated these people fairly and equally because he believed that "you never really understand a person, until you consider things from his point of view, until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." This is seen when Atticus lets a poor white farmer, Mr Cunningham, pay him back with hickory nuts to pay for Atticus defending him in a court case. He understood that Mr Cunningham did not have the money to pay him back in cash and respected him for it. He knew that he also was embarrassed about this so he let Mr Cunningham drop the gifts at his back door without him seeing Atticus. He said to Scout "The Cunninghams's never took something they can't pay back." In this scene, Harper Lee reveals that Atticus was not only against the racial prejudice in the County but he was also against the social inequality. He believed that everyone should be treated equally and not be judged by the colour of their skin or what social class they are in. Atticus understood people's perceptsives and treated everyone the same.
In the novel, 'To Kill a Mockingbird', Atticus Finch was revealed as a role model to those in Maycomb County. He believed that everyone should be treated how you would want yourself to be treated. This was revealed when he stood up to the Tom Robinson case and went against the racial segregation in the county which took bravery and courage. He was also revealed to believe in social inequality when he accepted Mr. Cunningham for who he was and treated him fairly and normally. Overall, Atticus Finch was revealed as a brave unprejudiced man who looked beyond the colour of people's skin and their social class.
To Kill a Mockingbird
Focus is immediately upon Atticus and his importance is fully established.
The discussion is wide-ranging but not to the point of becoming too diffuse. There is a constant reference back to key words that keep the essay focused. The depth of textual knowledge is immediately apparent and the candidate uses relevant quotes to show how the author has “revealed” the character.