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91472



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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 3 English 2025

91472 Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence

Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Respond critically to specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence.	Respond critically and convincingly to specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence.	Respond critically and perceptively to specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), supported by evidence.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

Write ONE essay in this booklet.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

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

Do not write in the margins (//////). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Achievement

TOTAL 04

WRITTEN TEXTS

INSTRUCTIONS

Write an essay on at least ONE **written text** that you have studied, in response to ONE of the statements below. Discuss the extent to which you agree with your chosen statement. Respond critically to the statement by making a close analysis of the text(s).

STATEMENTS (Choose ONE)

1. Characters who behave badly make us think deeply.
2. Changes that take place in a text teach us valuable lessons.
3. Relationships that are challenging lead us to important discoveries.
4. Interesting settings encourage us to re-examine our own environment.
5. Carefully crafted language provokes new understandings.
6. Writers develop important ideas in order to critique society.
7. The fate of heroes helps us understand the world.
8. Effective symbols communicate significant ideas.

TEXT DETAILS

Written text type	Poetry / song lyric ▾	Written text type	▾
Title	Little Red Cap	Title	
Author	Carol Ann Duffy	Author	

SELECTED QUESTION

Copy and paste the question you have chosen into the space below.

Relationships that are challenging lead us to important discoveries.

PLANNING

Relationships that are challenging lead us to important discoveries.

quotes:

What little girl doesn't dearly love a wolf - rhetorical question - shows irony because most little girls would be afraid of wolves, showing how Little Red Cap was manipulated by the wolf

First clapped eyes with a wolf - extended metaphor - the wolf is actually a man who has dominance and power

out of the forest I come, with my flowers, singing all alone - symbol - shows her escaping the controlling relationship with the older poet and that she was silenced but she is leaving it and her singing is her getting her voice back

Point one - older man manipulates Duffy showing he that older men are glamourised because of their power

point two - the wolf is actually a man but is compared as a wolf because he is seen as big and bad and how at first she is fascinated by him but then later discovers he is evil patriarchal society

point three - symbol flowers and singing she discovers herself and coming of age This link beyond the text to how we live in a patriarchal society that is male-focused and dominated men often have more power compared to women who are silenced and mistreated

ESSAY

Type your essay in the space below. You should aim to write a concise essay of no more than 800–900 words. The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your essay. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended word count.)

In your essay, discuss the extent to which you agree with your chosen statement. Respond critically to the statement by making a close analysis of the text(s).

B *I* U     

Relationships that are challenging lead us to important discoveries.

The poem "Little Red Cap", written by Carol Ann Duffy, is a twist on the children's fairy tale Little Red Riding Hood. It is a poem about herself about how, when she was younger and learning more about poetry and becoming a poet, she met an older man and formed a romantic relationship with him. She was manipulated and misled because of her fascination with poetry and because he was such a great poet with a lot of experience and knowledge for her to learn from. Duffy uses extended metaphors, rhetorical questions, and symbols in her poem to show how relationships that are challenging lead us to important discoveries. Her poem explores the themes of women's empowerment and coming of age.

Duffy highlights that relationships that are challenging lead us to important discoveries. An example of this is when she uses rhetorical questions, "What little girl doesn't dearly love a wolf." This quote shows irony because most little girls would be afraid of a wolf, highlighting the challenging relationship between Carol and the older poet. We see that it is a challenging relationship because the older man manipulates Duffy and tricks her because she is young and naive and just sees an older more knowledgeable man he says he will help her with poetry, and they end up in a romantic relationship because she is so fascinated by him, like how the wolf manipulates the little red riding hood in the fairytale thinking the wolf is her grandma but is actually an evil wolf. This leads Duffy to an important discovery that bad older men are glamorised in society because of their power and dominance.

The challenging relationship between "Little Red Cap" and the wolf, or Carol and the older poet, leads the audience to important discoveries of coming of age and women empowerment. This is shown through an extended metaphor, "first clapped eyes with a wolf." This quote explains that the wolf is a metaphor for the older man; Duffy compares the two, both being big and bad. When she first clapped eyes with the wolf, she didn't see how bad things could end up. She is simply fascinated and eager to learn more from him and become a better poet. It shows how she is fascinated but then discovers he is actually evil and controlling. This links to the author's purpose that younger girls are easily manipulated and that older men can take advantage of their naivety and the young girls might not realise it's wrong until they are older linking to the idea of coming of age when they are going through self-discovery when they are growing and shows the audience that challenging relationships through our lives lead us to discover important things about ourselves that will help to learn and grow in the future and become more aware.

Carol Ann Duffy uses symbols to identify important discoveries of coming of age that are led from the challenging relationship between Duffy and the older poet, "out of the forest I come, with my flowers, singing all alone" This is a very strong and important quote that uses many symbols to show Duffy's journey of self-discovery. We see that her leaving the forest is her leaving the controlling relationship she had with the older man; she leaves with her flowers and singing all alone. This shows that she regained her voice after being silenced and controlled by the man and that she has grown and discovered things about herself and is now leaving on her own, ready to start anew. This link goes beyond the text to the real world, how we live in a patriarchal, male-dominated society. We see men often having more power, and women's voices are silenced and shut down and mistreated because of men. This is what Duffy experienced, but she made it through and discovered herself worth.

In conclusion, Carol Ann Duffy showed us in "Little Red Cap" that her challenging relationship with the wolf led the audience to important discoveries of women's empowerment and coming of age because of what she went through; she was able to share with the world and raise awareness that girls are raised to idolise and show fascination towards older men who are often bad.

718 WORDS / 900 RECOMMENDED

Achievement

Subject: English

Standard: 91472

Total score: 04

Grade score	Marker commentary
A4	This is a solid response which clearly explains how the relationship leads to new discoveries for the poet / character, as well as the reader. The discussion of the link between the poet's personal life and the poem itself is interesting, but at times this detracts from the analysis of the poem itself. A more developed exploration of the text would have resulted in a higher grade.