

Subject Name 2017

SAMPLE ASSESSMENT TASK AND DRAFT ANNOTATED STUDENT RESPONSES

These sample assessment tasks and accompanying annotated student responses are provided to support senior secondary teaching and learning programs. It is understood that throughout the teaching year that all elements of the criterion will be addressed in teaching and learning programs to enable summative assessment.

The cross sectoral English Standards Leadership Group has developed the following set of draft standards to Module specific criteria and elements to illustrate module specific standards. The draft annotations represent one way of approaching assessment design and response.

The following samples have been developed in the first year of implementation of English 3.

RESPONSE FORMAT: ANALYTICAL RESPONSE

Criterion assessed

- Criterion 3
- Elements: 1, 2, 3, 4

Assessment Task

The student work presented in samples are in response to an assessment task.

Assessment task-specific criteria matrix

Student responses have been matched to task-specific criteria and standards; those which best describe the student work in this sample are shown below. For more information about the course, criteria and standards, see relevant course information at: <https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/courses/english/eng315117-1/>

CRITERION 3

The learner:

Rating A	Rating B	Rating C
evaluates relationships between texts and contexts	analyses relationships between texts and contexts	explains relationships between texts and contexts
evaluates different perspectives, attitudes and values represented in texts*	analyses different perspectives, attitudes and values represented in texts*	explains different perspectives, attitudes and values represented in texts*
evaluates how texts* convey perspectives	analyses how texts* convey perspectives	explains how texts* convey perspectives
justifies their own considered and coherent interpretations of texts.*	defends their own reasoned interpretation of texts.*	develops a reasoned interpretation of texts.*

Student response – A rating

The annotations show the match to the assessment task-specific standards.

Seeking asylum in Australia is a topical and controversial issue and one around which people hold different perspectives that are invariably underpinned by attitudes to justice. Composers of media texts use persuasive techniques to appeal to their intended audiences and thus convey their own perspective regarding asylum seekers, as seen through Wunderman Sydney's advertisement, Andrew Bolt's opinion piece, and Shaun Tan's illustrated panel. These composers all hold different values, attitudes and assumptions in regards to asylum seekers, and all use persuasive techniques within their media texts to position audiences to adopt their particular position. They achieve this by employing written and visual techniques to champion or oppose the rights of immigrants, appealing to audiences' sense of logos, pathos, and ethos. The composers of these texts are thus able to position audiences to view asylum seekers through their own moral lens.

Appearing on an episode of The Gruen Transfer in 2010, Wunderman Sydney's 'Let Them In' advertisement effectively uses persuasive techniques to position the intended audience to rethink the political policy and social stigma around allowing asylum seekers into Australia and thus engage with the issue of social justice. The composers 'used the long-standing Aussie tradition of national pride [in] helping others' to appeal to audiences' patriotism and encourage them to 'leave a better legacy' (Gruen Transfer, 2016; Wunderman Sydney, 2016). The bold font supplements the bold argument to 'let boat people in', which is enhanced by the blue text (blue being a colour with connotations of truth) – positioning audiences to trust the composers.



(Figure 1 Wunderman Sydney, 2016)

The advertisement establishes an ironic tone by juxtaposing two children: one whose 'great-grandfather helped Jews escape from Nazis' and one whose grandfather – in keeping with government policy from the context of composition – 'turned away the boat people' (Wunderman Sydney, 2016). By using diegetic sound to show both children receiving the same amount of applause (even going so far as to give the latter a louder ovation), the advertisement creates a false equivalence between 'smuggling Jews into Poland' and leaving the 'boat people to die' (Wunderman Sydney, 2016). The composers satirise the belief that asylum seekers are an encroaching force by depicting Nazis as an analogy for refugees. By comparing the arrival of those seeking refuge to the atrocities committed by the Nazi Party, the composers highlight how dissimilar the two are. The effect is to debunk the belief that refugees are dangerous.

The composers appeal to audiences' sense of ethos as a means of convincing them that 'turning away' asylum seekers is just as barbaric as the actions of the Nazis during the Third Reich. The composers also employ a range of visual language techniques, using *mise-en-scène* to foreground the realism of the subject matter by spatially setting the advertisement in a standard school classroom. Further, the advertisement repeatedly shows close-ups of the children's feet as they walk to the front of the class – symbolising how children follow in their parents' footsteps.



Figure 2 (Wunderman Sydney, 2016)



Figure 3 (Wunderman Sydney, 2016)

Reinforced by the repetition of these shots, the advertisement provides social commentary that resonates with audiences' desire to protect their family and leave a positive legacy. Thus, by appealing to pathos, the composers are successful in conveying their belief that the values of tolerance and acceptance are needed, especially regarding asylum seekers. Through the use of written and visual language, the composers are able to effectively position audiences to view asylum seekers through a compassionate lens that differs from Andrew Bolt's perspective.

In his opinion piece, 'Boat people drownings are a tragedy but we can't open borders', Bolt uses persuasive techniques to position his audience to view asylum seekers as a threat to Australian society. Bolt's article contends that Australia should not open its borders to asylum seekers, and supports the Government's policies from the 2013 context of composition. Bolt's vitriolic tone immediately asserts the notion that asylum seekers deserve no sympathy, which is enhanced through his choice of diction. Bolt uses derisive language such as 'illegal', 'dangerous' and 'greedy', to denigrate asylum seekers, evoking similar sentiments of contempt in the reader; indeed, his use of colloquial expressions and inclusive language - 'we' and 'us' - evokes a sense of solidarity and creates a rapport with the audience, positioning readers to share Bolt's attitudes regarding refugees (Bolt, 2013).

Further, he appeals to pathos by using provocative phrases, including 'the fires of immigrant rage', 'unleashed evil', and 'thousands of uninvited migrants...helping themselves to what others have created', in order to incite prejudice and reinforce stereotypes of dangerous and aggressive refugees (Bolt, 2013). In vilifying asylum seekers – and delegitimising their reasons for travelling to Australia – Bolt minimises the sympathy readers may feel instead appealing to fear and patriotism to reaffirm the idea that Australia should not let immigrants 'tear down our borders' (Bolt, 2013). Bolt also uses evidence – citing the financial cost of refugees and the figure of 2000 asylum seekers attempting to enter Australia per month – to persuade his audience. In appealing to *logos*, Bolt lends weight to his argument and convinces the audience he has authority on the subject, positioning them to accept his contention. This is augmented by his use of rhetorical questions, such as 'what are our borders worth?', which imply an obvious answer that further positions the audience to sympathise with '[slamming] shut the door against immigrants' (Bolt, 2013). Bolt's xenophobic beliefs reflect Liberal Government policies from the context of composition, (although his extreme perspective could be considered offensive and alienate readers whose values oppose the composer's). Bolt's beliefs are informed by his conservative and nationalistic values that he seeks to elicit in

the audience, however, his attack on asylum seekers might not be viewed as the dominant reading for many; rather, a resistant reading of this text might come from readers who oppose Bolt's perspective and favour a more liberal stance regarding the need for justice in the treatment of asylum seekers. Nevertheless, Bolt effectively uses persuasive techniques to position his audience to share his perspective on asylum seekers, just as Shaun Tan does in his illustrated panel.

In his panel from *The Arrival* (2006), Tan effectively uses persuasive techniques to position audiences to sympathise with asylum seekers. Tan's illustration depicts a family of refugees as they emigrate to a foreign land, and limns the perspective of asylum seekers. The narrative is presented exclusively in pictures and transcends traditional genre boundaries – blurring the line between a picture book and graphic novel and, hence, reaching a broader audience. The panel's wordlessness reflects the family's loss of language in a new country; the setting and objects are as alien to the reader as they are to the immigrants and, thus, Tan invites the audience to empathise with the confusion – and exclusion – the migrants' experience. Tan uses the shadows and darkness to represent threat, creating an ominous mood and sense of danger. This is furthered by the most salient part of the image, the shadow of a large tentacle in the background that is, ostensibly, an allusion to the famous cartoon 'Mongolian octopus: his grip on Australia' (see Appendix 3). The tentacle symbolises looming danger that the family must escape, yet Tan leaves the interpretation open: it could be a literal infestation of monsters or figuratively represent political oppression, illness, or war. Indeed, Tan states that "it is open to the individual reader to decide... depending on what ideas or feelings the picture may inspire" (Picture Books, 2006). Despite this ambiguity, it is clear that the family is in danger and, thus, Tan elicits a sense of urgency, positioning the audience to feel compassion for them. This is enhanced through his portrayal of a typical nuclear family with whom many readers identify, as well as the depiction of a young girl who appeals to readers' desire to protect children. Tan's pencil drawings mimic sepia photographs and strengthen the sense that the surrealist image is strongly rooted in reality, reaffirming readers' sympathy for the family's plight. The use of an open door in the background, as a symbol of new beginnings, also evokes positive connotations of their journey – suggesting that the arrival of asylum seekers leads to many new opportunities. In contrast to the aggressive tone of Bolt's article – that asserts the notion that refugees deserve no sympathy – Tan appeals to audiences' sense of pathos, challenging Bolt's claim that refugees "are only here for our jobs" (Bolt, 2013). Unlike Bolt, who eradicates the validity of asylum seekers' right to asylum, Tan exhibits a more liberal and accepting perspective on refugees and champions the values of social justice and equality that were lacking in the context of composition. Tan's panel is predicated on the assumption that his audience may be unaware of why people emigrate and, thus, he seeks to enlighten his readers, empowering refugees by giving them the privileged perspective in the story. Thus, through his use of persuasive techniques, Tan effectively positions his audience to sympathise with asylum seekers.

Through the use of persuasive techniques, these composers are able to position audiences to share their own views regarding social justice and how this relates to asylum seekers. By appealing to logos, pathos, and ethos, Sydney, Bolt and Tan all seek to convince their audiences of their beliefs regarding refugees. As a contemporary Australian who has been raised to value acceptance and kindness, I am predisposed towards Sydney's advertisement – which affirmed my beliefs regarding the government policy and social stigma surrounding refugees in Australia. Conversely, Bolt's endorsement of xenophobic values challenged my perception of asylum seekers and, despite his effective use of persuasive techniques, I was

alienated as a reader due to our conflicting values. Finally, I found that Tan's panel aligned with my attitude regarding the arrival of immigrants to Australia; his use of visual language allowed me to sympathise with asylum seekers and adopt his moral stance on the legitimacy of the rights of those seeking asylum in Australia and the need for a more just approach.

Works Cited:

Bolt, Andrew. 'Boat people drownings are a tragedy but we can't open borders.' Herald Sun, 6 Oct. 2013, www.heraldsun.com.au/news/opinion/boat-people-drownings-are-a-tragedy-but-we-can8217t-open-borders/news-story/c38bb6e368f536912325ff8d9466f19a. Accessed 28 Sept. 2017.

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'The Arrival'. Picture Books, 2006, www.shauntan.net/books/the-arrival.html. Accessed 28 Sept. 2017.

'The Mongolian Octopus: his grip on Australia 1886.' *The Bulletin*, 21 Aug. 1886, dictionaryofsydney.org/media/1672. Accessed 28 Sept. 2017.

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Student Response - B rating

The annotations show the match to the assessment task-specific standards.

This analytical essay will be reviewing the use of language and embedded perspectives in three different texts in relation to environmentalism and sustainability. The three texts "Pumped: Who is benefitting from the billions spent on the Murray-Darling?", "LGTF Oakhampton Bay" picture and the article "Forestry Tasmania downsized, renamed Sustainable Timber Tasmania" each relates to sustainability in different contexts while comparing environmentalism to economic gain. Embedded perspectives are uncovered through the different opinions of individuals and businesses on both sides of the debate. Each text differs with environmental situation, but they present an argument which includes economic gain attempting to overrule community opposition. The language used throughout the texts can generate controversy as arguments and statements are made enforcing ideas. Whereas the audience is inclined to feel empathetic when language reflects peoples struggles.

Sustainability is the broad ideology shared between the texts as all three apply it in a similar context. The idea of sustainability is heavily looked at in this Murray-Darling Four Corners investigation. The investigation reviews the unfair and detrimental allocation of water out of the Murray-Darling River. People, communities and farms further down the river are struggling for water due to little water flow from excessive pumping. The purpose of the investigation is to reveal an unresolved problem which affects many people and educate the audience on how a significant Australian river is on the verge of collapse after billions of tax payers dollars has been spent trying to resurrect it.

Linton Besser conducts a professional investigation into the state of the river with: a community minded perspective, He is on site, then and there, interviewing people who are directly affected by the river. The narration of the investigation produces a clear, helpful message revealing facts and truth. Many people are interviewed equally and share the same thoughts on the situation. Not only do people rely on the river but wildlife and stock use it as a major water source. This is a real-world problem presented from an ethical and environmental context. Although the investigation is neutral and many allegations are raised, it invites the audience to agree with people's opinions and feel a level of empathy towards them. "What's going to happen to the rest of us who are trying to just have a shower, brush our teeth and let our sheep and cattle have a drink of water when you're standing on the riverbank and all you can see is a puddle of water, but you know that people upstream have huge amounts of water?"(Besser, 2017) says a Grazier. This quote gives an insight into the state of the river and through language, it visualises the empty river for the audience. Examples such as having a shower or brushing teeth represent the very fundamentals of living. When people are desperate, the audience is invited to show empathy or remorse for those people and their situation. When phrases such as "puddles of water" or "but you know that people upstream have huge amounts of water" are used, it is giving very clear cut and visual thought. This will create both controversy and anger because the audience will recognise there is a problem and start to believe the allegations are in fact truthful.

Paragraphs on Four Corners report and protest picture deleted.

The title of the forestry article “Forestry Tasmania downsized, renamed Sustainable Timber Tasmania” provides an appealing title from an environmental view. This new name gives a big sustainability impression, using language intelligently. The audience will be more inclined to think positively about the new name change and believe that the company is sustainable. Georgie Burgess the writer of the article must present facts, but also voice the opinions of people, specifically politicians such as Guy Barnett and Cassy O’Connor. The article is broadly about the revamp of Forestry Tasmania, but also the opening of an additional four hundred thousand acres of forest for logging by 2018. This article is from the public eyes point of view, as it is being presented in the news. Mr Barnett described this allocation of land as a “wood bank”, which could be considered a metaphor, relating the forest to a real bank. He further says “We need to find a lower cost supply of timber, At the heart of the problem is the board’s advice that more than a quarter of its high-quality saw log costs more to produce than it is to recover from current prices. That is costing money and the bill ends up with the taxpayer — it can’t continue.”(Burgess, 2017) This is from a business perspective and could be considered more of an economic sustainability problem, highlighting the fact that the current timber industry is unsustainable, producing an interesting contrast to the question as this quote combines economics and unsustainability. Mr Barnett could be considered a voice for the working-class or community, especially for those involved in the forestry and timber industries. The phrase “the bill ends up with the tax payer” emphasizes this voice as the tax payers are individuals with less of a say and who are ultimately effected by this decision. He uses an idiom: “at the heart of the problem”, meaning at the centre of the problem. This may make his argument seem more appealing.

Greens leader Cassy O’Connor expresses a different opinion: “This is all about the Liberals wanting to pick a fight over forests in the lead up to the next election, those are forests that were independently verified as being high conservation value”(Burgess, 2017). The language used in this quote, accusing the opposition of wanting to pick a fight causes controversy, as it is provocative. She could be considered a voice for environmentalists and opposing people against the opening of forests. She believes that the forests were “verified as being high conservation value” and that they should stay closed. This reveals an environmental perspective from a political context. These two political opinions collectively produce controversy, from both environmental and economic perspectives. They disagree with each other over the allocation of forests, causing a degree of conflict.

All texts are different, but present similar environmental problems relating to sustainability. The use of language especially quotes from interviewed people help convey messages from individuals with differing opinions. While the forestry article is a news report, the Murray-Darling Four Corners investigation and LTFG poster are both heavily implemented through a community perspective. The Four Corners investigation reveals the current situation and the outcome if economic gain is consistently put ahead of sustainability along the Murray-Darling river. The forestry article in contrast is more political but still includes a conflict over a possible sustainability problem. Controversy is a common theme, while empathy is encouraged in the Murray-Darling investigation as people are shown to be struggling for water. Contexts vary from political, community and businesses. Language is used similarly to provide facts but also persuade the audience into agreeing with their opinion. The forestry article and poster both show this. The quotes from Guy Barnett and Cassy O’Connor present two sides of an argument, but provide an insight into opinions and the voices of people.

The poster is community driven by people opposing the fish farms. It is a clear perspective on the debate and the language highlights this and delivers the message, hinting at the detrimental effects. All texts overall relate to the core ideology of sustainability.

References

Burgess, Georgie "Forestry Tasmania downsized, renamed Sustainable Timber Tasmania". ABC news, 8 September 2017, <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-10-26/forestry-tasmania-downsized-renamed-sustainable-timber-tasmania/7965564>

Besser, Linton, et al. "Pumped: Who is benefitting from the billions spent on the Murray-Darling?". Four Corners, 8 September 2017, <http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/stories/2017/07/24/4705065.htm>

N.A, "Tell Tassal to dump their plans for Oakhampton bay". LGTF, 8 September 2017, <http://www.lgtf.com.au/>

Student response – C rating

The annotations show the match to the assessment task-specific standards.

The sentencing in the murder Case of Oscar Pistorius killing his girlfriend in the bathroom with a pistol has created controversy in South Africa. Pistorius shot four rounds at his wife through the bathroom door. At the end of the court case, which extended over several months, Pistorius was finally sentenced to six years for what he has done. Reporting on the murder case with Pistorius focusses on the justice perspective, but also relates to ideologies of feminism and racism. The creators of the article, 'Oscar Pistorius' six year sentence sparks shock, outrage: 'embarrassment to the justice system'" from the Sydney Morning Herald; a YouTube video, 'Oscar Pistorius to face murder charge over girlfriend's shooting'; and a meme, 'The Oscar Pistorius drinking game, every time someone goes to the bathroom someone has to take 4 shots', shape audience response to the Pistorius case by reinforcing Pistorius' guilt and questioning the justice of the judge's sentencing as being too short. Many people think that Pistorius is getting away with 'cold blooded murder' and he should be getting more time or life in prison. Members of Pistorius' family agree with the 'justice' that is served to Oscar. In addition, being famous for a sport does help with his case because his fans do not want to see him fall and lose his career. By contrast, a few people have posted on Twitter on the Sydney Morning Herald news site, questioning the influence of race in the sentencing: 'if he were black he would be getting a lifetime in prison, not a few years'. This shows that many people are disappointed with the outcome of a light sentence and they want justice for his wife and her family.

Paragraph on the news article deleted.

There are many ideologies that have a resemblance with the Oscar Pistorius Court Case. The Ideology of feminism comes into place when the African National Congress Women's League said, "It is an insult to women in this country". This quote just doesn't relate to the all the women in South Africa. It also relates the relationship that the spokeswoman has for the judge and for her pride she has for the country (The Sydney Morning Herald, 2016). In the three-minute video there was a woman police officer pointing out of what Oscar had done and what is doing at that time. She said that they were sending him to go check if he was under any drugs or alcohol. They took him into custody and it shows that she is giving everyone that was in the interview and the people that were watching justice. Many people knew that after this murder scene that things were going to go downhill for Pistorius. This three-minute video also fits in with the feminism perspective because it is a Police Woman talking about the murder from Pistorius to his wife. But while it fits in with the feminism perspective it has the theme of justice because, most people that are giving the Police Officer an interview they want justice for Pistorius (The Guardian, 2013).

In the news article, it pointed out that Pistorius was trying to get fewer years in prison by using his disability and his fame in defence of the court case. 'His defence argued that his disability and mental stress that occurred in the aftermath of the killing should be considered as mitigating circumstances to reduce his sentence'. This is telling us that Pistorius is 'sucking up' to the judge to get less time in prison. This did help Pistorius, being famous for athletics and being disabled with a 'mental stress' does put Pistorius in a better position for his sentence.

This is telling us that Pistorius is 'sucking up' to the judge to get less time in prison. This did help Pistorius, being famous for athletics and being disabled with a 'mental stress' does put Pistorius in a better position for his sentence. Most people would be serving life in prison if they had murdered someone but Oscar has been given six years. The judge has been fair with Oscar but six years is still a lot of time. Also, she has taken his life away from him because he used to be an elite athlete and now he won't be able to compete. Oscar won't be able to leave the country and it has ruined his reputation as an elite athlete to a cold-blooded murderer. For most other people that commit a crime they are more likely to not be an elite athlete, so they won't have the same sensation of missing the sport you love. But they will be missing family and friends as the same for Oscar. (The Sydney Morning Herald, 2016)

The news article had a few Twitter posts and some videos that have a role in the court case. As Kon Karapanagiotidis mentions on twitter in the news article, "If #OscarPistorius was black he would have been sentenced to life in prison for killing a white woman. That's a fact.". Kon is pointing out a factor on the racist perspective. When he says, "that's a fact", this shows that he is backing up his statement with the dark history that black people have gone through and the troubles with the crime that still goes on today. It also shows that many people think that racism still plays a big role in the world today. Saying that someone is black and murdering a white person should be going to jail for a lifetime, instead of a white person murdering a white person should be only given 6 years in jail. Kon Karapanagiotidis is upset with Oscar being let off with a light sentence. He wants 'proper justice' for Oscar instead of him getting away with a light sentence. This isn't just Kon Karapanagiotidis talking on his behalf. This is himself talking for everyone who thinks that Pistorius should deserve a just outcome (The Sydney Morning Herald, 2016). As Kon Karapanagiotidis mentioned that Pistorius should be in prison for life. Oscar's brother Carl Pistorius posted on his behalf and the judges behalf. He said "I have the utmost respect for Judge Masipa; she is remarkable woman. #wisewoman" and "The record has been set straight and justice done. The truth will always prevail. #justice". He is saying that the judge's decision has been made and no one can change what she decided.

Other people such as the audience and the social media are treating Pistorius with disrespect. They have made a meme that involves a picture of him running and it says on the picture 'The Oscar Pistorius drinking game, every time someone goes to the bathroom someone has to take 4 shots'. This shows that people are mocking him for the murder that he committed. It also shows the lack of respect that people now have for him, people look at him as a different kind of person instead of being 'the hero of South Africa'. If someone does something bad, famous or not, people will try and find ways to put it into bad humour. But since Pistorius is famous there are many more memes and other insults online.

Reuters, AAP, Fairfax Media. "Oscar Pistorius' six year sentence sparks shock, outrage: 'Embarrassment to the justice system.'" The Sydney Morning Herald, 7 Jul. 2016, <http://www.smh.com.au/world/oscar-pistorius-six-year-sentence-sparks-shock-outrage-embarrassment-to-the-justice-system-20160706-gq06fg.html>