

MARK SCHEME for the May/June 2011 question paper
for the guidance of teachers

0488 LITERATURE (SPANISH)

0488/03

Paper 3 (Alternative to Coursework), maximum raw mark 20

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes must be read in conjunction with the question papers and the report on the examination.

- Cambridge will not enter into discussions or correspondence in connection with these mark schemes.

Cambridge is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2011 question papers for most IGCSE, GCE Advanced Level and Advanced Subsidiary Level syllabuses and some Ordinary Level syllabuses.

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Answers will be marked according to the following general criteria:

Band	Mark	
1	18–20	Detailed, well-written, well-organised answer, completely relevant to question and showing sensitive personal response to book. For passage-based questions, detailed attention to words of passage.
2	15–17	Detailed answer, relevant to question and with personal response; may be a bit cut-and-dried. For passage-based questions, close attention to words but may be a few omissions/superficialities.
3	12–14	Competent answer, relevant but limited; signs of personal response, good knowledge of book. For passage-based, some attention to words but some significant omissions and/or misunderstandings.
4	9–11	Answer relevant to question but may show some misunderstanding and/or limitations; effort to communicate personal response and knowledge. Passage-based: significant omissions/misunderstandings, but some response comes over.
5	6–8	Attempt to answer question and some knowledge of book; limited, scrappy answer; clumsy expression. Passage-based: attempt to respond, but with severe limitations.
6	4–5	Short, scrappy answer; confused; signs that book has been read. Passage-based: has read the passage and conveyed one or two basic ideas about it.
7	2–3	Has read book and absorbed some very elementary ideas about it. Passage-based: may have glanced at passage and written a few words.
8	0–1	Nothing to reward. Obvious non-reading of book, or total non-appreciation.

Please note that although the candidate is invited to answer the questions on the paper, and the overwhelming majority will do so, *this is not obligatory* and there is no notional allocation of marks to any particular question. The vast majority of candidates will probably use the questions as guidance. Note, however, that they are not obliged to deal with them separately and must not be penalised in any way if they do not do so. An integrated response may answer all the questions satisfactorily by implication, and may indeed flow better and avoid redundancy. There is no prescribed application of marks to each question and the response should be marked holistically.

Although candidates are not obliged to make any further comments and must not be penalised if they do not, any that are made will of course be fully credited.

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The detailed questions are intended to help the candidate respond. Candidates are required to answer them, but need not do so in a rigid sequence. Some of the answers may be implicit in the essay, although it is expected that candidates will be able to spell out their views and interpretations with sufficient clarity. There is no prescribed application of marks to each question and the response should be marked holistically. Candidates who do not answer the prescribed questions will penalize themselves automatically, as the questions are central to the passage.

Lea atentamente el siguiente pasaje extraído de la novela corta ‘Crónica de una Muerte Anunciada’ del escritor colombiano Gabriel García Márquez, publicada en 1981. Luego conteste la pregunta:

This short novel is a contemporary work and it is hoped the candidates will be in a position to understand the language of the passage almost in its entirety, therefore being able to gain a general understanding of the extract and convey an appropriate response to the quality of the writing. The questions are designed to help them do so. At the lower levels (up to 9 marks) we shall probably be expecting evidence of this basic understanding, hopefully with a simple personal response. At the 10-14 level we should be looking for a clear, if not sophisticated and more complex answer to each of the questions and some attempt to support ideas from the passage. Be aware of inert, mechanical quoting or simple paraphrasing that adds little to the interpretation or expects the examiner to make the connections by implication. As we go up to 15+ marks we shall be looking for an ability to read between the lines, with appropriate support from the passage and a motivated personal response. Towards the top band (18-20 marks) a confident, consistent and detailed argument supplemented by a personal appreciation may be expected.

Escriba las impresiones que el autor le ha transmitido acerca de Bayardo San Román y el viudo Xius. En particular, debe considerar, en detalle, los siguientes aspectos:

Lo que la insistencia de Bayardo San Román en comprar la casa nos revela de su carácter.

It is expected that most candidates will be able to discern the most striking feature of Bayardo San Román's character, i.e. his irrepressible/unstoppable determination to obtain whatever it is that constitutes his goal. Nothing is allowed to come in his way. A "Band 3" candidate ought to be able to convey this essential aspect in some form and provide an adequate illustration of how this is manifested throughout the passage: i.e. the directness of the approach (in the first meeting he has already told the widower what it is he wants); the different strategies followed by BSR once told that the house is not for sale (a second visit to the club and, then, bringing the huge amount of cash to tempt the widower); the complete indifference to the arguments presented by the widower, etc. Lower grades (Band 4 downwards) may be confined to merely describing this characteristic in some form and perhaps expressing some personal response to the different manifestations of it. For a '3+ Band' grade the candidate should be able to comment unequivocally on this characteristic and on the actual process followed by Bayardo. It is expected that candidates will be able to reconstruct the particular steps followed by BSR to the point of culmination. This should include some of the following points:

The irresistible manner in which BSR, in general, went about sorting things out.
 His haste in getting things sorted ('las urgencias de BSR') to the point of ignoring and/or breaking with tradition (e.g. the wedding date)
 His ruthlessness reflected on the imposition of his own needs/desires over those of others.
 His immediate visit to the club to locate the widower after finding out that Angela Vicario liked his house the most. To make her future wife happy he is prepared to go to any lengths to get what she likes. But note that she is not involved in the doings of BSR. She did not know what he was doing.
 His direct/straightforward request ('Viudo...le compro su casa...')
 The immediate reaction of the widower: 'no está a la venta'

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His insistence ('Se la compro con todo...') The negation of the widower – referring to the house contents and their meaning to him) which is indicative of his lack of understanding/ empathy for the feelings of others/lack of compassion and indifference to what may happen to the old man.

The relentless insistence: 'Entonces véndame la casa vacía'

The launching of his final stroke: 'Tres noches después, más preparado...'

The fact that it took him only 2 visits to the club to get his objective.

The most convincing argument: the sight of the actual (huge) amount of money involved. For BSR, everyone had 'a price'.

Candidates are not required to appreciate that the widower was finally persuaded by BSR and sold the house, and we may need to accept alternative interpretations presented by the candidates. Candidates may say that the widower managed to reject BSR's offer and kept the house but that the insistence of BSR had been such that eventually it caused intense suffering to the widower who finally died as a result of the experience. We will need to accept this interpretation as valid in the context of the task.

We can evaluate these responses on the basis of their specific merits and allocate marks according to how convincing, consistent and non-contradictory these arguments are.

In terms of assessment it should be considered that inert quoting or paraphrasing and simple description may be enough for a 4/5 Band grade; any attempt at interpreting should be rewarded and generously so as it appears to demonstrate some insight. Needless to say, the interpretation may differ from the one suggested here, yet it would require to be consistent and satisfactorily supported.

Cómo reacciona usted ante la manera en que Bayardo San Román manipula al viudo Xius.

Many candidates may restrict themselves to reverting to the passage and revisiting some of the ideas already used for the previous question, without further analysis. But, this question is more complex in that it requires the candidate to offer a personal response/ reaction/ interpretation to the way BSR behaved and this involves the ability to read between the lines. Some candidates may consider BSR's approach perfectly legitimate and business-like and, therefore, perceive BSR as an accomplished and successful businessman who is not to blame for the outcome of the story. Others may question the morality/legitimacy of BSR's behaviour and/or see callousness and indifference in the way he pursued his goal. Some may even blame him for the subsequent death of the widower. Whatever line of interpretation and personal response, it should be fully substantiated and convincing. The text appears inclined to favour the second option but we should be prepared to value any individual interpretation in so far as it is plausible and well supported. Here again, the general rules for assessing the quality of the candidates response apply. Paraphrasing and simple or limited description/repetition may be enough for Band 4/5; any attempt at interpreting, etc. etc

Comente usted sobre el papel del médico a lo largo del extracto y su explicación del desenlace.

The story is narrated by the doctor. It is through him that we learn that BSR's obsession with the house had to do with Angela Vicario. He wanted to buy it because she liked it and he wanted to impress her, although she was not directly responsible for his actions and she did not know what he was doing. We must be careful to spot any misinterpretation of the role of Angela in the story as this will somewhat weaken the overall argument. We learned through the doctor about the feelings of the widower. How the whole business was seen by him from the beginning. How his first reaction was to stop BSR insisting on buying the house, mentioning the meaning it had for him as the place that reminded him of his beloved wife. It is the doctor who interprets the turmoil the widower is experiencing from initially refusing to sell the house – 'it is not for sale' – to trying to resist the insistence of BSR by mentioning the sentimental value the house had for him. He also understands the conflict the widower is going through between the idea of betraying his memories and loyalty to his wife and that of selling the house because of the huge amount of money involved. The answers may well exploit these ideas in different ways. They may probably emphasize the strength of the

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widower and his moral triumph over BSR by rejecting his offer. And they may try to explain the widower's death as a result of the mental/psychological/moral battle he maintained with BSR. We will need to assess each response on the basis of its own merits and keep an open mind.

Usted puede añadir cualquier otro comentario que le parezca pertinente

It is rare for candidates to take up this invitation and they should not be penalised if they do not. However, any interesting comments should of course be taken into account in the overall reward. For instance, some candidates may consider the narrator (the doctor) as a partial observer whose views are not necessarily objective, or viceversa. Or they may blame the widower for refusing to sell the house to a younger couple who could be considered more 'deserving' of a beautiful house due to their point in life; and/or see greed or selfishness in the widower for not wanting to sell. Some may see BSR's obsession with buying the house as a romantic side of his personality, indicative of his love for his future wife and, therefore, as a feature to be admired, etc. Some candidates may go beyond the immediate context of the story and speculate about the possible reactions the community may have towards BSR, as his role in the death of the widower becomes apparent, or try to speculate about the deeper motives behind BSR behaviour thinking, for example, that he is a rich man who aspires to have the highest status in the community and, therefore, wants to have the best of everything, and the house is a symbol of such aspiration, etc. Any attempt at going beyond the fundamental material should be generously rewarded although this should not be a substitute for the required response to the preceding sections.