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91099

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NZQA

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Level 2 English, 2016

91099 Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence

2.00 p.m. Thursday 17 November 2016
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s), supported by evidence.	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s) convincingly, supported by evidence.	Analyse specified aspect(s) of studied visual or oral text(s) perceptively, 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.

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.

Excellence

TOTAL E7

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Visual or oral text type(s):
Tick (✔) your selection

- [x] Film
- [ ] Radio programme
- [ ] Graphic novel
- [ ] Television programme
- [ ] Drama production
- [ ] Oral performance

Title(s): Mad Max: Fury Road

Director(s)/creator(s): George Miller

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PLANNING (OPTIONAL)

Paragraph 1

- Citadel based - camera use - close up shot

Paragraph 2

- "blood bag", "High octane", slow cycle shot, "Oh my"

Paragraph 3

- war boys, costume design similarities and MUX destination

[redacted] Standard Number: 91099

The film "Mad Max: Fury Road" is a 2015 film that was directed by George Miller, it is based in a post-apocalyptic Australia in which the character of Imperator Furiosa escapes from the tyrannical regime of Imortan Joe who is leader of a large settlement called the citadel, to find "The Green Place" a supposed safe haven with plentiful food and water. In this film Miller uses language features to portray the negative side of the character of Imortan Joe, this character portrayal helps to develop the theme that dictatorial and tyrannical regimes objectify their people in order to control them.

One shot which demonstrates the theme to the audience as well as showing the negative side of the character Imortan Joe in terms of his tyrannical leadership through the language feature of visual symbolsim is the the close up of the brand mark that is at the bottom of Furiosa's neck of a burning steering wheel with a skull in the middle which is the symbol of the Citadel and the regime of Imortan Joe, all other inhabitants of the citadel have this mark too. Usually branding is used in the agricultural industries to mark livestock with a specific symbol to show that the farmer has possession of that specific animal and any other animal with the same mark to stop theft of the animals. This shows the negative side of Imortan Joe by showing how tyrannical and controlling he is because he has branded all the members of the citadel to show that he is in possession of them like a farmer to cattle, this shows how his regime has objectified the population of the citadel in order to control them by taking away their personal sense of freedom.

Another shot is in the scene after Max has been taken hostage by the War Boys (Imortan Joe's private army) and is being tattooed with medical information on his back along with things such as things like "High Octane" and "Universal Donor" as citadel is planning to harvest Max's organs and other bodily matter to keep the War Boys alive for as long as possible to continue fighting, we see this in a low angle shot. High octane is usually used in the context of petrol which if a type of petrol has a high octane rating it is good quality petrol that will combust well with low residue. Due to the many car references that the society in the citadel uses in place of current English, "High Octane" is used in this context to mean that his body is in good condition. In another scene Max is reffered to by Nux (one of the War Boys) as "Blood Bag". This shows that Max has been objectified purely as human spare parts, Imortan Joe and his regime objectify people like Max due to a control technique called "othering" which means that the regime objectifies minority groups such as dissidents or races in order to solidify the control over the population that is not discriminated against. In the case of Max he has been objectified as spare parts so people no longer see him as human so it is easier to get other people to harvest his organs. This scene further demonstrates the theme that dictatorial and tyrannical regimes objectify their people in order to control them as well as showing Imortan Joe's negative sides as a leader through the language feature of allusion.

Another aspect of this film that shows the negative sides of the character of Imortan Joe as a leader through the use of the language feature of allusion and that conveys is the the costume design of the war boys. The War Boy's costume consists of a white powder covering their entire body, shaved heads, dark pigment surrounding their eyes and no shirts, all War Boys wear this same costume. This shows how the war boys have been objectified by taking away their sense of individuality by all of them looking the same with the same costume, this can allude to this being a long established control technique, the Nazis used this technique on the prisoners of the concentration camps as all of the prisoners had shaved heads and the same uniform. This shows the negative side of Imortan Joe and also conveys the theme that dictatorial and tyrannical regimes use objectify people in order to control them. Another allusion is with the character of Nux who is a war boy, the word Nux is Latin for nut or thing of little value, the latter definition also symbolises the negative side of Imortan Joe's leadership in the way that he objectifies people, to a point where their individuality is non existent or is "a thing of little value".

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In conclusion the director of the film "Mad Max: Fury Road"; George Miller, has used a variety of language features such as visual symbolism and allusion to demonstrate the negative sides of the character Imortan Joe and his regime. He has also used the film techniques of a close up shot, low angle shot and costume design to convey the theme that dictatorial and tyrannical regimes objectify their people in order to control them. This theme can be linked to real events such as the regime of the Nazis in 1930's -1940's Germany and the control techniques that they used to gain control over the population.

Excellence exemplar 2016

Subject:	English	Standard:	91099	Total score:	E7

Q	Grade score	Annotation
5	E7	The candidate sees the character (Imortan Joe) as part of a wider regime, and analyses the negative side of Imortan Joe and the impact of the regime on society as evidence of that negative side of his character. (The question in fact allows more than one character and markers accepted wide definition of that.) All the examples are linked to show the negative impact is objectifying people and not treating people as individuals. This is in fact a more sophisticated argument than many made in response to this question – the candidate could have chosen more obvious features of characterisation (costume, dialogue), but has worked with more subtle examples. The last paragraph is a bit clunky and doesn't finish the argument well, but the response as a whole is a solid Excellence. Where the candidate does particularly well is in the "engagement with the text", showing insight into the purpose and crafting of the text.