

# Commentary on candidate evidence

The candidate evidence has achieved the following marks for each question of this question paper.

## Candidate 1

### Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'the writer is insecure' (bullet 4 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second response 'the writer is determined to succeed' is insufficient for bullet 8 of the marking instructions – a recognition of length of time is needed.

### Question 2

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'Repetition of "every"' (bullet 12 of the marking instructions). The comment 'no new exciting ideas' was also awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the correct word choice reference 'ridiculous' (bullet 8 of the marking instructions). However, the comment is on sentence structure again; therefore no mark can be awarded. Considering the comment as one on word choice, it still can't get a mark because it doesn't capture the idea of nonsense, etc.

### Question 3

The candidate awarded **0 marks**.

The candidate did not make a selection and so no mark can be given.

### Question 4

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate's first point was given no mark as there is insufficient suggestion of 'everywhere' (bullet 1 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'She had many famous tracks/songs' – relies on the word 'many' which is lifted from the passage so no mark was awarded.

Again, the candidate's third point – 'Taylor had many supporters' – relies on the lift of the word 'many.' No mark was awarded.

The candidate's fourth point was given **1 mark** for 'brave' (bullet 14 of the marking instructions). No mark was given for 'inspiring' as it is too much of an implication and not close enough to the specifics of the question ('what the writer already knew about Taylor Swift').

### Question 5

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'She clicked play' (bullet 7 of the marking instructions). The candidate was also awarded **1 mark** for the comment 'making the writer sit back and listen' as this suggests taking action.

## Question 6

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'The writer was immediately hooked' (bullet 1 of the marking instructions).

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for 'How the person in the song held onto meaningful things' (bullet 8 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's third point – 'The dad trying to cheer up his kid after the tragic event' – was not given a mark as it does not deal with the key aspect of being able to relate to the experience.

The candidate's next point – 'How the person doesn't let this lover go easily' – was awarded **1 mark** (bullet 5 of the marking instructions).

The candidate then goes on to make a similar point – 'The person walks alone at the end of the year.' This is too vague for bullet 5 of the marking instructions, and a mark has already been awarded above.

The candidate's final point again covers the same area and no further mark can be given.

## Question 7

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate's first point – 'Taylor gave the writer hope' – was given **1 mark** for the idea of resilience (bullet 6 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'Taylor made the writer inspired to do what they loved' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 2 of the marking instructions).

The third point – 'Taylor's song became a big part of their life' – was awarded **1 mark** (bullet 9 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's final point was given no mark as it relies on the word 'fan' which is lifted directly from the passage.

## Question 8

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'reinvented' (bullet 6 of the marking instructions). The accompanying comment was not awarded a mark because it doesn't address the idea of moving with the times.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'in so many styles' (bullet 7 of the marking instructions). The comment 'suggests Taylor is always changing up her music' was also awarded **1 mark**.

## Question 9

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'I had pages again' (bullet 1 of the marking instructions). No mark was awarded to the comment because the candidate does not address an aspect of structure.

The candidate then offers a second relevant reference but no further mark can be given here. The comment again focuses on meaning rather than function or structure.

In total, the candidate was awarded **17 out of 30 marks** for this question paper.

## Candidate 2

### Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'insecure' (bullet 4 of the marking instructions).

No mark was awarded for 'helpless' as it is insufficiently detailed and precise.

### Question 2

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for their example of word choice 'ridiculous.' The comment 'has connotations of silly' was also awarded **1 mark** (bullet 8 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's chosen example of sentence structure – 'every character, every name' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 12 of the marking instructions). However, the comment does not sufficiently address the idea of all the things the writer believes he has already written about and was awarded no mark.

### Question 3

The candidate awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for "'I didn't feel like I was getting anywhere" links back.' The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for 'too "every idea felt ridiculous."'

It is worth noting that "'then came Taylor" links forward' would have been given 1 mark had maximum marks not already been awarded. The next part of the candidate's response – 'too "Taylor was giving this back to me"' – would not have been awarded a mark because it refers to words taken from too far forward in the passage.

## Question 4

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'He knew she wasn't afraid to speak out' (bullet 14 of the marking instructions). The mark awarded was for 'brave.' The second part of the candidate's response – 'speak out' – was insufficient for bullet 12 of the marking instructions because the candidate has not offered further detail or explanation (for example, opinions expressed about current affairs/issues). No further mark was awarded here.

The candidate's second point – 'He knew her songs were good' – was given no mark because the word 'good' is lifted directly from the passage.

The same is true of the candidate's third point: it relies on the word 'good' which is taken from the passage.

## Question 5

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'She said calmly' (bullet 2 of the marking instructions). The comment 'Frankie wasn't afraid the dad would say no' was also awarded **1 mark**.

## Question 6

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The candidate's first point 'Made him feel all different types of emotions' was given no mark as it does not focus on the key words of the question: 'aspects of the song.'

The candidate's second point – 'The lyrics were fascinating' – was given no mark because it focuses on the word 'lyrics' which is taken directly from the passage.

The candidate's third point – 'The song had a proper meaning to it' – was awarded **1 mark** because it contains the idea of depth (bullet 4 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's fourth point – 'She sung like she meant every word' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 3 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's fifth point – 'Being a dad hearing the lyrics about her dad made him sad and something he could relate to' – was awarded **1 mark** as it addresses the main aspects of meaning: he recognises things in the songs which remind him of his own experience as a parent (bullet 9 of the marking instructions). The response contains a lift of the word 'lyrics' but it is not a key aspect of meaning here.

The candidate's final point – 'It didn't get repetitive or boring' – was given **1 mark** as it addresses bullet 6 of the marking instructions.

## Question 7

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'The song influenced him to write again' (bullet 2 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'He felt the lyrics understood him and were telling him to keep writing' – is essentially the same idea as above and was awarded no mark.

The candidate's third point – 'He felt it was his job to answer the questions everyones wondering' – was given no mark because 'He felt it was his job' is not sufficiently detailed, and the remainder of the response relies on words taken from the passage.

## Question 8

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'Pop, country ...' (bullet 8 of the marking instructions). The comment – 'list emphasises the variety of different cultures in singing' – was also awarded **1 mark** as it addresses the idea of the variety of Swift's output.

The candidate's second reference 'She's reinvented herself' was given **1 mark** (bullet 6 of the marking instructions). The comment 'hasn't stayed the same' was also awarded **1 mark**.

## Question 9

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'I'm still not sick of it' (bullet 5 of the marking instructions). The comment on structure 'it links back too "never tiring of any section"' was also awarded **1 mark**.

In total, the candidate was awarded **20 out of 30 marks** for this question paper.

## Candidate 3

### Question 1

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'They are very self critical' (bullet 4 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'They often have a lot of self doubt' – is essentially the same as the response above and was awarded no mark. (It is worth considering against bullet 8 of the marking instructions, but the focus here is on time and the candidate's offering of 'often' is not the same as 'always'.)

### Question 2

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the example of word choice: 'ridiculous' (bullet 8 of the marking instructions). The candidate's comment was given no mark as it doesn't address the idea of silliness or absurdity.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the example of sentence structure: 'every character, every name, every feeling, every possible setting and story line' (bullet 12 of the marking instructions). The comment was given no mark as it is not precise enough on all the things the writer believes they have written about. The key word 'difficulty' is also lifted from the passage.

### Question 3

The candidate awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for "'I didn't feel like I was getting anywhere" ... links back' and **1 mark** for 'to when the writer talks about feeling like their writing is

never good enough,' which is an acceptable paraphrase of the relevant section of the passage.

## Question 4

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate's first point – 'The writer knew Taylor Swift was big' – was given no mark because 'big' does not sufficiently address the idea contained in 'phenomenon' (bullet 3 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'The writer knew Taylor Swift must have been through a lot' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 5 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's third point – 'The writer knew Taylor Swift had a big amount of fans' was awarded no mark as it relies on the word 'fans' which is taken from the passage.

Again, the candidate's final point – 'The writer knows Taylor Swift has spoke about politics' – was given no mark as the key word 'politics' is lifted from the passage.

## Question 5

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'She clicked play' (bullet 7 of the marking instructions). The comment – 'This suggests Frankie does not care about her father's uncertainty and goes on to play the song' – was also awarded **1 mark** as it conveys a sufficient sense of taking action.

## Question 6

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'He was immediately captivated by the song' (bullet 1 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'He liked how their was no sugar-coating' – was awarded **1 mark** (bullet 11 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's third point – 'He liked how the song spoke about sentimental objects' – was given no mark because the key word 'objects' is from the passage.

Similarly, the candidate's fourth point – 'He was inspired by the song lyrics' – was awarded no mark as the important word 'lyrics' is, again, taken from the passage.

The candidate's fifth point – 'It made him emotional' – was given no mark as no specific aspect of the song (the key focus of the question) is identified. The candidate's final point was awarded no mark for the same reason.

## Question 7

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate's first point – 'It made him feel a sense of freedom' – was given no mark because the candidate does not directly address the idea of writer's block. In addition to this, the word 'freedom' is too close to the key word 'free' from the passage. The word 'feel' is also close to 'felt' from the passage.

The candidate's second point – 'Taylor Swift made him feel confident' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 5 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's third point – 'Listening to taylor swift became a family activity' – was awarded **1 mark** (bullet 9 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's final point – 'It became a part of daily life to listen to Taylor Swift' – was given no mark as it is a repeat of the response above.

## Question 8

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'reinvented' (bullet 6 of the marking instructions). The comment – 'This suggests that Taylor Swift is always changing' – was also awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'so many styles' (bullet 7 of the marking instructions). The accompanying comment was awarded no mark because it repeats the word 'style' and does not contain any further analytical commentary.

## Question 9

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference 'All to well' (bullet 4 of the marking instructions).

The comment – 'This links back to when he would drive around with the song in the background' was awarded **1 mark** as it deals with an appropriate structural aspect.

In total, the candidate was awarded **17 out of 30 marks** for this question paper.

## Candidate 4

### Question 1

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'The writer thinks that he doesn't mean anything.' This is the idea of little value/being insecure (bullet 4 of the marking instructions).

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for 'spending too long on something that won't have an effect.' This is the idea of their work not always being fruitful (bullet 7 of the marking instructions).

Note that, if the candidate had not already gained the full available marks, the comment 'He has been too harsh on himself' would not have been given a mark as it does not contain the idea of 'constantly' (bullet 8 of the marking instructions).

### Question 2

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the example of word choice: 'taunting black screen' (bullet 6 of the marking instructions). No mark was awarded for the accompanying comment as it is not centred on the idea of 'mocking.'

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for the example of a short sentence: 'every idea felt ridiculous.' (bullet 11 of the marking instructions). The comment – 'emphasises his feeling that he can't think of an idea he approves of' – was also given **1 mark**.

### Question 3

The candidate was awarded **0 marks**.

In quoting the whole sentence, the candidate does not make any appropriate selections. Therefore no mark was awarded.

### Question 4

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The candidate's first point – 'She is very current and trendy on television' was given no mark as it shows insufficient understanding of that idea that Swift seems to be everywhere (bullet 1 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'faced many hurdles' – was awarded **1 mark** (bullet 5 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's third point – 'She has a large number of supporters' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 11 of the mark instructions).

The candidate's fourth point – 'informed people about her opinion on systems around the world' – was awarded **1 mark** as it contains enough of the idea of expressing opinions on current affairs (bullet 12 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's final point – 'not afraid to speak and stand up for her thoughts' – was given **1 mark** for the idea of being brave (bullet 14 of the marking instructions).

### Question 5

The candidate was awarded **2 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the reference to the short sentence 'She clicked play and I listened.' (bullet 9 of the marking instructions). The comment – 'makes it clear that Frankie is...in charge of the music' – was also awarded **1 mark**.

## Question 6

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The candidate's first point – 'strongly admires the words being sung' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 2 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's second point – 'This wasn't just any basic common song' – was awarded **1 mark** for expressing the idea of depth (bullet 4 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's third point – 'He felt a connection between himself and the words' – was given **1 mark** as it contains the idea of relevance (bullet 7 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's fourth point – 'couldn't get enough of it' – was awarded **1 mark** (bullet 6 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's fifth point – 'did not get bored or fed up' – is a repeat of the answer above. For this reason, no mark can be awarded.

The candidate's sixth point – 'effected him physically by getting goosebumps' – was awarded no mark as it doesn't address 'aspects of the song' which is a key part of the question.

The candidate's final point – 'helped him like writing like he used to' – was awarded no mark as, again, it does not focus on the question's requirement of 'aspects of the song.'

## Question 7

The candidate was awarded **3 marks**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'This singer encouraged the author to get back into publishing' (bullet 2 of the marking instructions).

The candidate was awarded **1 mark** for 'She made him feel like he finally had a meaning' (bullet 5 of the marking instructions).

The candidate was given **1 mark** for 'his favourite song has a big part in his day to day life' (bullet 9 of the marking instructions).

The candidate's final point – 'She had helped him to get back into old habits and the way things were' – was given no mark because 'old habits' and 'the way things were' are too imprecise and lack detailed understanding.

## Question 8

The candidate was awarded **4 marks**.

The candidate's first reference – 'Taylor would never think like that' – would have been worth 1 mark, but no accompanying commentary is made and the candidate does go on to offer other material.

The reference 'Shes reinvented herself' was given **1 mark** (bullet 6 of the marking instructions). The comment – 'becoming someone new' – was also awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate's next section – 'performed in so many styles' – was given **1 mark** (bullet 7 of the marking instructions). The comment – 'suggests there is a wide variety of genres' – was also awarded **1 mark**.

Two marks would have been awarded for the candidate's final selection and comment if full marks had not already been achieved.

## Question 9

The candidate was awarded **1 mark**.

The candidate was given **1 mark** for the selection 'I was polishing the first hundred pages of my new book.' However, the accompanying comment does not focus on an aspect of structure and therefore no mark was awarded.

In total, the candidate was awarded **23 marks out of 30** for this question paper.