

**GCSE (9–1)** Exemplar Candidate Work

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

J352 For first teaching in 2015

# Anita and Me – Meera Syal

Version 1

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0 a) Meens and Rob both experience similar feelings throughout the extracts. Overall we can infer that both Meena and Rob feel replaced and some what unwanted; however, despite having GAM alike feelings to one another, the ways in which they expressed them were very different. In Anita and Me, Meera Syd writes about Meena finding out about Anita having a boyfriend. From the extract, byal's use of language helps us to understand more vividly now Meena must have been feeling. "Eventually Sheme asked the question that had been whiring 0 around my head, making me dizzy and disorientated." that its been a question Meena has been wondering about for a while now. The sense of confusion and uncertainty "whirting" around her head further forshadows a kind of tension leading up to finally A02 finding out the news. The use of the adjectives " dizzy" and " disorientated' conveys AOI that theena was anxious about the answer and its driving her mentally insome managersed 1961 "Her smile tells me everything of I need to know -Q forom this gives us an insight of what Meana's and Anite's friendship is like. We can tell just how close they are when Syal refers to meena peing able to tell "everything" AO2 she needs to know from just thange Anita's smile. A strong friendship is

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G	
	portrayed by the description of facion
	expression used to one another. Despite this
	"strong' friendship, we can infer that
	Meena isn't best pleased about it and
6	feels as though "sharing" her bestfriend
0.00	meant that she was only left with
or Q	the "scraps" Anita "had left over from him".
Ø	This made Meena feel a "bewildered
	sense of betrayou" alad also agen is as
	she had made previous "sacrifices"
	for their friendship - it is apparent
/	that Anita unuidat da the same
dev	The overall Jealousy Miena has of her "replacement is shown clearly and sfurther
	" replacement is shown clearly and sfurther
	shown as anger in the extract.
	In "High fidelity" by Nick Hornby Rob's character doesn't express his
	Rob's character doesn't express his
Comp	they have experienced very similar
-	they have experienced very similar
	situations, Rob and Meena both debilt
	with them differently. Rab "what to
Q	do? where to go?" portrays Robs
Pro2	confusion of the situation to the point
	confusion of the situation to the point where he doesn't know what to do.
6	He mid to ignore the situation
Near	and 'concentrate' hard on something
_	else; however, the use of the
Ó	phrase "heart racing" implies that
	the despite trying to think of other
	things, his mind always seemed to drift back to the situation where
	did had to the city when



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6	
(J)	
	his girlfriend." sitting on the bench
	with her arm around kevin Boonister.
	The fact the photo of the second
	The fact that neither of them
Comp	Said anything conveys that their relationship was no where near as strong as Anita's and Meenais. Being younger, Robs and Situation is some what childish and not as importent to Meena's friend this with
	relationship was no where near as
	strong as Anite's and Meenas.
- Comp	Being younger, Kobs and situation
	is some what childish and hot as
	Anita
	hevel Y
-	



#### Page 4 of 5

(1)B In Anita and Me, Meena develops a new understanding of her family throughout the book. Meena is a British Asian girl growing up in the West Midlands -Wolverhampton. Besides her family, Meena is the only brown and she knows in the area. The mixture and variation my the two contracting cultures plays a huge part in her relationship with her friends, and family in particu MAN However, herowsa novel being th in first person, we can only see Meena's relationship with her parents through her eyes. Io open the book, Meera Syal chaoses to convey Meena's parents' disappointment in her. Wernadanna As a reader we can infer this when her fathers provenis sagged" when she admits her crime the vourse of the Massole novel theirs relationship becomes strenger - this change strongly influenced by the way in which Leener is growing up and coming ay use of first person namabive The with the reacher to understand think that her parants dont understand and She feels as though there are her. times when per parents understand her perfectly, yet Meena sometimes falks about the rare times that her Mother her temper with her - the lose will and the "monster beneath snapping eyes" the mother" are one of the few times.



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D	
	As an overview, meana's family love her;
_	her parents treat each other with
	nothing less than kindness and mutual
Near (h	respect. They teel strongly about keeping
Neer Ch	Meena true to her beliefs and culture -
erond	which throughout the book stor offeena
	henself is confused about and feels torn
	between the two.
	Later on in the Novel, Meena' shows
	that her understanding has developed.
que	That maybe she doesn't understand her
	parents either! Her behavior changes as
. a da	
3 al les	
general	unureases her parents trust with her, which
	what felt some what rewarding.
	I would have been a good see to develop
	Maren Meena's parents are determined to
in the second second	keep her safe and at the end of the
_	novel Meena realises that is one of
	the reasons that drives her to geel
1	a "thrill" of demoger. She hides her
	upset at the harred", authough sherts quility
e de la	ighthe scines thing a shown by the
	driver not in the traditic Jam so that her
	That faither doesn't experience the same
	thing. Meena comments on her idea
	that all parents change from "som! -
9	devine i con into semi-detatched confidante
~	showing how gradually the parent-child relationship
	changes into more as a triend like relationship. But general



#### **Examiner commentary**

#### Part A

AO1: the opening paragraph makes some key comparisons and provides the foundation for a relevant personal response to each extract. The response tends to deal with the extracts separately but draws some relevant comparisons in the section on *High Fidelity*; more integrated comparison would have improved the overall standard of the response. Textual references are used to support the points made; at times single word quotations are used very neatly to show more developed understanding and indicates the development of a promising critical style.

AO2: there is some evidence of sensitivity to language, for example, picking out the word 'eventually' to show that this is something that Meena has been 'wondering about for a while'. The effects of the use of the words "dizzy" and "disorientated" are given close consideration as is the use of rhetorical questions in the unseen extract to portray Rob's confusion and uncertainty.

AO3: the situation explored in both extracts is clearly explained and commented on, and the response also points out that the relationship in the unseen extract is not as strong as Meena's friendship with Anita. Further exploration of AO3 would have improved the overall quality of Part a.

This is a relevant and detailed personal response to the text securely in Level 4 but is nudging towards Level 5 in quality.

#### Part B

AO1: this Part b response lacks focus on the question and offers an overview of Meena's relationship with her family. There are some relevant points made, but at times the points needed more textual support. Looking at one or two moments in the text in detail to show Meena's changing relationship with her parents would have been a better approach to the task and potentially offered more access to higher marks.

AO2: the answer concentrates on description and explanation which restricts it in terms of AO2 exploration. There is a reference to first person narration as a device to encourage the reader to view her parents from Meena's perspective, and some neatly used quotations, but more direct language analysis is needed.

This response is low Level 4 although there is evidence of a sound overview of the text.

Overall this response is solid Level 4.



# Page 1 of 4

	B a
	Compare now the difficulties of leenage friendships and growing up are presented in the two excitacts.
Court Indence	In Meera Syals Anita and Me and Nick Hornbuy's High Fidelity born strow texts show the difficulties teenagers face in friend ships and relationships and the complex emorions faced by the protagonish is the texts. the They also convey that distorted new
echnigul A03 nougel	teenagers nouve in today's society.
102	In Anita and Me, Meena's situation is portraised as giving her a benuldered sense of betrayas! The use of benuldered could convey Meena's confusion at Anita's announcement of her
	boyfriend and new confusion as to using she want aware of the rew relationship forming. Meena's approximation to Anita
	are shown as betrayal from me older girl Syal uses Altalliteral ion when she describes Meena's feelings towards and Anita, with the loss show and me vowel portraying Meena's broken -
we we will	Rob is shoring to portray similar emotions.
	In Hornby's High Fidelity, Rob is confronted by the sight of his girlfriend, Alison, with her arm # around Kerin His reaction was described as consuming his whole body, as the described
	his fellings as "I string, and I blushed, and I suddenly forgot how to walk unhout being amore of every single part of my body."
A02	The use of repetition of the word "I" shows Roles view of only
A03	his feelings, and how it would affect the reader by helping New to empartuse with Rob and remember their first hearter
-1	In Syal's Anita and Me, Meena's reaction to her situation was may it made her feel sich with par, asit was "whiching mind



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RO	my head, making me diszy." This could show Meena's feeling literal sichness with the fact that Anita we might not favour her over other people, for instance her boyfriend. The technique of "The unicod field of taicoounds with "Whiteman" and disze word
	The unical field of fairgrounds with whitenon, and dizzy could with to Meena's experiences with Anita at the fairground
104 204	previously, and the ketrayal she experienced during that time and how it is similar to now she feels now.
	In conclusion, both tesch are successful in presenting the difficulties faced by teenages, although Anita and Me conveys friendships and the difficulties surrounding friends, and whereas High Fidelity describes the difficulties surrounding relationships.
	Nor enough integrated comp.
	Level 4.
_	
	1 H



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~ <u>.</u> * *	Ь
	Explore another moment in Anita and Me where Meens develops a new undustanding of either her friends or family
	In Syal's Anita and Me, Meena develops a new understanding of her momer when she hears her momer recieve a compliment
Q	and she is described as "smile and graciously accept this as a compliment". After the event there a later hears her mother
Q	talling to ver Indian friends and "would reduce them to teams by gently policing fun." Meena develops a new undersi- anding as in Meena's eyes, her morrier was always quiet and
	gracefui, and wouldn't end up laughing at them This has changed meena's understanding of her mother as she is portrayed as
AO2	having an increasingly similar character to her Mother which has been portrayed using personification, such as "powing fun"
	Also, an understanding moment is shorin when Meena is
	Shown to reject family friends in favour of her new culture, and Anita Rutter This is shown when Meena describes nerself
Q	land out for me". This is showing Meena as shunning her
0	parents and wanting to fit in Anomer moment is where she "hid in the house when Auntie Spacia said booming
A02	farements in Punjabit She is shown as rejecting her pulture along with her family's friends. The use of "booming", using
Und.	The techniques of onomatopoad, conveys now the sound echoes around the yard', making Meena feel distanced from bone
0000	too distanced from both cultures to fit into the other. to
0	achalusion, Meena's understanding of her family and friends is consistently changing throughout the story, showing the



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complex modes of young teenagers and adults which can be related to by many readers, making the story intriguing and entertaining, and a good contrasting text.
 hacks derebanent but shows
und here u
 7



#### **Examiner commentary**

#### Part A

AO1: the response begins with a focused introduction that immediately compares the two extracts, citing that 'complex emotions' are being presented in both texts and that both 'convey the distorted view' of teenagers; a good point to put the extracts in context and a nice lead in to more detailed comparison. Quotations are used throughout Part a to support the points made with the use of particular words highlighted effectively.

AO2: the response makes some effective comments about language. Individual words are identified and analysed such as 'betrayal' and 'bewildered' as well as 'whirling' and dizzy' to explore Meena's physical and mental response to Anita's revelation. The language analysis of the unseen extract is less convincing, although repetition is identified and a brief comment on the effect offered.

AO3: this response shows clear understanding of the context of each extract: it makes reference to the 'distorted view teenagers have' and explores both protagonists' reaction to the situations they face with understanding of the contextual framework. Further consideration could have been placed on the comment made at the end of Part a identifying that one extract explores friendship and the other a romantic relationship.

To improve the response the comparison of the extracts needed to be more integrated and robust. More exploration of the language and some comparison of how effects are created in the extracts would also have improved the response.

#### This is assessed at Level 4.

#### Part B

AO1: the response to Part b begins by looking at Meena learning more about her mother's personality and realising that they are more alike than she has admitted. This could have been developed further, as Meena's relationship with her mother is a good choice to explore her reaching a new understanding of someone close to her. However the response then looks at Meena's rejection of her family and culture in favour of her friendship with Anita. This is less focused on the question and doesn't build on the work done in the first paragraph. The response uses quotations to support points made and develops a personal response but needs to be more cohesive.

AO2: as Part b is a closed text assessment, candidates do need to remember to include some analysis of language, form and structure. This can be explored through the sequencing of events in the novel, as well as Meena's powerful narrative voice. This response did not address AO2 very strongly in Part b, although attempts were made to identify personification in 'poking fun' and onomatopoeia in 'booming'.

This is assessed at Level 4.

As a whole the response is solid Level 4.



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	C
	Qa)
	The digitulties of teenage prendships and
	growing up are presented in very simular
	ways in the two extracts, Anita and Me by
	Meera Syral, and High Fidelity by Nick Hornby.
	In Anita and Me, it is dear that Meena
	is deeply aggested with the part that Anita has
	a boymend. She mentions how the expressionsly
9	unanswered question had been whicking around
	her head and kept making her seel dizzy
	and disorrentated. This suggests that Meena
AD	seels very anxious about this whole situation
	and maybe even wants Anita all to hersely.
Colup	This compares to High Fidelity, as Rob jeels
	like he has been replaced by Kevin. We can
Q	linger this from 'I turned up in the park and
	Alison was sitting on the bench with her
	arm around Kevin Bannister. The only obvious
	differences between these two scenarios is that
Con	Meena was experting the situation to happen,
	meanwhile Rob on the other hand was taken
	by complete suprise.
	In High Fidelity, the writer uses many
A02	rhetorical questions in order to convey Rob's
	yeelings awass to the reader. An example of
Q	this is when he says what to do ? where
	to go ?! By the use of these rhetorical questions
A.D	we can injer that Rob is very shaken and
de	almost humiliated by the situation. Meena
0.000	on the other hand, expresses her seelings and
	emotions to the reader by describing how



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	Qa)
	she has given up everything for her and
1001	Anita's priendship, and how she seels betrayed.
	A pergect example of this is when she says
0	"I had yought for this griendship, worried
	over it, made sacrycles for it, measured
10129	myself against it, lost myself inside it, had
guiste	little to show for it but this bewildered sense
	or betrangal.
	The two both
	Poth extracts suggest that they Meena and
Comp	Rob are experiencing very simular emotions
	in early of their sienanios, for example
	Meena says Now I knew that I had never
Q	been the one she loved, and Rob says 'I
Ø	didn't want to sit with the two of them. These
	two quotes compare, as Rob is essentially
1601	telling us that he wants only Alison, and
(sec)	that he wells invisible and not good enough
	for her. Meena's thoughts link to this, as
D-21	Islas also sold not worthin enough to be
Par	loved by Anita, and that that she has
	been replaced.
	In condusion, the disjuillies of teenage
	snindships and growing up are presented
	in both extracts by using many language
	techniques and rhetorical questions. These
	terniques enable us to identify every
	enstion the they are feeling while also
	people making us see everything to from
	their perspective.
	Integrated companies needs twill have no 2 11
	good laws 4.



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<u>a</u>	
8	(Qb)
_	Throughout the whole of Anita and Me, Meena
	is constantly developing new understandings
_	reggering to either her familier or friends.
	A specific point in the novel resembles this
	perjectly, & while also enabling us to find out
	more about Meena and her ethnu background,
Q	Papa's singing always unleashed these emotions
Lowa	which were ungamiliar and instinctive at the same time, in a language I could not
qués	recognise but & gelt I could speak in my
	sleep, in my dreams, evolative of a country T
	had never visited but which sounded like the
	only home I had ever known. The songs made
	me realise that there was a corner of me
	that would be porever not England. This
	quote suggests that even though theeroa the
	book lies upon Meena desperately trying to
AO 1	git in, she still seels Indian at heart and
*	this is concealed by her attitude British
	grame of mind.
	Meena may think of herself this way due
	to her upbringing and her Punjabic inheritance,
	for example when she says "Evocative of a
Repeat	country I had never visited but which
9	sounded like the only home I had ever
	known it implies that This implies that
	her family traditions and traits have led
	ber on to jeed like she has become a part
	of their culture, and it has almost theating
	an inseperable bond between hersely and
	her pamily.
	Rasher brief aprisa too long. Level 2



#### **Examiner commentary**

#### Part A

AO1: the answer develops a detailed personal response to both texts which shows a more confident understanding of the similarities and differences in the situations faced by Rob and Meena as well as the way the characters respond to them. The clear use of the bullet points in the question to structure the response is helpful. The points made are effectively supported with textual support and the comparison is well integrated throughout the response.

AO2: the response would have benefited from further consideration of language and structure. There is a comment on the effective use of rhetorical questions in the unseen extract, but very little language analysis otherwise.

AO3: there is a reasonably clear understanding of the context of both extracts here. The similarities in the situations faced by Meena and Rob are explored and the response also points out that whereas Meena has been expecting something like this to happen, for Rob it comes as a complete shock. It also compares the perspectives presented.

Overall AO1 and AO3 are better covered than either of the two previous responses. Nonetheless this fits into Level 4 overall.

#### Part B

AO1: this is a rather straightforward response to Part b. Some understanding is shown but there is little development and the first paragraph contains a very long quotation which is partially quoted again in the second paragraph. The response is also rather descriptive in style.

AO2: this is rather thin on the explanation of language because of the descriptive style.

This is Level 2 work.

Due to the unevenness of the response, overall this is Level 3.



Page 1 of 3

	Harfal D
	Both Meena and Rob are going through a
	tough stage of growing up although both are
	in completly different situations regarding relationship
(Dord	tough Stage of growing up although both are in completly different situations regarding relationshi and both extracts share the feeling of betray
	Meena has & found herself in a difficult lime.
	of childhood when the people around her are
	Starting to date, but she is several years
ROS	younger and feels betrayed by the fact that her best - Friend may be getting
	that her best - Friend may be aetting
	Close to somebody else. We know this because
Q	the extract Says " I had fought for this Friendsh
	the extract Says "I had fought for this Friendsh Worried over it." By using the word "fought" it
	makes us think that Meena is not the Same
Rag	as them and had to prove herself to even be
	noticed by Anita and the rest of the "wenche
	It also talls us that Means had to completly
	Change her ways from being a well manny
1	Change her ways from being a well manning ed Indian girl to a haughty Tollington teenager, Furtermore, Meera Syar Uses
	teenager Furtermore, Meera Such Uses
	alliteration when when she says "Measured
Q	myself against it". This makes a Sad
	effect on the reader as It is telling us that
	She put everything into the Friendship, and
	She had now been betrayed. This however
	is a completly different Situation of the
	One faced by Rob in High Fidelily.
	and any any
(prl	Rob also finds himself in a different Situation
_	OF where he catches his first ever girlfriend
	OF where he catches his first ever girlfriend Cheating on him Rob also feels betrayed
	by what has happened and we know
	0

# Page 2 of 3

AD2 AD2 AD2 Prospersity	This because the extract says "I string, I blushed, and I Suddenly forgot how to walk! This shows that Rob is shocked at what has happened and because it's only his first girl Priend, he dosent reavy know how to react. By using the word "String" it creates a Sod effect because it shows that he reavy loved her, but she didn't love him back. The Luthor uses pathetic formacy when he Says "late september affect noion". This means that as they broke up winter Was coming, showing a Sod time for Rob. "trying desperative not to cry' also means the reader feel sod because they for a 13 year old boy to cry over a break - up, he must have thought of it as a very Seriors one.
	have thought of it as a very serious one. Und of situation Then to come por Level 3.



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÷	Part b)
	Meena Starts to develop a new understanding
	of her father after finding out that he
	had lived through battles and When the English
	Created borders between India and Pahistan.
	We know Meena was exited to hear the
	Story as she said " What battes? Did you
	have a gun? Did you
	Sentances it gives us the effect that Meena
	Was exited to hear about her fathers past.
	By ashing directly about a "gun" we can
	tell that Meena is naturally nuite haughty
	as she is more worried about if he hilled
	anyone rather than if he was wounded or
	injurged. This also tells us that Meena is Sort
	op a tomboy as a commonly young boys would
-	be asing those types of questions.
	Full and many many for an
	Furthermore in the next paragrouph we can
-	tell that a Meena Meena has developed a
-	Strong bond with her father, dispite her
	rebellious behavouir. We know this because
	it Says "Papa's mehrils were legendoury". Howeve
	this still shows her geograpical upbringing because
	She has put "mehfils" and 'legendary in the
	Same sentace, Showing the relationship with
-	her father but aswed with Anita, mixing the
	two cultures tegether and Showing Small bits
	Of rebellion against her culture.
	Low level 2 United - Tach der
	hundred - lach der



#### **Examiner commentary**

#### Part A

AO1: there is a reasonably developed personal response which shows understanding of both extracts and uses some relevant textual support. The comparisons between the texts are rather limited; the response deals with them separately drawing on only the most key points to compare.

AO2: there is a good attempt to cover AO2 and use subject terminology, but mostly on the unseen extract. Some of the language points struggle to convince: ' the word "stung" creates a sad effect...' And 'pathetic fallacy....."late September afternoon"', for example.

AO3: this is the strongest assessment objective in this response. Both situations are clearly understood and the response acknowledges Rob's youthful assumption that his relationship was serious. There is also understanding that being younger than Anita makes Meena vulnerable and left behind, meaning that she has had to try to prove herself to earn Anita's friendship.

This response is Level 3. There is more than "some awareness" of the context and the personal response is developed rather than "begins to develop".

#### Part B

AO1: a straightforward personal response. The chosen moment is a good one to explore Meena's changing relationship with her father, but the response is not developed enough to do it justice. Although the description has some detail, and the situation has been understood, there are few direct references and few quotations.

AO2: the strongest part of this answer is at the end where the candidate shows how Meena has mixed her two cultures through using 'mehfils' and 'legendary' in the same sentence. Further exploration of this nature would have improved the response considerably.

This response is assessed at Level 2 because of its lack of development and detail.

Overall this response is low Level 3.



### Script E

# Page 1 of 2

	E
	In Extract 1, Anita and Me, Meena is Faced with What seems to be the heartbreaking fruth-that her best
	What seens to be the heartbreaking fruth- that her best
-	Friend, Anita, is sharing her with somebody else. This
	Seems to make meaning think she has been betrayed
	Which is shown when Meena Hhinks, "Bewildered sense
	OF betrayal! By saying the betrayal is behildlered
	Suggests that mena is confused about Why she was
-	betrayed. Meena also thinks she was, 'a Practice run Until the real thing came along to Claim hes.' Withe
	Until the real thing came along to Claim her. Withe
	they being Anita, Meening thinks that her
	Friendship or relationship with Anita was only there so
	Anity was driverted away from a boy/g:r1 relationsh
	However in the second extract Robs situation is
	Similar to Meena's. Rob was basically betrayed by his
	First Ecent girlfriend When he caught the her with
	first, recent girlfriend When he caught the her with ther arm ground kevin Bannister. This shows that Rob
	has been Cheated on by his girlfriend and doesn't know
	What to do which is shown when he thinks, " What to
	do? Where to go? This BAR Portrays that Robisso
	heartbrotten that he Mentally doesn't know What to do a
	and beforehand he states that 'I Suddenly Forgot how
	to halk ! This suggests that the sight of the seeing
	Alison and Keula Bogether Was such a Shock he as
	Physically Couldn't move. By Using Suddenly the author
	of extract-2 was trying to make the reader think
	that not only did Rober forget how to walk but he did
	this as soon as he saw Alison.
	Understade Situate
	deals separately, level 2
	A AL OSTATION FOR



### Script E

# Page 2 of 2

:	
- 7	
	Another moment in Anita and Me Where Meena develops
	a new understanding of either her friends of family could be
	When she finds out her mother is having a child,
	Meena's brother. This is expressed when Meena's father
	1998 fells and asks meens that they are having a baby and
	Boot if Shed like that, Which She replies NO, your nama
	is having a haby soon a little brother of Sister For you
	to Play with Would you like that?" Meena then replie
	with ; "No" I replied without turning around! Being a child
	and finding out that your Parents are going to Share you would
	give oneself a bundle of emotions, However for Meena they
	MOSTY seem to be bad because before she replied With No' #
	ther it says, 'A loud cracking sound filled my head, My
	usion blurred and I turned away hastily, Fixing My eyes on Troy
	Tempest, Willing him to Steady my volce. It came out hand
	and distant! It would seen that Meena is shocked due
	and Suprised due to her 'vision blurred' Which shouldn't of
	happedled if Meena Was happy, Meena also Seemed to avoid
	eye contact with her father, 'I replied without turning around."
	This would suggest that Meena is nervous and doesn't what
	to face the real truth that she could of have her parents
	to herself any moce.
	good choice of moment but
	nee deal more deal
	Long grister
	Las level 2.
~	

### Script E

#### **Examiner commentary**

#### Part A

AO1: there is an empathic sense of Meena and Rob's situations: that they are both confused and feel betrayed. Relevant references and quotations support what is said but there is no comparison in the response.

AO2: the candidate struggles to look at use of language in the extracts in any detail.

AO3: there are some relevant comments about the context of each extract. However, the response doesn't really explore the extracts in any real detail to draw out contextual ideas.

This is low Level 2 work.

#### Part B

AO1: a well-chosen topic – the announcement of Meena's mother's pregnancy – but a straightforward response to what follows. Some understanding of Meena's shock is shown and an apt comment about Meena's hesitation to face the truth 'that she doesn't have her parents to herself any more'.

AO2: this is mainly description and assertion so AO2 is not directly addressed.

#### This is Level 2 work.

Overall this response is Level 2.





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