

Example answers and examiner commentaries: Paper 2

This resource contains an essay on each of three prescribed works for A-level French (7652) Paper 2. Each essay is accompanied by the relevant mark scheme extract and by a commentary to explain the marks awarded. The commentary shows teachers how the mark scheme is applied to students' essays.

The works covered are Bonjour Tristesse, Un sac de billes and Un long dimanche de fiançailles.

Further marked exemple essays can be found in Secure Key Materials on e-AQA.

Assessment criteria

A03				
17-20	The language produced is mainly accurate with only occasional minor errors. The student shows a consistently secure grasp of grammar and is able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a wide range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.			
13-16	The language produced is generally accurate, but there are some minor errors. The student shows a generally good grasp of grammar and is often able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a good range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.			
9-12	The language produced is reasonably accurate, but there are a few serious errors. The student shows a reasonable grasp of grammar and is sometimes able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a reasonable range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.			
5-8	The language produced contains many errors. The student shows some grasp of grammar and is occasionally able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a limited range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.			
1-4	The language produced contains many errors of a basic nature. The student shows little grasp of grammar and is rarely able to manipulate complex language accurately. The student uses a very limited range of vocabulary appropriate to the context and the task.			
0	The student produces nothing worthy of credit.			

Minor errors are defined as those which do not affect communication. Serious errors are defined as those which adversely affect communication.

Minor errors include:

- incorrect but close to correct spellings
- incorrect genders and consequential errors of agreement incorrect or missing accents unless these alter the meaning.

Serious errors include:

- incorrect verb forms especially irregular forms incorrect use of pronouns
- missing or incorrect agreements of adjectives or past participles.

Complex language includes:

- use of pronouns of all types
- tenses that support conceptual complexity (as in si sentences)
- connectives supporting a range of subordinate clauses including those requiring subjunctive constructions with verbs and verbs followed by infinitive with correct preposition
- Use of present and past participles.

A04				
17-20	Excellent critical and analytical response to the question set			
	Knowledge of the text or film is consistently accurate and detailed. Opinions, views and conclusions are consistently supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates excellent evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.			
13-16	Good critical and analytical response to the question set			
	Knowledge of the text or film is usually accurate and detailed. Opinions, views and conclusions are usually supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates good evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.			
	Reasonable critical and analytical response to the question set			
9-12	Knowledge of the text or film is sometimes accurate and detailed. Opinions, views and conclusions are sometimes supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates reasonable evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.			
	Limited critical and analytical response to the question set			
5- 8	Some knowledge of the text or film is demonstrated. Opinions, views and conclusions are occasionally supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates limited evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.			
	Very limited critical and analytical response to the question set			
1-4	A little knowledge of the text or film is demonstrated. Opinions, views and conclusions are rarely supported by relevant and appropriate evidence from the text or film. The essay demonstrates very limited evaluation of the issues, themes and the cultural and social contexts of the text or film studied.			
0	The student produces nothing worthy of credit in response to the question.			

Bonjour Tristesse – example essay

Write the two digit question number inside the boxes next to the first line of your answer

Leav

5	5.1 Analysez comment les rapports entre cécile et son père sont affectés par les évenaments
	et son pere sont affectes par les ever amenis
	qui se produisent dans le roman.
	L'action se déroule sur la côte méditerranéenne
	où cécile, addescente de 17 ans et personnage
	Principal du roman et son pere, kay mond
	ant loué une grande villa pour l'été. Suite aux événements marquants comme l'arrivée
	aux évérements marquants comme l'arrivée
	d'Anne Larsenieurs vies et leur rapport
	seront à jamais transformes irrévozablement.
	D'abord examinons le rapport entre Œcile el
	son nère avant l'arrivée d'Anne Depuis la
	son père avant l'arrivée d'Anne Depuis la mort de sa mère et la fin de ses études
	Cécile vikavec son pere et ils s'entendent
	bien et s'amvoent à passer des soirées
	élégantes ensemble molgré le fout qu'elle
	present aim son pere est siener d'im
	prétend que son pere est «leger, d'une légèreté sons remade » elle l'adore et ils
	sont plutôt comme de bons amis qu'en pere
	et sa fille. Même le fait que sa nouvelle
	mathesse, Elsa, passera les vacances avec
	eux, ne trouble pas leur vie facile et paress
	ni leus antrate mache et co-fit cécile
	ni leur entente proche et en fait cécile devient vite l'amie d'Elsa. Le rapport entr
	Raymond et Cécil e cembre carendant
	Simplicial of a pain de his motor des
	shows ratings at applica in partie des
	anceille consensat à consensus mus Civil
	Local metallication of the control o
	superficiel et il évite de lui parter des chases intimes et préfère re pas lui conseiller par rapport à son amour pour Cyrilles lecteurs de l'époque auraient été chaqués de la conduite de Cécile et de l'attitude laisser faire de son père.
	crayes or a coronne de ceche et de
	l'aththole lausser paile ole son pere.

Tout va changer lors de l'arrivée d'Anne le moment clé du roman qui va déclerches des répercussions sur leurs vies. Anne ancienne amie de sa mère est divorcée et une femme revosice et intelligente. Raymond tombe vite amoureux d'elle, ce qui précipite le déport d'Elsa et suscite les sentiments de colère envers Anne et son père en cécile qui vient de perdre une amo Elle se sent islause car Annie lui privede son père et de ses affections finida vie oisive et la liberté de faire ce qu'elle veut Anne influence Raymond et est prête a discioliner Cécule et lui imposer cécile se tronve éloignée de son père et des consequerces tragiques Une fois de plus les événements touchent de près le rapport entre pere et fille lors du suicide où de l'accident morrel d'Anno Ni Raymond ni Cécile ne Deuvent s'empechor de penser a leur culpabilité mais sont toujous incapables d'en parler ensemble. Cécile se retrouve ovec son pere comme suporavort Elle a muri et n'est plus une enfant gatée > mais il a l'air d'avoir œubment vielli Pour conclure nul ne peut nier letait que l'arrivée d'Anne a bouleversé le rapport entie l'aule et Raumand et sa mont les aliés même plus profondement par un lien que personne ne puisse rompre ni comprendre mais ce rapport seruble toujours superficiel

Extract from mark scheme

Françoise Sagan: Bonjour tristesse

Analysez comment les rapports entre Cécile et son père sont affectés par les événements qui se produisent dans le roman.

[40 marks]

Possible content

There will need to be an outline of how things are before Anne Larsen appears at the villa.

How the relationship between Raymond and Cécile plays out especially in the light of the presence of Elsa, Raymond's much younger girlfriend.

A general 'live and let live' attitude but maybe with a commentary on the shock-effect of this relationship in the context of when the novel was published.

The carefree relationship between Cécile and Raymond gives licence to the quite free relationship between Cécile and Cyril.

The key événement that affects things here is the arrival of Anne Larsen.

What are the consequences of this event and of Anne's intervention in Cécile's life? How does her presence influence the dynamic between father and daughter?

How does the dynamic change and what is the impact in terms of the relationships between characters?

What is the impact of the final event of the novel - the death of Anne Larsen?

There will doubtless be some speculation about the cause of this death but this is not essential for this question.

Commentary on Bonjour Tristesse essay

« Analysez comment les rapports entre Cécile et son père sont affectés par les événements qui se produisent dans le roman. »

A03

The language used puts it in to the Excellent band. The language used is mainly accurate with only occasional minor errors. Ideas and opinions are very well expressed. The student accurately uses to good effect a wide range of structures including expressions using the subjunctive, negatives, direct and indirect pronouns and verbs followed by an infinitive. There is a genuine flow to the answer.

Mark for A03: 19

A04

The essay is a clearly expressed and focused response to the question set. There is a clear introduction and conclusion and it is a logically structured answer. The student has identified the two key events in the novel: the arrival of Anne and her subsequent death which both impact greatly on Cécile and Raymond. A detailed account of the relationship before Anne's arrival is given and this is followed by a very good evaluation of how this relationship changed subsequently. There are consistent examples of accurate knowledge of the novel and evidence is clearly chosen to substantiate the points made. The essay is in the Excellent band and this is justified by the detailed evidence of accurate textual knowledge and the ability to analyse and evaluate how the two main events impact on the lives of both father and daughter. The "event" of Anne's arrival and presence is well analysed in terms of its psychological and emotional impact with some very mature insights into the interaction between the characters. The student further mentions how readers at the time would have been shocked by Cécile's behaviour and her father's seemingly 'laisser faire' attitude and unwillingness to control her relationship with Cyril.

Mark for A03: 18

Total for the essay: 37/40

Un long dimanche de fiançailles – example essay

e two digit question inside the boxes next st line of your answer

Leave

Frontierre Teunet: Un long dispersione de françailles	
Franchierre Teunet : Un long dimensité de françailles Analysez comment Jeunet emplore le trème de l'amour dans c	efilm Daisquelle
mesure streequere theme out to theme u plus important	

Unlangdimanche de fianquilles est un filmqui a lieu pendant la premier guerre mardiale est cest l'histoire des soldatset d'autres personnes Jans le filmil ya la vie sur le front et à la maison.

Marvilde est le personnage principal et elle aime Manach qui est soldat et qui a dispar. Elle creschemanech parse qu'elle l'aime et danc le thème de l'amour est important mais il ya un authe thème important la guerre.

Distord je vais parter de la guerre Jeuret montre la réalité de la guerre et que c'est très dufficule et dangereux à la somme dans les touchées. Il utilise les colleurs comme gris et vent et les unifames sont fontes aussi. Le son est a use i triste. Il pieut et il ya les fusils et les explosions. Les soldats souffres et ont peur ils sont comme les rats et cest le ciuel faire quils sont condamné à la most poise qu'ils mutilations volantaires. It ai apprès beaucoup sur la querre et l'injustice de la guerre quand j'ai regardé le film C'est triste et violent

L'autre thème plus important est je perse l'emour. Il y a Mathible, le personnage principal et elle adore Manach. Cest un contrast e avec le front. Les coleurs c'est orange et jaure et le soleil brille. Il y a la musique romantique et motivible joue du truba. Manach aotre Mathible et écrit Mimm-manech aime Mathible. Ils vont au phare et c'est tròs romantique. Mathible adore Manachle et donc ne renonce pos Elle cherche et cherche manach pendant longtemps. Elle volpage et parle avec bacuraup cle personnes. Elle refree arbire il est mort et elle joue du truba parre qu'elle est triste. Pour le monde comprend motivide et a pitié. Bur concure il y a deux thèmes importants: la guerre et l'amour. Cest un film historique et romantique noùs je perse que l'amourest plus important parre que mathible trouve Manach à la fin mais il a changé. Ca va être dufficile mais elle aime toujours Manach.

Extract from mark scheme

Jean-Pierre Jeunet: Un long dimanche de fiançailles

Analysez comment Jeunet explore le thème de l'amour dans ce film. Dans quelle mesure est-ce que ce thème est le thème le plus important ?

[40 marks]

Possible content

Answers will focus largely on the love between Mathilde and Manech.

Love as the motivation behind Mathilde's search for Manech.

The symbolism of MMM.

How Jeunet uses this to explore the development of their love from childhood sweethearts to their separation when Manech goes to war.

References to how other characters (companions in the trenches) respect and admire Manech's love for Mathilde; how this is all he has to cling to when he loses his mind.

Reference may be made to other love interests in the film: Tina Lombardi and Véronique Passavant.

Views may vary on whether love is the most important theme: this will invite students to identify other themes and come to a judgement and conclusion.

Other themes: war and its brutality, revenge, corruption, commitment, friendship.

Commentary on Un long dimanche de fiançailles essay

« Analysez comment Jeunet explore le thème de l'amour dans ce film. Dans quelle mesure est-ce que ce thème est le thème le plus important. »

A03

Although the language used is generally simplistic and the sentences tend to be short and repetitive in style with the same format: subject, verb, complement, there are some attempts at complex language (accurate use of relative clauses; subordinate clause with parce que and accurate use of direct object pronoun). The vocabulary tends to be basic and repetitive and the range is limited. This is a clear band 4 performance.

Mark for A03: 7

A04

This is an example of an essay which falls into the Limited Band overall for A04. The student does show some knowledge of the film and mentions the inscription of MMM, the visit to the lighthouse and the situation on the front in the trenches. They make an interesting point about the way in which Jeunet uses contrasting colours and sounds to emphasise his message and highlight the difference in mood, but they fail to exploit this information and provide any critical analysis and explanation.

The essay does have a clear structure and there is an introduction and conclusion and two main paragraphs dealing with the themes of love and war. Although credit must be given for identifying a second theme and seeking to add interest to the answer by its conclusion, the theme of love should have been dealt with in more depth with reference to, for example, Tina Lombardi and her experience of love and loss. The information given is a narration of facts from the story rather than analysis. The student does not make any attempt to analyse and evaluate the information supplied and fails to address how Jeunet explores the theme of love. The justification for saying love is the most important theme is unclear and seems to rest on the fact that Mathilde finds Manech at the end and still loves him. The critical and analytical response to the question set is therefore limited. Although the student shows some knowledge of the film, there is insufficient evidence of the ability to evaluate and explain the significance of the facts provided.

Mark for A04: 7

Total mark for the essay: 14/40

Un sac de billes – example essay

two digit question rside the boxes next tine of your answer

Leave blank

du roman >	insquelle messure Jo	and suches
		on fait la connaissaice
de Jo, le pers	connage principal,	qui est profondement
touché par le	is événements de la	Seconde Guorre
mandiale. Je	es évenements de la evais examiner de	quelle-faign 20
change en o	e qui concerne son	caractère, son
rapport avec	sa religion et sa	famille.
	repardons son carac	
est un befit	actican rormal aui e	est bouleversé avand
il perdsa bil	Ne préfére Lavie	est bouleversé quand e c'est une aventure
grandil joue	dans la rue, à l'é	Ede et même quard
ideat postic	over Mourice. Tro	averser la ligne de
demarcation	rest comme un lei	i de carbais.
Cosexemples	montrent an'il es	t jeune et instruciont
Sanaïvelée	st aussi Evidenta	wardil dit ou
Ouré au ils	n'ont pas de pe	piers. Comme un
enfont il s'é	ottend à ce que	spiers. Comme un les adultes l'aident
Plustada	1'Hôtel Græbier o	n voit claimement
romme dad	hance. Il neseti	e pas au médecinet
ment pour o	arter la vérite	Ilagrandiet
sait les ria	aves. Au début il	Il a grandi et dépendant de son
frère mais	plus tardil prer	od des responsabilités
et lui aus	à il trouve du-	travail, dans une
fermo et e	n modificant desit	ickets de nationneme
ilm maate	nistique au ne c	hange pas
traumus c'e	est sa maracité a	de s'amuser On le
voitiones	à farisau démut	more également
a menton a	wardil va a la ol	age et dit:
4 mus étions	ivres de loie et d	e liberté.»
Atraves	s tout le roman	de s'amuser on le , mosé également age et dit : le liberté.» un autre élément
Constant et-	fondemental, clest	l'amour de Jo
pour sa-tan	nille Teaus son ent	ance il saut qu'il est
un enfant	doce out fait me	hie d'une famille proch
	and the fear	
	2	

où tous les membres s'aident et soutiennent les autres I dit: Knows étions heureux > et on voit comment la famille lui importe quandils se retrouvent dans le Midi Jo ne chonge pas son attitude envers ses produes et on comprend facilement soutristesse quandil apprendance can pere est mort. Troisièmement je vais considérer si son attitude change envers so religion. Au début 30 ne comprend pas visiment a que cela veut dire d'être Juit Quandil doit porter son étale journe il pense que c'est comme une médaille. Il ne comprend tos les réactions anti-sémutes des autres élèves et hebitants Il apprenduite qu'il vaut mieux cacher la vérité sur sa religion quand il refuse d'avover ses origines au médeçin à 12 Hôles, même quand celui ci dit qu'il est Juif Il continue a mentir quand il travaille à la libraine et ce n'est que lois de la libération qu'il ose prononces: «Je suis Juif.». Il sestrendul compte qu'il ne peut plus nier son identité, mais il nest pasévident si sa religion joue un rôle important dans sa vie; il s'agit plus deine question d'identitéque de foi Pour condure il faut constater que 10 a bequeuponangé pendant le roman. A couse des évérements de la guerre et son voyage de la zone occupée à là zone libre 11 a du vite grandir. C'est un roman d'apprentissage et Jo a été transfamé en solutte ourageux. Il n'est plus le petit gargen noif et crédulle qui s'omuse a puer aux bitles

Extract from mark scheme

Joseph Joffo: Un sac de billes

Analysez dans quelle mesure Jo change au cours du roman.

[40 marks]

Possible content

Key milestones to be tracked for the way Jo changes.

The game of marbles at the start: Jo, the child - what can be said about him?

About his relationships with his brother Maurice?

About his relationships with his family?

About his awareness of his Jewishness?

His awareness of his Jewishness: from something that didn't mean anything in his life, this becomes highly significant. Does the essay track this process of change?

Awareness of end of childhood – prematurely. Jo and Maurice are forced to grow up very quickly; what evidence is there to support this opinion?

However, there are still some vestige of childhood pleasures and innocence - examples?

Concluding assessment of the extent to which Jo changes in the course of the novel.

Commentary on *Un sac de billes* essay

« Analysez dans quelle mesure Jo change au cours du roman. »

A03

The essay is clearly written with no obvious breakdowns in communication. It reads well and the ideas are well expressed using a range of complex structures such as verbs followed by an infinitive and negative constructions. Sentences are composed with a varied range of subordinate conjunctions and though the essay is primarily in the present tense, past tenses are used effectively to recount past events.

Mark for A03: 17

A04

This is an example of an essay which falls into the Good Band overall for AO4. The essay shows accurate knowledge of the novel and the ability to make close reference to events in order to back up the points made about how Jo changes throughout the novel. The response is clearly structured and there is a defined introduction and conclusion which give a confident start and end to the essay. The main body of the answer covers three main aspects of how Jo changes as regards his character, his relationship to his family and towards his religion. These are discussed in some, but not consistent depth, and relevant examples are usually given to substantiate the points. The essay remains focused and answers the question set. The examples show how there is some change in Jo relating to the three aspects and there is evidence of evaluation as to what extent change does take place. The reason it does not fall into the Excellent band is that there is insufficient critical analysis of how Jo changes from naive boy into an adult. Relevant facts are supplied but there is not consistent in-depth analysis and the answer leaves the term "roman d'apprentissage" unexplained. A more explicit explanation of this would have pushed the essay into the excellent band.

Mark for A04: 16

Total mark for the essay: 33/40