

## Assessment sheet 2.2: individual oral commentary – the novel (teacher resource)

This example assessment sheet can be used for Part 2 of your IB English Literature course. It shows how the assessment grid could be completed for an IOC on an extract from a novel. The comments relate to the exemplar student commentary on an extract from Dickens' *Great Expectations* on pages 55–7 of the IB *English Literature* coursebook.

This example assessment gives teachers some guidance about how to judge the level of an IOC; the marks awarded here have not been verified by the IB, but are based on the judgement of one experienced centre. You are strongly advised to have the full criteria (as published by the IB) in front of you whilst making any judgement about what marks to award an actual IOC.

Candidate: Sample SL student response (see coursebook pages 55–7)	Text extract taken from: <i>Great Expectations</i> (Charles Dickens) Chapter 21 (see coursebook Text 2.5, pages 54–5)		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Prompts</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Mark</b>
<b>Criterion A:</b> Knowledge and understanding of the extract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well does the student know the extract and the text as a whole?</li> <li>• Does the student show that they can interpret the text effectively?</li> <li>• Does the student refer to the language of the extract frequently?</li> <li>• Are these references carefully selected?</li> </ul>	Throughout the commentary the candidate demonstrates very good knowledge of the passage. It is placed effectively in context. The candidate makes regular, well-chosen and effective reference to the text and shows clear interpretative skill at many points.	9/10
<b>Criterion B:</b> Appreciation of the writer's choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the student talk about the language of the extract?</li> <li>• How well does the student show appreciation of the writer's language, structure, technique and style?</li> <li>• Does the student show that they understand how the writer's choices shape meaning?</li> </ul>	The candidate makes sensitive reference to the writer's technique (using words like irony, alliteration and personification accurately and to inform the interpretation). This commentary is very aware of the writer's choice of language and makes some comments about structure (where the passage comes in the novel) and form (the first person narrative).	9/10

<b>Criterion C:</b> Organisation and presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the student structure the commentary successfully?</li> <li>• Is it always easy to follow?</li> <li>• Is there a sense of focus throughout the commentary?</li> <li>• Is that focus very clear and sustained?</li> </ul>	<p>The candidate uses the guiding questions to help structure the commentary and does so to good effect. Although the commentary could, perhaps, be even more carefully signposted, it remains focused throughout and begins and ends very effectively.</p>	<p>4/5</p>
<b>Criterion D:</b> Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the student's language clear?</li> <li>• Does it communicate effectively?</li> <li>• Is the register and style of the student's language appropriate to the task?</li> <li>• Is the commentary grammatically accurate?</li> </ul>	<p>The candidate's language is accurate, appropriate and convincing throughout the commentary. It is grammatically correct and technical language is used precisely and with confidence throughout.</p>	<p>4/5</p>
		<p>This is an outstanding commentary which was awarded a very high mark.</p>	<p>27/30</p>

*Note: This assessment sheet is not an official IB document.*