

90849



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## Level 1 English, 2018

### 90849 Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence

9.30 a.m. Monday 12 November 2018  
Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Show understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.	Show convincing understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting evidence.	Show perceptive understanding of specified aspect(s) of studied written text(s), using supporting 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

08

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You should aim to write a concise essay of no more than three pages in length. The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your essay.

Make sure you answer both parts of the question, and support the points you make with specific details from the text(s).

Begin your written text(s) essay here:

Question number: 4

In the novel *Krystyna's Story*, written by Halina Ogonowska-Coates a challenging setting for Krystyna and her family was the train station they were forced into and another challenging setting was the *Ciepluszki* they were made to live on. The train station setting helped me to understand how the Polish people were stripped of their identities while the *Ciepluszki* setting showed me how through the brutality of war the Polish people were dehumanised. Through these settings the author showed the readers that both the victims and the victors <sup>of war</sup> lost their humanity and that the Polish people lost their purpose through this.

In the beginning of the first journey, Krystyna and her family were shoved through a single train station gate. ~~was~~ Angry, shouting officers pushed them and crossed their names off of their lists with "thick black crayon". "As we passed through the station gate we were counted. Nobodies, Poles without faces, without names, without homes. Numbers on lines, lines on a page." Through the glum

setting and ~~the~~<sup>this</sup> quotes use of metaphor, comparing the Polish people to faceless lines on a page, showed me that the Polish people meant nothing to the Russians. The repetition of the word 'without' highlighted the idea that these people had lost everything, their names, homes, belongings. They had lost what makes them human, these things gave them purpose and without them they became meaningless pieces of a game controlled by the Russians. The black crayon symbolises the dark hand of war, as their names are crossed off the list, their identities are removed. Symbolising how the Russians made these people subhumans, they lowered them by taking away their control and humanity. Through the setting of the crowded, terror inducing train station and the description of the "thick black crayon" we can see that the Polish people were being controlled. The authors purpose is to show that the pen is mightier than the sword. The act of crossing their names methodically off of lists symbolises that the biggest impact their events had on Krystyna, was the removal of her humanity and <sup>known like</sup> ~~safe~~ ~~proven~~. The author shows that when groups of people see themselves as above others they can feel justified to commit devastating crimes.

Are the soldiers of war just as much victims as the prisoners? Heartbreakingly, Krystyna and many other powerless poles are forced violently into living on a *ciepluszka*, which is a cattle wagon

after the train station event. They are made to live in cramped, humiliating conditions on the *ciepluszki* for months. The setting of the *ciepluszki* is a symbol for dehumanisation. The way they are treated by the Russians is as if they are a completely separate species. The *ciepluszki* showed the Polish people what they meant to the Russians, they were animals to be herded and property to be controlled. Through this brutality we see the author showing us that although the Russians believe that the Polish people are beneath them they are actually blind to the reality that there are two groups of people looking at the same picture only from a different angle, their similarities actually outweigh their differences. Krystyna says "life, death and darkness merged". This shows the reader that Krystyna had no purpose, she only had her survival instinct left. The rest of her old self was gone and she had become a hollow shell of her old self. <sup>like a corpse.</sup> The setting showed me through the soldiers' actions and the *ciepluszki* that the soldiers too had lost their humanity. By removing others' humanity, you lose yours as well. The setting showed me that there is no gain through war, only suffering for both the victims and in turn the victors.

Overall the setting of the train station and the *ciepluszki* showed me how the Polish people <sup>PTD</sup>

Extra space if required.

Write the question number(s) if applicable.

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QUESTION  
NUMBER

were stripped of their humanity and dehumanised  
while the soldiers were puppets committing devastating  
crimes in a robotic like fashion unaware of the  
lack of purpose or moral reason behind their actions.  
The author's purpose was to show how the horrible  
impacts of war affect everyone involved, <sup>eventually</sup> ~~not only~~

## Excellence Exemplar 2018

<b>Subject</b>	Level 1 English	<b>Standard</b>	90849	<b>Total score</b>	08
<b>Q</b>	<b>Grade score</b>	<b>Annotation</b>			
4	E8	The candidate has expressed perceptive understanding of how the text is crafted to show the author's purpose. Mature appreciation and comprehension of the text is shown. The essay is well-structured and written with fluency and precision.			